

Dorothy Lee Miller Martin

Dorothy Lee Miller Martin died the morning of January 31, 2018, quietly and peacefully after a brief but fierce battle with cancer. She is survived by two children, Mary Elizabeth (Beth) Martin Yeakel and Sidney McClure (Mac) Martin; son-in-law Steve Yeakel and daughter-in-law Pam Taylor Martin; five grandchildren, Holly Renee Martin Ferguson (Keith), Katherine Elizabeth Yeakel Henderson (Andrew), Philip McClure Martin (Michelle), Joseph Richard Yeakel and Sarah Martin Yeakel; four great-grandchildren, Faith Elizabeth Ferguson, Noah Austin Ferguson, Adaline Olivia Martin, and Grace Ann Ferguson. All of Dot's three siblings survive her: Elizabeth Miller Strickler of Greensboro, NC, Milton Miller (Stephanie) of Raphine, VA, and Joe Miller (Mariel) of Oxnard, CA. Additionally, she is survived by brother-in-law, W.L. "Bud" (Edith) Martin of Fairfield, VA. Dot was preceded in death by her husband, Sidney Brown Martin, and two children, Teresa Kay Martin and Joseph Miller Martin.

Dot was born at home on Moffatt's Creek on August 2, 1932, the third child and second daughter of William Wayt Miller and Gertrude Moran Miller. In her 85 years, Dot lived in four different houses and all were on Brownsburg Turnpike (Rt. 252), except her last home, less than a mile away, in which she lived in the longest. With her gift of hospitality and culinary skills, she made every person who crossed her threshold feel welcomed and part of the family.

Dot liked to be busy; she was active in church and community groups, especially the Women of the Church at New Providence Presbyterian Church. She became the first woman ever elected to serve as a deacon at New Providence; she also served the church as an elder and in almost every other capacity imaginable. She also enjoyed attending worship services and the relationships she developed at Asbury United Methodist Church in Brownsburg and McElwee Chapel.

When her children were young, Dot was an active member of the Brownsburg Wednesday Club, the Brownsburg Elementary School PTA, and the Rockbridge High School Interest Group. In its inaugural years, she served on the board of the Brownsburg Community Association.

Sewing and cooking were more than hobbies to her. They provided an opportunity for her to be in service to others, a calling she took very seriously. She catered multiple events throughout the years and she was especially known for her ham biscuits. Dot also sewed for various mission organizations; she made hundreds of hospital gowns, baby carriers and diapers.

In 1997, Dot retired after 26 years of driving a school bus for Rockbridge County Schools, primarily in the Brownsburg and Bustleburg area. After retiring, she served as a substitute in the school system's cafeterias. During the last few years, "Grandma Dot" greatly enjoyed spending a couple days a week with her great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be conducted 3:00 pm Saturday, February 3, 2018 at New Providence Presbyterian Church. Burial will be private. Family will receive friends on Friday, February 2, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at Harrison's Funeral Home, Lexington, VA.

For those considering memorial contributions, the family suggests that contributions be made to the Brownsburg Community Association, PO Box 82, Brownsburg, VA 24416 or New Providence Presbyterian Church, 1208 New Providence Road, Raphine, VA 24472.

Arrangements by Harrison Funeral Home & Crematory, Lexington, VA.

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