



Dian H. Wurdock

December 2, 1931 - September 20, 2020

WURDOCK, DIAN ELLIOT HASKELL Age 88, of Royal Oak, died peacefully on Sunday, September 20, 2020 surrounded by her three children and dear grandchildren. Dian was born December 2, 1931 to Ted and Grace Haskell in Chicago, IL. Dian's family moved to Royal Oak in the early 1930's where she remained her entire life. Dian graduated from MacMurray College for Women in Jacksonville, IL with a degree in Education. She taught 1st grade at Lincoln Elementary and later served as Director of Christian Education at the Royal Oak First United Methodist Church where she wrote curriculum, taught workshops on a wide variety of faith development topics and demonstrated to several generations of children how to love and follow Christ. Apart from her job, she actively participated in numerous church councils, societies, and committees including United Methodist Women, Choir Camp and the Banner Maker Team. A highlight of her volunteer activity at ROFUM was launching the Bethlehem Marketplace; a live, walk-through drama recreating how the village of Bethlehem might have been at the time of Jesus' birth.

She was also proud to lead and direct a local chapter of the national non-profit Kids on the Block; a troupe of lovable puppets who engaged and entertained local elementary students by presenting engaging and interactive skits teaching about specific disabilities as well as wider themes of friendship, community building and inclusion. For 25 years, Dian also made time to serve on Oak Apple Run Race Staff representing the First United Methodist Church.

Dian was an active and proud supporter with Royal Oak Dondero Band Boosters and Royal Oak Historical Society as well as other groups too numerous to name. In 1994 the city of Royal Oak honored Dian by presenting her the Citizen of the Year award which acknowledged appreciation and gratitude for her years of community involvement, spirit and leadership. This honor included a proclamation from MI Governor John Engler.

Dian poured so much into the lives and hearts of many people, young and old, but always kept a special place in her life for her two granddaughters Alaina and Lauren. They were such a bright spot in her life and she in turn was a beacon of love to them. She relished time spent laughing, loving and adventuring with them and was especially overjoyed to be able to cuddle and adore her five great-grandchildren.

In her leisure time, beginning with her grandparents, Rev. Philip and Georgianna Hasenstab, Dian spent an entire lifetime of summer holidays spanning seven generations at the beloved family cottage, Delyte Lodge, enjoying the rarified air in Assembly Park on beautiful Delavan Lake in Wisconsin.

Dian and husband Tom Wurdock were married for 59 years and raised their three children together in a loving household in Royal Oak. Left to cherish her memory are her children Steven of Ada, Deborah (Jeff) Jablonski of Troy, Peter of Royal Oak; Grandchildren: Alaina Weathers Michael Henry of Wyandotte, Lauren (Jon) Krzeszak of Madison Heights, Steve Jablonski and Kate Jablonski also of Madison Heights; Great-grandchildren Autumn and Nora Henry of Wyandotte, Ben Cornell of Madison Heights, Dax and Delaney Krzeszak also of Madison Heights.

Memorial visitation Wednesday, Sept. 30th from 3-8 p.m. at the Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W 11 Mile Road (4 blocks E of Woodward),

Royal Oak. Due to COVID-19 guidelines, the funeral home is limited to 10 people in the visitation room at any given time and masks are required to enter the building. Private family memorial service Thursday, Oct. 1st at the First United Methodist Church of Royal Oak which will be streamed for on line viewing, followed by a public memorial lunch at the Royal Oak Farmers Market at noon. Please RSVP to 248-246-3099 if attending the luncheon.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial to the Royal Oak First United Methodist Church or the Alzheimer's Association. Share a memory at www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com.

Funeral livestream link: <http://rofum.org/funeral>

Previous Events

Public Memorial Visitation

SEP 30. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067
(248) 541-7000
royal@sullivanfh.com
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

Public Memorial Luncheon

OCT 1. 12:00 PM (ET)

Royal Oak Farmers Market
316 E. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Tribute Wall

LG

“ *Deb, Steven, and Peter , I just found this online and am sorry I did not know before. Your mom was so special and such a gracious host. When Mike and i visited, she would cook for us and pull out photos and copy them for us if we were interested. Worked the whole time!. Such a wonderful person! I am glad I was able to know her and your dad. Lee Grant*

Lee J. Grant - January 19, 2021 at 06:01 PM

LG

“ *I'll always fondly remember Mrs. Wurdock's delicious caramel corn that would be brought to Harmony Houae during the Christmas shopping season each year! She was a warm and kind woman, my deepest condolences to the entire family, especially Pete, my Harmony House colleague many years ago.*

Lisa Bica Grodsky - October 03, 2020 at 02:38 AM

PV

“ *Dian is my mother's cousin, but my family has always called her our aunt. She was the greatest aunt possible. Always had an interesting story, and was never in a bad mood
Seeing her would just brighten your day, and over many years we have had some intimate conversations. I will think of her as always with me.*

paul a vercoe - September 30, 2020 at 03:12 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Dian H. Wurdock.*



September 30, 2020 at 02:12 PM



“ *Simply put, I always knew Dian as a second mother to me, and to my 5 siblings, through Sunday School, Choir Camp and in the neighborhood. I am ever grateful for her steadfast Christian love, her abiding friendship with our family, and her lively undaunted spirit. She was an extraordinary gift to us all.*

Ed Nahhat

Edward M Nahhat - September 30, 2020 at 09:23 AM



“ *Our deepest sympathy to you Steve and your family. So many memories you will have of your Mom. May she Rest In Peace in Heaven.*

Richard & Kim Kerkau

Kim - September 30, 2020 at 07:41 AM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Dian H. Wurdock.*



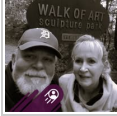
September 29, 2020 at 08:22 PM

RW

“ In writing about Dian, I was struck by how many of my thoughts mirror what my brother Dave already said here, as well as what Steve, Deb and Pete said about my parents when they passed. This makes total sense due to the relationship of our two families. Growing up next door to each other, we were often like one large family with 4 parents. Dian was a major catalyst of that connection. She was central in the planning and execution of combined family celebrations and traditions. These included things like themed birthday parties and themed Halloween costumes as well as Memorial Day celebrations and New Year’s get togethers which rotated each year across the driveway from one house to the other. Dian’s creativity and enthusiasm were key in making these events a big success and thus permanent memories of joy. All of this should not overshadow the more mundane but consistent care she showed for the neighborhood kids in helping to make our lives richer. Dian was gifted at employing a loving and caring approach to discipline or providing advice when any of us kids needed it. Dian’s kindness, thoughtfulness and smiles extended from our childhood all the way to current times, it’s just who she was. What a blessing to have known her! I know my mom (Linda) greatly valued the friendship she and Dian shared over the years. Margie, Randy, Danny and I are all saddened by Dian’s passing and we extend our sympathy to the entire Wurdock family. I rejoice in the belief that she is reunited with Tom and with my parents.
Roger Wade



roger wade - September 28, 2020 at 05:28 PM



Thanks Roger. Dian mentioned Linda by name a few months ago when we were watching old movies family movies. They were the best of friends and we were the fortunate recipients of their creativity and generosity. Fond memories of our many happy times with the Wades.

Steven Wurdock - September 29, 2020 at 08:36 PM

RT

“ *I was in Miss Haskell's "first" first grade class at Lincoln Elementary. She and I opened the school for Royal Oak. She must have been twenty-one or twenty-two. I remember that she like to travel. My mom invited each of my teachers from Lincoln for lunch each year. She was the first teacher welcomed to our home.*

Robert Tebo AKA Robbie

Robert Tebo - September 28, 2020 at 04:48 PM



Very interesting Robbie! You'll be happy to hear that a few years later when my sister and I started attending Franklin elementary Dian invited OUR teachers home to lunch as well .. sometimes even the principal. Dian loved kids and teaching, many thanks for commenting, you are the first student of Dian (my Mom) that I've ever heard from.- Steve

Steven Wurdock - September 29, 2020 at 08:43 PM

DA

“ I am so sorry to hear about Dian's passing. She was a very special person, always welcoming and encouraging, and she was part of what I think of as a legendary Royal Oak duo. I was in awe of Tom and Dian and all they did for our community, and feel that the city will be forever in their debt. Sending peace and blessings to the Wurdock family - you will be in my thoughts during the coming days, weeks and months. - Deb Anderson

Deborah Anderson - September 27, 2020 at 04:15 PM

BH

“ There are so many memories to share about Aunt Dian it's impossible to single one out. So I won't. (lol.) Starting with my early memories of Holidays at grandpa and grandma Haskell's to all the "Fun at the Lake" and all the traditions of both, they are all part of who we all are and the closeness of family. As she and Uncle Tom are now reunited, as are Bobbie and Ted, it makes my heart feel glad that their new journeys have begun. They all will hold special places in our hearts.
Love, Bruce

Bruce Haskell - September 27, 2020 at 11:31 AM

CS

“ Dian was so thoughtful and caring to everyone, including me and my younger brother, Bodin. She would send birthday cards, Christmas cards, and various thoughtful notes. I remember on my 10th birthday, she sent me ten \$1 bills with specific instructions: Go to the Dollar Store and get ten things! It was the most fun gift - I had never been to the Dollar Store - and I selected my ten items so carefully. She is very loved.

Carmin Sherlock - September 27, 2020 at 04:06 AM

JG

“ 1 file added to the album Haskell Family



Judy Haskell Gearing - September 26, 2020 at 05:38 PM

LS

“ I always loved how she would have projects for us to do at the lake. And I loved sitting around the dining room table listening to Dian and Phyllis and Barb and numerous other cousins tell stories and laugh. Dian will be sorely missed.

Much love, Liam

Liam Sherlock - September 26, 2020 at 02:07 PM

SA

“ Loved your visits at Audies Restaurant in Mackinaw City ❤️ Much love to you and your family... many blessings 🙏😊

Sabrina Allers/Bootz - September 26, 2020 at 12:07 AM



“ When Carmin and Bodin were born, Dian became a regular warm and loving presence in their lives, remembering them at every holiday and all their birthdays, always sending gifts and messages of love. She was a very special woman and my heart is with you all as you mourn the loss of your mother, grandmother, cousin, friend and more. The world has lost a golden light with her passing, but because she brightened so many lives, that light will continue to shine through the many who will always love her. With love, Jennie Sherlock

Jennifer Sherlock - September 25, 2020 at 07:58 PM



“ Our deepest sympathy to the entire Wurdock family. Growing up next to the Wurdock's was a great childhood experience and Dian was a big part of that. She was like a second mother to me when I was young and I grew up thinking this was normal. As I got older, I realized this was special, as was Dian. I have so many childhood memories that include Dian, along with her smiling face and kind words for everyone. I am remembering the last several times that I had the pleasure to visit with her, and what a joy it always was to chat with her and be in her presence at an event. Recently I stumbled onto a phrase that she apparently was fond of... 'Nothing you do for children is ever wasted' (Garrison Keillor). She did many things for this child over the years, but more important are all the things she has done for the children less fortunate than me. This is just one example of Dian's kindness and concern for others. She had a special way of exuding this kindness to all those around her. She will be missed by many, but never forgotten. I know that all of her great qualities have had a positive effect on my life, and the lives of many others. Dave & Bonnie Wade

Dave Wade - September 25, 2020 at 04:57 PM

JE

“ We have lost a lovely cousin and a wonderful person. I remember Dian while at McMurray while I was at Bradley University. My roommate, Dave Tooker and I would go to Jacksonville to visit Dian and Rae Carlson. Dian was a wonderful person and will be greatly missed by us all. Love, Jim & Joyce Elmes

Jim Elmes - September 25, 2020 at 03:49 PM

JE

“ Jim and Joyce Elmes purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Dian H. Wurdock.



Jim and Joyce Elmes - September 25, 2020 at 02:43 PM

SW

“ 1 file added to the album Teaching moments



Steve Wurdock - September 25, 2020 at 09:41 AM

SW

Dian always reminded new swimmers, "you have two built-in life preservers in your body .. they are your lungs. Simply hold your breath you'll float just fine .. keep calm, and don't panic around water!

Steve Wurdock - September 27, 2020 at 08:01 PM

LH

“ Dian was my mom’s mentor at ROFUMC. My earliest memories of church included Dian and my mom. My love for Jesus grew from my childhood and Dian. What a blessing she has been to so many people in this world! I have admired and respected you all in your care and love for your mom. Peace and love as you move through this journey of grief.

Lisa Head - September 25, 2020 at 09:17 AM

SW

“ 1 file added to the album Stop here .. this is GREAT!!



Steve Wurdock - September 25, 2020 at 08:44 AM

SW

“ 1 file added to the album West Mich



Steve Wurdock - September 25, 2020 at 08:43 AM

SW

“ 2 files added to the album *Worry Less Pray More*



Steve Wurdock - September 25, 2020 at 08:33 AM

SW

“ 1 file added to the album *Dian & Tom*



Steve Wurdock - September 25, 2020 at 08:27 AM

SW

“ 1 file added to the album *Dian & Tom*



Steve Wurdock - September 25, 2020 at 08:25 AM

SW

“ 1 file added to the album *Royal Oak High School Reunion*



Steve Wurdock - September 25, 2020 at 08:16 AM

SW

“ 1 file added to the album *Haskell Family*



Steve Wurdock - September 25, 2020 at 08:14 AM

SW

“ 3 files added to the album *Day Tripping with Dian*



Steve Wurdock - September 25, 2020 at 07:30 AM

SW

“ 2 files added to the album *Day Tripping with Dian*



Steve Wurdock - September 25, 2020 at 07:27 AM

CG

“ *I'm so sorry to hear of Dian's passing. She was very influential in my children's lives, and I learned from her as well. She and Tom were wonderful people. My condolences to all of you. Cindy Goodaker*

Cindy Goodaker - September 24, 2020 at 09:15 AM