



Anne Dorsey Novak

August 8, 1924 - April 7, 2023

Anne Dorsey Novak passed away peacefully on Friday, April 7, 2023, after 98 adventurous years of living.

Anne was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on August 8, 1924, to parents Patrick and Mary (O'Shea) Dorsey. Anne was the oldest of five siblings. She earned her undergraduate degree in 1945 from Mount Mercy College, currently Carlow University, in Pittsburgh. She then started graduate studies and worked on the east coast and several years in California. She returned to Pittsburgh and proudly earned a master's degree in Social Work.

She met her future husband, Bernard Novak, through The Catholic Theatre Guild of Pittsburgh. After announcing their engagement on Christmas Eve 1954, they were married in November of 1956. They relocated to Connecticut for Bernie's work where two of her surviving sons (Michael and Paul) were born. After another short transfer back to Pittsburgh, where her third surviving son (Mark) was born, they relocated again to Hammond, Indiana. Her professional career in social work was long and varied, culminating as a senior leader for Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Gary. In 1990, she and Bernie retired to Bloomington, Indiana, to be closer to family.

Anne loved to sing, travel (even if it was to the park for a picnic) and cook. She was very proud of her Irish heritage and made several trips to Ireland. Over her entire life she was a strident voice for social justice and the rights of underserved and marginalized populations. Her long-winded stories were matched by a quick wit, sharp attention to detail, and a giant amount of love

for her family, friends, and humanity.

Anne is preceded in death by her husband of 55 years Bernard Joseph Novak, parents Patrick and Mary Dorsey, sisters Mary Elizabeth Dorsey and Bernadette Caldwell, brother Jerome, and son Patrick. She is survived by sister Miriam (Russ) Maine, sons Michael (Susan) Novak, Paul Novak, and Mark (Katherine) Novak and three grandchildren.

The entire Novak family would like to express their utmost gratitude to Envive/St. Paul's Hermitage in Beech Grove, Indiana, for providing Anne such a warm and loving environment in her final years.

We are heartbroken to lose someone so special. She was a wonderful woman who will be deeply missed.

There will be a Celebration of Life at St Paul's Catholic Center in Bloomington on Monday April 24 2023. Calling will begin at 2:00 followed by funeral mass at 3:00.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Catholic Charities USA or to your local diocese.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory have been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com.

Cemetery Details

Clear Creek Cemetery

W Church Lane
Bloomington, IN 47403

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 24. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Catholic Center
1413 East 17th Street
Bloomington, IN 47408

Mass of Christian Burial

APR 24. 3:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Catholic Center
1413 East 17th Street
Bloomington, IN 47408

Tribute Wall

MM

“ We are so sorry we were not able to attend Anne’s funeral. We have so many good memories of our two families together in Hammond. Anne continued to send a Christmas gift to my dad up until last year. We send our sympathy and prayers.
John Angyus and Mary Angyus McLaughlin

Mary McLaughlin - April 26, 2023 at 03:54 PM

SN

“ 7 files added to the album Anne Novak



Susan Novak - April 24, 2023 at 07:42 AM

LF

“ I first met Anne during the Bloomington, Indiana community's Living Wage Coalition campaign, which passed successfully, and was implemented in January 2006. What began as a \$10 Living Wage and since has been adjusted for inflation is now \$15.29. This Living Wage Ordinance continues to benefit numerous employees. It was a pleasure to work alongside Anne during this time period and I was always glad when our paths crossed any time after that. Anne was a real convincer when she believed what she was doing was the best thing to do, a real inspiration to many. *Liz Feitl*

Liz Feitl - April 22, 2023 at 07:54 AM

YF

“ *Your Corefoodservice Friends purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Anne Dorsey Novak.*



Your Corefoodservice Friends - April 21, 2023 at 10:58 AM

CA

“ *Craig and Leah Allman purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Anne Dorsey Novak.*



Craig and Leah Allman - April 21, 2023 at 09:47 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Anne Dorsey Novak.*



April 18, 2023 at 04:53 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Anne Dorsey Novak.*



April 18, 2023 at 11:05 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Anne Dorsey Novak.* ”



April 18, 2023 at 10:00 AM