



Dorcas Marie Porter

October 31, 1919 - November 26, 2016

Dorcas Marie Porter, 97, died on Saturday, November 26, 2016 in Bloomington, Indiana. She was born on Halloween 1919 and grew up on a small farm in northern Indiana, near Laketon, the first of three children of Mary and Orlie Showalter.

She attended Manchester College (now Manchester University), not far from where she grew up and there met John Porter in a psychology class. They married on November 2, 1943. Their early marriage was spent apart, while John was in the service during World War II. In 1946, they moved to Bloomington, where they lived the rest of their lives. John went to graduate school at Indiana University and later became part of the faculty and administration of the School of Business.

In the early fifties, John and Dorcas had two sons, John Douglas (Doug) and Philip. They were devoted supporters of the children's activities and attended countless sporting events, music concerts and theater performances at their schools.

Dorcas was foremost a wife and mother and worked outside the home at various points in her life. She was an active member of First United Methodist Church and other organizations including Tri Kappa, PEO, Argonauts and Alpha Xi Delta. She volunteered for several years as a "Pink Lady" at Bloomington Hospital. Her community of friends included a number of

members of the School of Business faculty and their wives and she was a lifelong Hoosier sports fan. John and Dorcas enjoyed traveling to many countries and cities around the world. In their forties, they became avid ballroom dancers and developed another circle of friends through the classes they took and the dances they attended.

Doug married Ellen Murphy, settled in Bloomington and had three daughters, Amy Cohn (Greg), Bridget McGuire (Jim), and Megan Flodder (John). John and Dorcas delighted in their granddaughters and took an active role in their lives (more sporting events, concerts and trips to the beach!). Phil moved to California to attend graduate school and settled in Oakland, California, where he lives with his partner Chinh Nguyen. John retired from Indiana University in 1984. He died in 1998. John and Dorcas were married for nearly 55 years.

Dorcas moved to the Meadowood Retirement Community where she lived for several years. She could often be found at the jigsaw puzzle table in one of the community rooms. During this time, she became a great-grandmother nine times. The most recent great granddaughter, born in September, made her first visit to see Dorcas just days ago. Many members of Dorcas' immediate family were gathered in Bloomington for the Thanksgiving holidays when she died.

In addition to her children and grandchildren, Dorcas is also survived by a sister, Betty Hodson of Yakima, Washington. Dorcas was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, an infant child and a brother, William Showalter. Her family and friends celebrate Dorcas' long life and will miss her.

We would like to express our deep gratitude and appreciation for the staff members of Hearthstone and Southern Care Hospice for their loving care and support of Dorcas and her family during the last months of her life.

A funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29, 2016 at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155. S. Old State Road 37, Bloomington. Burial will follow at Valhalla Memory Gardens. Family will receive friends from 11:00 a.m. until the time of service. You are invited to share a memory or leave an online condolence to Dorcas' family at www.allencares.com

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **29**. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory
4155 S. Old State Road 37
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 824-5905
<http://www.allencares.com>

Service

NOV **29**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory
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Tribute Wall

MG

“ Amy Porter was my best friend growing up as a child in Bloomington. Dorcas was Amy's grandmother. Dorcas always hosted us at her home at Christmas time. She and her husband would drive us kids around to look at Christmas lights and then we would make cookies and sit around the tree. The Porters also attended the same church we did 1st United Methodist Church in downtown Bloomington. The Porters help to provide a stable, clean and Christian upbringing. They were a force for family values and decency in my life. I am so grateful and honored to have known Mrs. Dorcas Porter. Now however she is where she truly belongs ...in God 's kingdom. Without saying a word and without being judgemental Dorcas was truly a Christian woman. Thank God for her life. Praise God that her home going was peaceful and full of Grace. Thank you God for sharing Dorcas with us for just a little while.

Maya Claire Gordon- Todd

Maya Gordon-Todd - December 21, 2016 at 12:32 PM

AA

“ How I will miss my casual encounters with Dorcas. Her radiant and kindly smile could light up any room, and I always felt uplifted by her presence at meetings I attended. Her calm and thoughtful kindness, which I know was felt by her family, was relished by her many friends as well. I will treasure those heart-warming memories. Sincerely yours, Ann Armstrong

Ann Armstrong - December 04, 2016 at 01:41 PM

PW

“ Having created Phil, and heard some of his sweet stories about her, I know that Dorcas Marie Porter must have been a wonderful woman. I am dancing and singing in the InterPlay way on behalf of Phil and all of Dorcas' family.

Pwll - November 30, 2016 at 01:37 PM

SP

“ Aunt Dorcas was a lovely woman who was always interested in getting an update about us and our families. We have precious memories of visiting her at Meadow Wood. We send our most sincere sympathies to Doug and Ellen and their family and Phil at this time of loss.

Cousins Susy Porter and Cindy Merritt

Susy Porter - November 29, 2016 at 06:32 PM

JG

“ Prayers for you and your family Phil! Losing one's Mom has special poignancy that deepens over time. Hugs and love too. June Goudey

June Goudey - November 29, 2016 at 10:52 AM

BV

“ I remember Dorcas as being so helpful in many ways here at Meadowood. Among those was helping at the Women's Fellowship meetings each month and the collection of "pop tabs" for Riley Children's Hospital. We would share the jig saw puzzle time together as well. I missed her when she moved away and believe she is now in a better place.

Betty Vance-Rudolph

Betty Vance-Rudolph - November 29, 2016 at 07:42 AM

BP

“ I knew Mrs Porter as Phil' mother. She was always gracious and kind. I didn't realize she was a PEO as are several members of my family, including me. My condolences to Phil and his family with the passing of this precious lady.

Becky Baird Petrie - November 29, 2016 at 07:25 AM

ML

“ To the Porter Family: I extend my sympathy in the loss of your mother, and my thanksgiving for all she gave the world. Thank you to her and your father for supporting your family in many interests and activities. I am grateful for Phil and all he shares with the world through the arts!

*An InterPlay Follower and Leader,
Mary Ellen Lewis
Des Moines, IA*

Mary Ellen Lewis - November 29, 2016 at 01:01 AM

RV

“ I did not know Dorcas, but her son, Phil is one of the kindest, most faithful, loving people I've ever been privileged to know. I know him as colleague, mentor and friend. If he is any indication of who and how Dorcas was (which I am sure he is!), she was a stunning human being! I am holding the whole family in my heart and prayers tonight. --Rev. Rebecca Voelkel

Rebecca Voelkel - November 28, 2016 at 09:20 PM

PP

“ We were saddened to learn of Dorcas' passing, and remember many wonderful times with both her and John. Bill and I send our deepest sympathy to all of you, her wonderful family. She and John are now together. Love, Phyllis and Bill Perkins

Phyllis Perkins - November 28, 2016 at 08:24 PM

HB

“ What a delightful lady, the matriarch of a long time Bloomington family. My first role in education was in Wabash County, where I knew her Father, and then she and John at FUMC. Always the lady, and one to admire. The Porter family has and continues to make their mark in the area of their choice at the Institution that they loved.

Harmon Baldwin - November 28, 2016 at 03:48 PM

JM

“ Doug and Ellen,

We were so sorry to hear about your mother's passing. Our thoughts are with you and your family.

Condolences,
Tammy and Jerry Minger

Jerry Minger - November 28, 2016 at 09:43 AM