



Dorothy Mayree Milnor

February 20, 1920 - August 15, 2015

Dorothy “Sissy” Mayree Gaines Milnor, 95, died at 1:32 p.m. Saturday, August 15, 2015 at her home in Alton, Illinois. Born February 20, 1920 in Alton, Illinois, Sissy was the daughter of Earl Lee and Myrtle Hortense Bates Gaines. She was an accomplished mother and homemaker, avid bridge player, gardener, and steadfast friend and confidante to many. She was dedicated to the River Bend community and volunteered with many organizations including the Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Alton Memorial Hospital White Cross Auxiliary, Anna D. Sparks Alliance of the First Unitarian Church, and Community and Junior Service Leagues. Dorothy graduated from Alton High School and attended Mills College and University of California at Berkeley. On February 12, 1942 Dorothy married Magnus Ryrie Milnor in Alton. He preceded her in death on April 26, 1993. Surviving are two daughters, Alice Gaines Milnor Norton of Boulder, CO and Sarah “Sally” Bates Milnor Zyfers of Seattle, WA; a son, George Sparks Milnor II and daughter-in-law, Laurie Clemente Milnor of Alton. Dorothy also cherished her eight grandchildren (Dolly Norton Schaub, James “Jake” Ryrie Norton; Ashley, Evan, Kendall and Reed Milnor; and Natalie and Claire Zyfers), as well as four great grandchildren (Lila, Ryrie, Sonya and Gunnar), all of whom survive her. Along with her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by three brothers, Robert, William and Thomas Gaines; two sisters, Ruth Ann Gaines (Stewart) Hall and Earleen “Dolly” Gaines Pinson; and beloved friend, Helen Ann Rhea (Frison). A visitation will be held at Gent Funeral Home on Friday, September

4, 2015 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. There will be a memorial celebration at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 5, 2015 at First Unitarian Church, followed by a reception at the church and interment at Alton City Cemetery. Reverend Josette Jackson from Unity Church of Peace in St. Louis will officiate. Memorials may be made to The Salvation Army, Alton Memorial Hospital Health Services Foundation, or EmBOLDen Alliances (Nepal Relief Effort) in Dorothy's name.

PDF Printable Version

Tribute Wall



“ *Dorothy Mayree Milnor*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *Dorothy Mayree Milnor*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *Alice Your mother was a gracious lady who leaves behind a grand legacy in her caring for others. I will never forget her unwavering charm and the encouragement she gave us as we first struggled to learn French. Her memory lives on!*

Judy (Heavner) Zabielski - September 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear George, Sally, and Alice,
Just heard the news about your mother.
Your parents were so special to my mother and my family. There are only a very few people who had the special qualities that your parents had. Your mother always made me feel welcome and that was just her way.
My mother loved being with her and all the bridge games. Their friendship is something I will never forget.
I hope some day our paths will cross again, but my memories of your mother remain vivid and all that is good in the world.
Once again my sympathy.*

Rick Johnson - September 05, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Alice our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family. I am sorry we could not be up there in person.

Jim & Nancy (Foeller) Laatsch - September 04, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ George, Laurie, Ashley, Evan, Kendall, Reed, Sally, Natalie, Claire and Alice and family. Very sad to hear of the passing of your beautiful, elegant Mother and Grandmother. She was the first one to welcome us to the neighborhood. She was gracious beyond words. Her welcoming spirit and bright smile will be missed. Love and prayers of strength for you all at this time. Steve, Kim, Steven, DeAnna and Clayton Pope

Steve and Kim Pope - September 04, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ Dear George, Laurie and Family: Your mother and grandmother had a long and beautiful life surrounded by her children and grandchildren. She gave of herself to her family and her community for many years. She will be remembered by many for her love and her years of service to others. She will be missed. She will not be forgotten.

Susan Grammer - September 02, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ George, wishing you and your family strength as you reflect on the wonderful days you shared with your mom.

Be well and may God Bless!

Dr Terry G Schwartz - August 29, 2015 at 12:00 AM