



Dorothy M. Mahaffy

August 19, 1930 - October 29, 2022

Dorothy M. Mahaffy, 92, of Tullahoma Tennessee entered into eternal life, Saturday, October 29, 2022, at her home surrounded by her children. Dorothy was born August 19, 1930, to the late John Morris and Viola Buehler Morris. She was married to her late husband, Colonel Craig Mahaffy, an Air Force veteran, for 50 years before he died in 2004. She was a gifted musician and piano teacher. She inspired countless young musicians and inspired many to illustrious careers in the music world, some internationally known. She was the Tennessee Music Teacher's Association Member of the Year from 1985-1986, President of the Association from 1993-1995, and received their Distinguished Service Award in 2013. As a parishioner of St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church since 1973, she has also donated her talent to the church as organist and pianist for over 45 years. In addition to her spouse and parents, she was preceded in death by her brother William J. Morris, grandson Jude Mahaffy and grandson Captain James Steel, USAF. Survivors include son John Mahaffy and wife Cheryl of Knoxville,

Tennessee, daughter Dorothy Steel and husband Robert of Herndon, Virginia, daughter Sharon Hill and husband Eugene of Kingston, Georgia, and son Craig

Mahaffy of Eugene, Oregon; brothers John Morris and his wife Jeanne, James Morris and his wife Eileen; grandchildren Ian Mahaffy, Robert Steel Jr., Jonathan

Steel, Christopher Steel, Paul Steel, Michelle Murphy, Dana Hill, Russell Hill; great-grandchildren Mia Mahaffy, Noah Mahaffy, Alayna Steel, Adeline Steel, Elias Steel, Gabriel Steel, Raylee Steel, Caleb Steel, Greyson Murphy, Keira Murphy, McKenna Murphy and Gavin Hill; and numerous nieces and nephews and

beloved friends.

A funeral Mass will be held at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Tullahoma,

TN at 10:00 a.m on Thursday, November 3, 2022.

Musical prelude by Dorothy's former student Craig Terry, Music Director of the Ryan Opera Center in Chicago. Committal will follow at Bethany

Church Cemetery. Private Interment will follow at Bethany Cemetery.

Online condolences may be made at www.davesculbertsonfuneralhome.com.

Daves-Culbertson Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

NOV 3. 10:00 AM.

St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
Tullahoma, TN

Tribute Wall



“ *Dorothy M. Mahaffy*

January 25, 2023 at 12:28 AM



“ *Mrs. Mahaffey was a true shining light. She taught so much more than piano- she taught joy. I am forever grateful for her teaching, mentoring, support and faith. May God comfort all who grieve....
Kathy Spaargaren (Pozo)*

Kathy Spaargaren - November 03, 2022 at 01:27 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dorothy M. Mahaffy.*



November 02, 2022 at 01:14 PM



“ *A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of Dorothy M. Mahaffy.*



November 01, 2022 at 11:01 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Dorothy M. Mahaffy.*



November 01, 2022 at 04:38 PM



“ *Kathy & Mike and Morris Family/Cousins purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Dorothy M. Mahaffy.*



Kathy & Mike and Morris Family/Cousins - November 01, 2022 at 03:34 PM



“ *4 files added to the album Tribute Wall*



John Mahaffy - November 01, 2022 at 01:54 PM

GH

“ *Gay Hertzman purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Dorothy M. Mahaffy.*



Gay Hertzman - November 01, 2022 at 10:07 AM

KO

“ *Kerry (Morris), Bob and Bobby Orlich purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Dorothy M. Mahaffy.*



Kerry (Morris), Bob and Bobby Orlich - October 31, 2022 at 10:47 PM

SM

“ *Sal Mazzuca purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dorothy M. Mahaffy.*



Sal Mazzuca - October 31, 2022 at 10:17 PM

MF

“ *Deepest condolences and prayers for you and all the family.
Margaret Fulham*

Margaret Fulham - October 31, 2022 at 05:38 PM

 Katrina
Pachel

“ I was one of Mrs. Mahaffey’s piano students. I had had many piano teachers before, and she was one of my favorites. She challenged me as no other teacher had done. I went on to major in music at Belmont and taught music in public and private schools. I currently teach piano just like my favorite piano teacher. Thank you, Mrs. Mahaffey, for being my inspiration. My thoughts and prayers are with the family during this time.

Katrina Pachel - October 31, 2022 at 04:57 PM

SH

“ My husband and I were friends and choir members at St Paul’s Catholic Church. The Air Force brought us to Tullahoma in 1978-1982, then Alaska and back to Tullahoma and the same choir in 1995.

Dorothy sponsored me when I joined Sunrise Rotary, and we were members of several organizations together. When her husband Craig died, Dorothy asked my husband to sing the Air Force Academy song at his funeral.

Dorothy had a way of looking at me and winking, always with a smile. I can see her now. She’ll be missed by so very many. Love you Dorothy Mahaffy.

R. J. and Sande Hayes

Sande Hayes - October 31, 2022 at 04:54 PM

TT

“ I was one of those young students that was mentioned. I tell the story every year to my 6th grade students of my piano teacher who lost her temporarily hearing when I tried to quit. She just kept saying, "See you next week" I came back the next week and soon after I began to own the piano, instead of it owning me. My love for music was greatly enriched because of those practices and those lessons that I had Saturday mornings with Mrs. Mahaffy. Thanks for not letting me quit and seeing in me, something I did not see in myself. Your family will be in my prayers!

Travis THompson - October 31, 2022 at 02:22 PM