



Dorothy Margaret Hiller Moldenhauer

Dorothy Margaret Moldenhauer, 88, died peacefully at her home at Oak Gardens in Altoona on Sunday, August 24, 2003.



Dorothy was born in Kilkenny, Minnesota, on December 16, 1914, to Julius and Margaret (Weaver) Hiller. The family moved to Stanley, Wisconsin, where they lived until Dorothy graduated from high school.

Dorothy began her teaching career at the age of 18 in a one-room rural school with grades 1-8.

She eventually took a job in Augusta, Wisconsin, and there she met Arnold "Arnie" Moldenhauer, whom she married on May 25, 1940. Dorothy spent the next ten years devoting her time to her husband and young children.



When she was asked to take a temporary teaching position, she had little idea that she was resuming a career that would continue until she was 69 years old and include many different teaching assignments and grade levels. Her interest in children's reading difficulties led to her involvement in the Wisconsin Right-to-Read program and other professional educational organizations. S

he was a frequent presenter at educational conferences. She and Arnie eventually moved to Merrill, Wisconsin, and then to Mayville, where she helped establish school reading programs.

After Arnie's death in 1967, Dorothy moved to Eau Claire, accepting a position at District One Technical School where she founded and directed the Study Skills Center. This was a job she truly loved. She developed great friendships among the faculty and foreign students who were studying English as a second language.

When Dorothy retired from teaching in 1983, she continued to travel with her friends. In addition to visiting all parts of the United States, her travels took her to China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, and various parts of Europe.

As her health declined in her later years, her favorite times were when her grandchildren visited. She was proud of their accomplishments, and she loved talking with them about their lives, jobs, and travels throughout the world. Dorothy was a member of the Eau Claire Area Retired Teachers Association, P.E.O. Sisterhood Chapter AF and Immaculate Conception Catholic Church.

Dorothy is survived by her daughter, Jacqueline (Felix) Fedie of Eau Claire; her son, Charles (Elizabeth) Moldenhauer of Convent Station, New Jersey; grandchildren, Jennifer (Robert) McCrorey of Madrid, Spain, Elizabeth (Robin) Bjorklund of Egan, Minnesota, Lieutenant J.G. Charles (Meridith) Moldenhauer of Williamsburg, Virginia, and Brooke Moldenhauer of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She is also survived by her sisters, Mary Bellows of Menomonie Falls, Wisconsin, and Gertrude (Malcom) Marsh of Eau Claire; along with nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Arnie; grandson, Michael John Fedie, her sister, Lucy Knish; and brother, Lawrence Hiller.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, August 28, at Immaculate Conception Church in Eau Claire. There will be no public visitation at the church. Burial will be later in the day in Mayville, Wisconsin.

Visitation will take place on Wednesday from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Fuller-Speckien Funeral Home with a 7 p.m. prayer service.

Memorials can be given to the Michael J. Fedie Scholarship Fund at Regis High School.

Dorothy always tried to make the world a better place; and it was her belief that working in small steps, perhaps with one student or one problem at a time, would accomplish great things in the end. She followed this belief to the very end of her life.

The family wishes to thank the wonderful caring staff at Oak Gardens and at Northwest Wisconsin Homecare/Hospice for all the love they surrounded her with while she was in their care.

Fuller-Speckien Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

