



Dorothy Roberts Pirzad

November 20, 1940 - March 6, 2025

Dorothy Roberts Pirzad left our world March 6, 2025 at the home of her caregiving long time friend Robert. Her spirit will live on through all who loved her. She was born November 20, 1940 in Pulaski, Virginia to Jesse Roberts and Juanita Costigan. Her early years were influenced by her grandmother Bertha Costigan's wisdom and discipline; a building block that developed Dottie's fair-minded outlook on life.

Dottie was a lifelong activist and advocate, committed to civil rights, world peace, and compassionate care for all people. She furthered her mission to help whenever and wherever she could working for the National Council of Churches in Manhattan, where she helped organize civil rights action; she Spoke Truth to Power as an original staff member on the Great Speckled Bird; she worked as an advocate and counselor serving and saving vets with the Vietnam Veterans Center in Atlanta; she Thought Globally and Acted Locally as both political and personal organizer with Atlanta legislators and community leaders. She opened her home and heart to welcome young people in need of shelter, healthy food, love, care, and guidance; she shepherded them and shared work at Hidden Springs Nursery (The Farm), taught them to work for others and themselves when she founded the famously innovative Dragonwyck Wax Works to craft unique and spectacular candles in Georgetown, Washington, DC., and used her creative and

entrepreneurial talents feeding and nurturing minds and bodies in her paper flower art business Midtown Atlanta.

Dottie was mother, grandmother and great-grandmother to Lisa, Lela, Nina, Angelica, Mickey, Audrey, and Welzie June. She nurtured their creativity, kindness, and curiosity about the world. Her love for family was reflected through the strong character of the children she helped raise. She made deep and meaningful connections with a family of friends all over the world who treasure her love, counsel, and legendary stories. Her life was filled with the music, art, and books that she curated and shared, and she captured the light of the people and world around her in beautiful, loving photographs. To know Dottie was to love her.

Her family will commemorate her well-lived life with a memorial Ginkgo tree planting in autumn.

In lieu of flowers, please visit the link below to support an amazing cause:

<https://secure.splcenter.org/page/64745/donate/1>

Tribute Wall

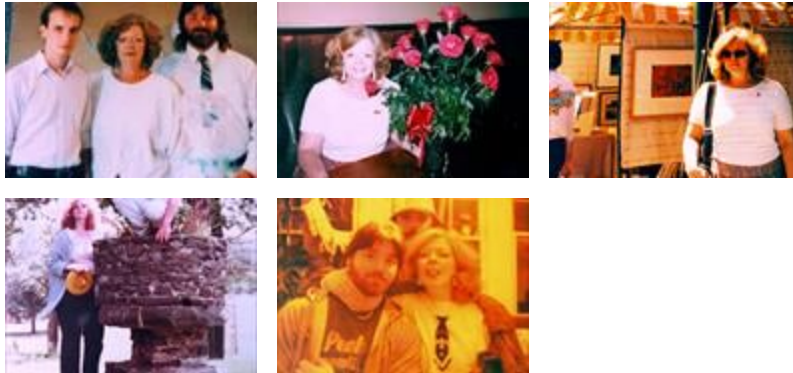
JE

“ I met Dottie in 1979. I did not know he passed away. I tried calling a year or so ago to let her know I survived lung cancer and the numnber was no longer working. Last time I spoke with her was Nov., 2008 She was always a positive inspirtion for me and her passing is a loss for the word. Jim Eunice, Ball Groud, Ga.

Jim Eunice - November 22, 2025 at 09:07 PM

CB

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Chris Bettinger - March 28, 2025 at 11:10 AM

JG

“ We were at the aptment on Greenwood (?) street in Spring 1975 during my first visit to Atlanta, sitting at the kitchen table--you, me and Dottie. I said to you Bob you are working all day doing people's yards, what do you do for relaxation? You said you were reading a book called "The Arab Mind." I said, what is it 2 pages long? Dottie let out a real great laugh. Never forgot that moment. My inroduction to her.

James Galliher - March 18, 2025 at 08:44 PM

SG

“ Dottie and I were friends starting in the 1970s. She was such an amazing creative, loving, caring woman. When we had time, we would get together and talk and talk and talk. I always felt so close to Dottie. She was one of my lifelong friends. And we were lucky enough to live down the street from each other on Eden Avenue. We got old and now she’s gone and I miss her so much.

Susan Goodman - March 18, 2025 at 10:23 AM

SA

“ Dorothy was a beautiful lady with a huge heart and was a great friend. She was an artist and an advocate for poor people. She was extending a helping hand to everyone. She will be missed by family and friends.



Salah - March 17, 2025 at 09:41 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Then and Now*



Lisa Tatmon - March 17, 2025 at 03:11 PM



“ 4 files added to the album *Then and Now*



Lisa Tatmon - March 17, 2025 at 07:46 AM



“ *Fly high my beautiful, cherished friend! I will truly miss you and I will forever treasure memories of all the good times and music and food. I met you when I was 20 when I moved to Atlanta with Reynolds and Reynolds. After 46 years in Atlanta I moved back to my hometown in Ohio to retire. Those 46 years were the best years of my life. You were instrumental in how I turned out in life, both spiritually and emotionally.*

I couldn't have connected with a better person to help me go through life. Until we meet again... Peace and Love ❤️

Chris Bettinger - March 15, 2025 at 06:07 PM



Peace, Love and Light Dottie.. 🥰❤️☀️☮️

Cherie Schafer - March 16, 2025 at 05:05 PM