



## Dorothy Klinger

June 10, 1921 - March 22, 2015

### Dorothy Klinger

Dorothy A. Klinger, 93, died peacefully at her home in Hegins, surrounded by family, on Sunday, March 22, 2015. She was born June 10, 1921 to the late John and Lottie (Green) Bush, in Barry Township, where she resided until her marriage. She met her late husband, Warren Klinger, in her teenage years and was fortunate to marry the love of her life. The couple resided in Weishample until 1946, and then moved into their home on Chestnut Street in Hegins, where they shared a full and rich life, until Warren's death in 1987.

Dorothy attended Ashland and Hegins Township high schools, graduating in 1936, the year of her 15th birthday.

Dorothy's work ethic developed early, on the family dairy farm. She began teaching piano at age 16, continuing for 5 years. She was also pianist and choir member at St. John's "Kimmel's" Lutheran and Reformed Church in Barry Township, where she also taught Bible School and was the Sunday School pianist. She was employed at Twin Valley Farmer's Exchange, Earl and Alma's Restaurant (Humbug's), Huntsinger Farms, was a sexton of Friedens Lutheran Church, and Friedens Reformed Church in Hegins. With her husband, Dorothy operated the soft ice cream stand in Gratz. Dorothy began working at the Valley Citizen (Citizen-Standard) in 1962, retiring at age 70 from her position as advertising manager. For the next 10 years, she operated Klinger's Tanning Salon, which had been established by her husband Warren just 5 weeks before his death.

Dorothy was the first woman on the church council, serving as council secretary for many years she served in many capacities at Friedens Lutheran Church; she was a hand bell ringer, mentor for confirmands, was the worship and music committee chairman, and served on the building committee and debt reduction committee.

She saw herself as a trend-setter, maybe even a rebel. She was the first woman at church to wear a pantsuit and considered wearing a hard-hat to building committee meetings. Later in life, she was active in church fundraising, as an actress in multiple plays and movies. Many will fondly remember her as "The Duchess of Hegins." She was able to balance her varied interests (music, card club, church actress) with her intense work schedule, and her busy family life. Her abiding sense of faith was a cornerstone of her life,

as was her love of her ever-growing family

Dorothy will be lovingly remembered by her children: sons Warren and wife Betsey of New Britain; Richard and wife Carol of Stroudsburg; Donald and companion, Brenda Hoffman, of Hegins, and John and wife Lori of Hegins; and daughters Kay wife of Marvin Masser of Valley View; Susan and husband John Rowland of Fort Collins, Co, and Margaret (Peggy) Erdman of Bonita Springs, FL. She is survived by her daughter-in-law, Darlene Klinger of Hegins, and was preceded in death by her son Lloyd Klinger and her son-in-law Terry Erdman in 2014, daughter-in-law Barbara Klinger in 1996, and infant grandson Kevin John Klinger in 1972. She was "Mammy" to 23 grandchildren, 41 great-grandchildren, and 5 great-great grandchildren. Dorothy was one of three siblings: her sister Catherine Kemple of Pottsville died in December, 2013; her brother Richard Bush of Bensalem survives her. Dorothy will be cremated, per her wishes. A Memorial Service will begin promptly at 11:00 AM, Saturday, April 4, 2015 at Friedens Lutheran Church, 509 E. Main St., Hegins, PA. Visitation will begin at 9:00 AM at the church.

Contributions may be made in Dorothy's memory to the Friedens Lutheran Church Memorial Fund.

Buffington-Reed Funeral Home, Valley View, is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences can be left for the family at <http://www.buffingtonreed.com>.

# Events

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**APR**   **Visitation**   09:00AM - 11:00AM

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Friedens Lutheran Church  
510 E Main Street, Hegins, PA, US, 17938

**APR**   **Memorial Service**   11:00AM

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Friedens Lutheran Church  
510 E Main Street, Hegins, PA, US, 17938

# Comments

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“ So sorry to hear about Aunt Dorothy's death I just found out this morning from Sharon Fetterolf or I would have been down for the services. Faythe Mervine

**Faythe Mervine** - April 08, 2015 at 01:28 PM

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“ our sincere sympathy to dorthys family we all knew her very well from freindens church we know she was always active and will be surely missed ernest klinger jr and family

**ernest klinger jr** - April 02, 2015 at 04:42 PM

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“ To be half as loved, respected, active, capable and a dozen more attributing adjectives my sister "Dot" deserves, would be a miraculous achievement in one lifetime and more. Her life would fill, not one volume, but an encyclopedia that could be properly entitled "Living Life to the Fullest". You've done it all, dear sister, and we family, relatives and friends can have the greatest pride in having had you as a part of our lives. Blessed is our love and cherishment to you forever.  
Brother Dick

**Richard Bush** - April 01, 2015 at 10:49 AM

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“ My condolences to the family of the late Dorothy Klinger

**Luke Kauffman** - March 29, 2015 at 09:19 AM

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“ To Dorothy's vast family,  
It is hard to realize Dorothy will no longer be seen performing her many volunteer duties at Friedens Church. She and I spent many hours working on projects in the church office and at choir practice, etc. She contributed so much to her church and left so many memories for its members to cherish. She will be missed by me and my family. she was the most optimistic person I ever met.  
From Peggy Hand and Family

**Peggy Hand** - March 27, 2015 at 08:11 AM

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“ What a great loss for your family, as well as the community. I'm so very sorry. But I believe Heaven experienced even more laughter and lots of hugs/fun when Dorothy joined the family there! I watched the DVDs of the plays she was in more times than I can tell you. I admired her joy, her love for her family, and I connected with the rebel in her. Looking forward to all of us being together once again one day. Until then, may we make them proud. Hugs and prayers... Bobbi Ebert Kirby

**Bobbi Ebert Kirby** - March 25, 2015 at 04:00 PM

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“ Dear Klinger Family, I just had to let you know how deeply saddened we are to hear of the passing of Dorothy. She was a very special person and we were very close friends, as I'm sure you know. I truly believe that she was a gift from God that came into my life at exactly the time I needed her most. She changed my life completely and I owe everything I am today to the positive influence she had on my life. I always told her , that when I grow up I wanted to be just like her! I pray that God will bless all of us and give us the strength to carry on without her. God Bless you all and Thank You for sharing your Mother with me. I feel truly blessed. Love and Prayers, Jimmy and Rose Erdman

**Rose Erdman** - March 25, 2015 at 03:07 PM

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“ Frank And Esther Beaver lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Klinger



**Frank and Esther Beaver** - March 25, 2015 at 02:17 PM

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“ I am so sorry for your loss. I used to work with your mother at the Valley Citizen right after graduating high school. I remember her being a jolly person. She was a very sweet lady and she will be greatly missed.  
Linda (Klinger) Darosh

**Linda (Klinger) Darosh** - March 25, 2015 at 01:42 PM

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“ Dorothy was clearly an icon in the Valley. Her laughter and smile matched her strong spirit. She will be missed so much and was a one-of-a-kind. She loved life, and that lives on in her children and their children.  
Ron, Janet, Ryan, Tyler, and Courtney Radel

**Ron Radel** - March 25, 2015 at 06:47 AM

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“ I want to express Dale's and my heartfelt sympathy to the family. Dorothy was a very special woman. I have so many wonderful memories of Dorothy from when we worked at the Citizen Standard. Her ability to smile and even laugh when she was upset about something, always amazed me. She saw the good in everyone and everything. I could always expect a joyful welcome and a big hug when I'd stop by the house to visit. She'll be greatly missed.  
Kathy (Stahl-White) Fetter

**Kathy Fetter** - March 24, 2015 at 01:21 PM