



Dorothy K. Kelley

January 15, 1949 - December 22, 2023

Dorothy K. Kelley of Cadillac passed away Friday morning, December 22, 2023 at Autumnwood of McBain with her daughter by her side. She was 74. Dorothy was born on January 15, 1949 in Coldwater, Michigan to Reynolds & Helen (Kosmerick) Diffenbaugh and they preceded her in death. On August 18, 1979 in Cadillac she married James J. Kelley and he preceded her in death on December 31, 1990.

Dorothy graduated from Bronson High School 1967, attended Jackson Business College and later went on to receive a Bachelor's degree from Baker College. She had been employed at Karen's Uniforms and Crystal Flash in Cadillac for many years.

She was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter day Saints in Cadillac for over 40 years and had served as the choir director. Dorothy loved music and was a member of The Ancient & Honorable Clam Lake Dock & Dredge Marching & Chowder Society Silver Cornet Band. Another one of her hobbies was gardening.

Survivors include her daughter, Jennifer Kelley of Cadillac; 2 grandsons: Jacob Sieting and Isaac Sieting; 2 great grandchildren: Ashton and Waylon Sieting; her 2 sisters: Karen Hargreave of Quincy, Michigan and Joan Fisher of Bronson, Michigan; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be held 11:00 AM Friday, January 12, 2024 at Peterson Funeral & Cremation Services in Cadillac with Elder Guy Ellis officiating. Friends may meet the family from 10:00 AM until services. Her final resting place will be Maple Hill Cemetery in Cadillac. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Michigan. An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Peterson Funeral Home
205 E. Cass St.
Cadillac, MI 49601
(231) 775-3411
info@petersonfh.com
<http://www.petersonfh.com>

Tribute Wall

TK

“ I was just looking for info about my cousins in Cadillac on my uncle Bobs side and just now saw this. I wish I would have known about it sooner. Dorothy was my aunt and the wife of my uncle Jake. She was super nice everything I saw her and she turned my uncles life around for the better. A loss of a special woman. So sorry I didn't see her for a while.

Tim Kelley - July 08, 2025 at 09:45 PM

SS

“ We were neighbors for over 20 years. Couldn't have asked for better neighbors. She was always looking out for our kids too. I recall one time she told me that she was at her kitchen window looking out. She could see into our backyard. She noticed our young son up on the roof of our house with a paper sack parachute. So she hollered at him and said that she didn't think he should do that. So she probably saved us a trip to the ER. Another funny story that I recall is that my husband always seemed to borrow some of their tools. So one time my husband went over to see if he could borrow a certain tool. She commented, I would be glad to let you but I do believe you still have it... from that day on my husband started purchasing his own tools so that wouldn't again. It is a great thing when neighbors can get along as we did. That was one thing that was hard for me when we moved...was missing our dearest friends the Kelley's and the Majerle's. We had made some visits to them every so often. I think it was about b4 or 5 months ago we visited her at Autumnwood. I'm glad we got that last chance. She was a beautiful Christian woman and we will miss her dearly.

Susan Sluiter - January 10, 2024 at 07:55 PM

MD

“ MR. AND MRS. KEVIN DIFFENBAUGH purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Dorothy K. Kelley.



MR. AND MRS. KEVIN DIFFENBAUGH - January 08, 2024 at 08:54 AM

ER

“ Such a dear Lady and friend she was to many that she knew. I will miss her cheery face and smile. I got to know her through the Cadillac Branch of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. She made feel so welcome when I joined the church there.

Edna M Rosenberg - December 30, 2023 at 05:57 PM

TM

“ I sang in the choir Dorothy directed for many years. Her love of music and desire to share was contagious. They have inspired me to always improve and raise my voice in praise as best I can. I have many happy memories of heart-felt rehearsals, performances, and the fun and camaraderie when many members of the choir would share dinner at the Big Boy restaurant.

Timothy P Miller - December 30, 2023 at 01:55 PM

JK

“ So very sorry about the loss of someone so dear to you. I knew Dorothy years ago, as we worked the same place, and she gave me pleasant rides with her. She was a sweet, kind, and wholesome young woman. Seems she kept those qualities all her life. Our prayers and hearts are with you,
Jeanette, Wendy, Shrina & Myste

Jeanette Kehoe Kehoe - December 29, 2023 at 09:06 PM