



## Dorothea "Dotty" Lagesse

March 12, 1950 - March 24, 2014

Visitation for Dorothea "Dotty" M. Lagesse, 64, of Batavia, formerly of Kankakee, will be from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday at the Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home, Bourbonnais. Cremation rites will be accorded following the visitation. Private inurnment will be held in Mount Emblem Cemetery, Elmhurst, at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley. Ms. Lagesse passed away Monday (March 24, 2014) at her home.

Ms. Lagesse was the Executive Director of Hospice of Kankakee Valley from May 1990 to August 2013. Upon her retirement, the HKV Board of Directors established scholarships in her name at both Kankakee Community College and Olivet Nazarene University. She formerly worked at Catholic Charities.

She was born March 12, 1950, in Kankakee, the daughter of Charles and Ione Pray MacDonald. She was a 1968 graduate of Bishop McNamara High School.

Dotty attended Kankakee Community College and Illinois State University before receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Behavioral Sciences from National Louis University in 1990; and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in 2000 from Olivet Nazarene University, where she graduated Magna Cum Laude. She received a certificate in Hospice Management in 1991 and a certificate in Business Administration in 1992, both from the University of

Illinois at Chicago.

She was an active member in both her profession and community, serving on various state and local boards and committees including: United Way Agency (council member, president and marketing committee); St. Mary's Adult Day Care (advisory committee); Preferred Meal Program of Kankakee County Senior Services Providers (Silver Harvest); Our Lady of Victory Ethics and Mission Effectiveness Committee; YMCA (Board of Directors and Finance Committee); Palliative Committee of Riverside Medical Center; and Mission Integration Committee of Provena St. Mary's Hospital.

She was board member and past president of the Illinois State Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (IHPCO), where she serve on the Regulatory, Legislative, and Hospice-Veterans Partnership Committees. She was also a member of Kiwanis Club of Kankakee, the Tent of Abraham (an interfaith group) and several book clubs.

Dotty received numerous awards including the Ralph E. Perry Student Award for Excellence in 2000, the Athena Award in 2008, and The Daily Journal Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011.

She loved to read. She enjoyed exercise and was an advocate for health and well being. She also enjoyed spending time with her four grandchildren.

Surviving are two daughters and sons-in-law, Monica and Frank Smogur, of Batavia, and Meredith and Ken Cirrincione, of Downers Grove; four grandchildren, Emma, Nathan and Grace Smogur, and Bella Cirrincione; her mother, of Naperville; brother and sister-in-law, Scott B. and Annie MacDonald, of Kankakee; sisters and brothers-in-law, Diane and Mike Ely, Debbie Ball, and Darlene Wieliczko, all of Bourbonnais, Denise MacDonald, of Bradley, Dolores and Greg Stefanski, of Downers Grove, Donna and Al

Moore, of Benton, Darla and Jeff Marshall, of Minonk, Doris MacDonald, of Warrenville, Dawn and John Grebe, of Wheaton, Dana and Marc Bernicky, of Plainfield, and Dara MacDonald, of Wheaton; many nieces and nephews; and many great-nieces and great-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father; two sisters, Deanna Larsen and Danielle MacDonald; and one nephew, Kyle Stefanski.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley - [hkvcares.org](http://hkvcares.org)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 27. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.  
295 Main St., NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
(815) 932-1214  
cgfuneral@gmail.com

# Tribute Wall

LL

“ I am one of the many whose kindness and thoughtfulness your life touched. I'm bereft with grief for your passing, and for those who are your family and friends. I know all whose lives you touched will never forget you. I spoke with a physician the other day, when mentioning your Hospice, he said that your "Hospice is the elite Hospice," knowing that would have made you proud. It was truly an honor to have known you and spent part of my career under your direction. You will always be remembered for your Love of your Nursing Staff, I miss you. Linda Lathim RN, BSN



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**linda lathim** - November 03, 2014 at 11:32 AM

JW

“ To all the Family of Dottie, I'm so sorry to know you all will miss her so much. I was out of town Thursday night service, or I would of been there. Dotty and I have known each other since first grade. Whenever we would run into each other it was like we were still friends with such a long history, and could talk forever. Dotty was a special woman, she has left such a mark on her giving and her always friendly ways. I will miss you, but I know you are not suffering anymore, you surely went out with class.

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**Judy Whitaker** - March 29, 2014 at 02:15 PM

BH

“ I'm thinking of you, Meredith, along with all of your family and friends. I well remember those "grade school days" when we became acquainted and I came to know you and your mother. Those are fond memories! Even then, Dottie was looking toward the future and planning. She has been an inspiration to so many.

*Much love, sympathy, and prayer for you all. May God Bless and comfort you.*

*Barbra Hartness  
(Former Limestone Grade teacher & "HEART" mentor)*

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**Barbra Hartness** - March 29, 2014 at 11:24 AM

KG

“ My sincere sympathy to Monica and Meredith and families. I had the privilege of working for and with Dotty for almost 24 years. Her energy was amazing even after she became ill. She even worked some days hooked up to an IV pole! But she was where she wanted to be - at HKV. She loved her hospice. I loved her and will miss her.  
Kathy Goers

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**Kathy Goers** - March 27, 2014 at 04:36 PM

LN

“ Our deepest sympathy to all of the McDonald family and Dotties children...Please know how very much we care...Our prayers for everyone.....Jerry and Lori Naese

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**Lori Naese** - March 27, 2014 at 04:01 PM

CA

“ Carol lit a candle in memory of Dorothea "Dotty" Lagesse



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**carol** - March 27, 2014 at 03:26 PM



“ April Weiske lit a candle in memory of Dorothea "Dotty" Lagesse



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**April Weiske** - March 27, 2014 at 03:14 PM

LB

“ *Wish I could find the words that could even touch the friendship we had since the Station Street Dairy Queen on our bikes. Wish I could have one more giggle as young moms at the cookie exchange. Wish I could let her beautiful girls know how much I am thinking of the constant and oh so definitive twinkle in their Mother's eyes--- when she said their names ..and spoke of their care of and for her. Wish I could find the words.... because*

*Heaven just got a new sparkle.*

*Love, Lana Weiss Brown*

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**Lana Brown** - March 27, 2014 at 03:14 PM

FC

“ Our deepest sympathy to Meredith, Ken and the extended Lagesse family. Uncle Frank and Fran

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**Fran Cirrincione** - March 27, 2014 at 02:59 PM

BS

“ Benny & Charlene Skeldon lit a candle in memory of Dorothea "Dotty" Lagesse



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**Benny & Charlene Skeldon** - March 27, 2014 at 02:13 PM

CF

“ Your family has our deepest sympathy at this difficult time. (We are aunt and uncle of Dana and Marc.)

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**Carol & Joe Fritz** - March 27, 2014 at 11:03 AM

AU

“ Wishing I could be there today to say goodbye...my thoughts and prayers are with you all.

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**Autumn** - March 27, 2014 at 09:03 AM

JW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**John & Sharon Woger** - March 26, 2014 at 12:15 PM

CA

“ Christine Anderson lit a candle in memory of Dorothea "Dotty" Lagesse



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**Christine Anderson** - March 26, 2014 at 11:20 AM

PW

“ It was an honor to work with Dotty for all those years as we took Hospice of Kankakee Valley through Medicare Certification. She had a passion for Hospice that was unmatched. My love and prayers to her family and friends, Patty Wischnowski

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**Patty Wischnowski** - March 26, 2014 at 08:32 AM

CD

“ we shared a house for eight years; She was part of my family. The best idea we had was building that screened porch on the front. PORCH TIME! She would unwind from the day. It usually involved a glass of wine,,some veggies and hummus. The Hetzogs would stop for a chat or JoAnne would run across the street and sit a spell ...or we would just sit and watch the river...

*To really know someone you have to live with them; I am so grateful that I had a chance to really know Dotty*

*from the poem " PORCH LIFE" by Charlene Dybedock 3/24/ 2014*

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**Charlene Dybedock** - March 26, 2014 at 07:19 AM

DS

“ *Dottie and I shared the good, bad and the ugly throughout our 30 years as friends. I feel so blessed to have had her in my life. I will miss her tremendously.*

*" As long as we live, she too will live, for she will always be a part of us."*

*Dianne Shanabruch*

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**Dianne Shanabruch** - March 25, 2014 at 06:20 PM