



Mrs. Gilda "Didi" Rudd

March 3, 1927 - November 10, 2020

Mrs. Gilda "Didi" Rudd, 93, of Dalton, passed away on Tuesday, November 10, 2020. Born in Pittsfield on March 3, 1927, the daughter of the late Peter and Virginia DeGiorgis Brignolo, she was a 1944 graduate of the former Dalton High School.

After the loss of her mother at the age of 8, Gilda was raised by her Brignolo grandparents who immigrated to the United States from Piea, Italy. In 2006 Gilda and family members were able to visit the town that her family came from and meet many relatives.

Didi's family was of the utmost importance to her. She cherished every moment spent with them, and when her children were young, she was blessed to stay home with them, ensuring that their needs were met with all the love and care. Because of her excellent grades, during her senior year of high school, she worked half days at General Electric as an administrative assistant, then post-graduation at the Dalton Pharmacy. She was also a bookkeeper at several local small appliance businesses. Once her children were of school age, she worked as a cafeteria worker at Craneville elementary school serving lots of children, many remembering her later on in life. After that she worked with her husband in the Building Inspectors Office at the Dalton Town Hall, retiring in 1992.

Among many things, she loved crafts of all sorts, but especially sewing clothing, gardening, cooking, or sitting down and completing a puzzle or two. Didi was extremely active in her community. She was a Camp Fire and Cub

Scout leader, as well as a member of the “Odd Squad”, a group of retired Camp Fire leaders that wanted to socialize together. She loved family vacations, day trips, picnics, and decorating and celebrating for holidays, especially Christmas. She was a longtime member of the Dalton Congregational Church, where she was an original volunteer of the Green Gargoyle Thrift Shop.

Anyone who knew Didi, knew her sharp mind, earthy sense of humor, and caring nature. Though she didn't have an easy childhood, she decided to make love a priority in life. She thought of ways to make those around her feel special; whether it be singing to you on your birthday, the yearly calendar she kept full with dates for sending cards to family members and friends, or the fact you never left her kitchen empty-handed. She accepted people for who they were and often said that you can't change people and just let them live how they want. Later in life, she loved Lifetime movies, sharing family recipes, telling stories of relatives, and holding and spoiling her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Gilda was predeceased by her beloved husband of over 30 years, Gilbert Rudd, Sr., whom she married on February 9, 1952. Gilbert passed away in 1985. Their love was rooted in fun and together they built a home full of laughter, children, pets, hard work and surrounded by many friends and neighbors, especially the Sniezek family.

She is survived by her children, Claire Townend (Bruce) of Windsor, Christine “Tina” Papiro, and Frank Rudd (Patricia), her daughter-in-law, Anne Rudd, and her son-in-law, Dennis Miller, all of Dalton. She leaves behind, her brother, Peter Brail of Connecticut, as well as 12 dear grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, other extended family, and friends. Besides her husband, Didi was predeceased by her children, Gilbert “Gibby” Rudd, Jr. and Virginia “Ginnie” Miller, as well as her sister, Claire Cognato, and one granddaughter, Sara Rudd.

Gilda was loved by so many and will be missed dearly.

Funeral Notice:

A graveside service for Mrs. Gilda "Didi" Rudd will be Wednesday, November 18, 2020, at 11 a.m. at Ashuelot Cemetery in Dalton with the Rev. Henry Pascual officiating. Calling hours will be Tuesday, November 17, 2020, from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. at the Dwyer-Wellington Funeral Home, 525 Main Street, Dalton, MA 01226. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Dalton Ambulance Fund in care of the Dwyer-Wellington Funeral Home, 525 Main Street, Dalton, MA 01226, in her memory. Donations CANNOT be made online, but may be made through the Dwyer-Wellington Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Ashuelot Cemetery

Ashuelot St.
Dalton, MA 01226

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 17. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Dwyer -Wellington Funeral Service
525 Main Street
Dalton, MA 01226
(413) 684-0215
information@wellingtonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.wellingtonfuneralhome.com/>

Service

NOV 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ashuelot Cemetery
Ashuelot St.
Dalton, MA 01226

Tribute Wall



“ 2 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - November 18, 2020 at 08:19 AM

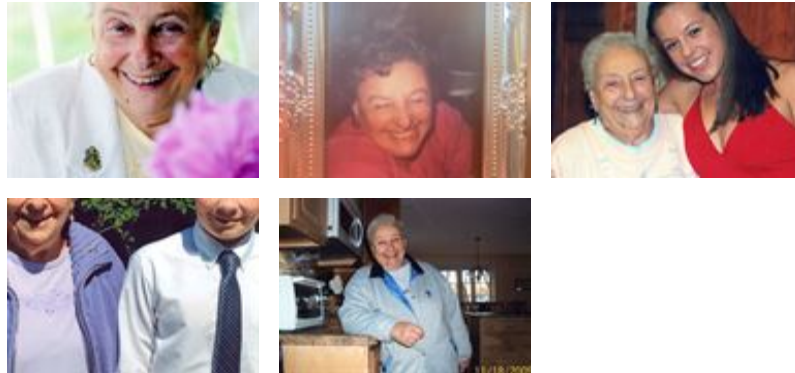
PS

“ I was so sorry to hear about Didi. My Mom (Edie) and her were good friends and I spent a lot of time at her house while growing up. Ginnie and I had so much fun! I live in Wisconsin and Didi wrote to me every Christmas. I will miss that this year. She was an incredible person. Thinking of all of you ❤️

Pat (Gorman) Santucci - November 17, 2020 at 11:01 AM



“ 173 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - November 17, 2020 at 08:24 AM



“ 57 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - November 16, 2020 at 04:15 PM



“ 23 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - November 16, 2020 at 08:18 AM

BS

“ I am very sorry to hear of Didi's passing. We worked together for several years at Town Hall and she would come downstairs to visit us with her cheerful personality as she always had a joke or something to say that would make us laugh. She continued to come in to talk for several years after retirement and would make us Christmas decorations for our tree. I know her smiling face will be missed. The world has lost a treasure.
Love, Barbara Suriner

Barbara Suriner - November 15, 2020 at 05:38 PM

BW

“ To Didi's family

She was a very special lady. I knew her from the Odd Squad to begin with. We met once a month at Kay Calabaugh's home. It was a fun time. Over the years she never missed my birthday or Christmas with cards. I will miss seeing her around.

Please accept my sympathy.

RIP dear friend.

Barbara Wilson.

Barbara Wilson - November 14, 2020 at 03:48 AM

FB

I so enjoyed visiting with Didi while she worked at the Dalton Town Hall, she was such a powerful source of possitivity. She cherished and loved to her family. She made us laugh and she was always concerned in what was going on in our families. She was a beautiful women who will be sadly missed. My heart goes out to her family at this very sad time. with sincere sympathy. Fran & John Broderick

Frances Broderick - November 18, 2020 at 12:36 PM