



## Dorothy Anne Sobota

January 7, 1963 - March 20, 2023

In loving memory, of a dear wife, my one true love

Dorothy Anne Sobota

Born Monday, January 7, 1963 at 2:30 AM at Mt. Carmel Mercy Hospital in Detroit, Michigan to Virginia and Wilfred Dubay of Berkley, Michigan, Dorothy was a beautiful, healthy baby, weighing 8 pounds, 12 ounces and was 21 inches in height. She was baptized on January 27, 1963 at Our Lady of LaSalette Catholic Church in Berkley, Michigan, made her first communion on May 2, 1971 at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Harper Woods, Michigan, and was confirmed on March 24, 1977, also at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Harper Woods, Michigan.

Dorothy already had five brothers and sisters: Thomas (1950), Margaret (1952), Marie (1954), Michelle (1957), and James (1959). Brother John (1964) would follow later, one year to the day. Both parents, as well as Michelle and John, had passed before Dorothy.

While living in Harper Woods, Michigan, Dorothy started her education in 1968, attending Kindergarten at Tyrone Elementary School. She then attended Grades 1 through 8 at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Grade School from 1969 to 1977, and as an athlete there, won many track awards.

She then advanced to Bishop Gallagher High School, graduating in May 1981, after 4 years on the “B” Honor Roll, with a four year cumulative GPA of 3.09. Her sweet, friendly, and outgoing personality made her many dear friends in school. She was raised with Christian values and her education reinforced that, leaving her with a spiritual foundation that lasted a lifetime. Dorothy also attended a 14 week Dale Carnegie course in 1989, as well as Macomb Community College in 1990, studying Psychology.

Dorothy was an ambitious, hardworking young lady. She started working part time at the Harper Woods Public Library in 1978 at the age of 15, advancing to the position of library page in 1980. In the spring and early summer of 1981, in addition to the page job, she worked two other part time jobs, one of which led to a full time assistant manager position in retail clothing in July 1981. She continued in retail through 1992, ascending to store manager at several firms, multiple malls. District managers from three different firms described her as a dependable, conscientious, and courteous store manager. She was a Mary Kay sales associate after leaving retail, worked with her cousin, Lisa, providing independent cleaning services, and was a caregiver to a neighbor. Dorothy was also a devoted caregiver to her father-in-law for about one year in 2005, assisting with doctor appointments and other daily tasks. From 2006 forward, she assisted her mother with day to day needs, moving, medical care, and financial affairs. Caring for her mother during the most stressful years (2009-2012) took a toll on her emotional and physical health, and in 2012 she neglected her own serious health issues, resulting in much pain and suffering for the rest of her life.

Growing up, Dorothy enjoyed her family’s vacation trips to northern Michigan and immediately made friends wherever she went. She loved get-togethers with family and friends, playing games and cards. Long walks with our dogs and miniature golf were favorite activities. She enjoyed reading fiction, like Harry Potter, or working on puzzles, both into the wee hours of the night.

Instead of watching TV, she often relaxed in the evening by listening to songs from the 60's, 70's, and 80's on the cable music channels for hours at a time, often singing along. She said her love of the 60's songs came from exposure to music that her older siblings listened to when she was young. She dearly loved our two dogs, Bear and Shiloh, and her cat, Elsa, caring for them with the love of a mother. She enjoyed our summer vacations and weekend trips in Michigan to the Upper Peninsula, St. Ignace, Mackinac Island, the Soo Locks, Au Gres, and Frankenmuth, as well as a trip to Canada to see Niagara Falls and several other states including Illinois, Missouri, and Pennsylvania.

As a member of St. Anne Catholic Church in Warren, Michigan since 1991, Dorothy was a Eucharistic minister at Sunday masses and worked tirelessly at their annual festival as co-chair of the Recycled Treasures area. She always enjoyed breakfast after mass at our favorite restaurant, The Pantry.

Dorothy was diagnosed with breast cancer on December 4, 2012 and underwent mastectomy surgery on January 8, 2013, one day after her 50th birthday. Pathology confirmed cancer in 18 of 22 lymph nodes and follow-up scans confirmed cancer in many bones. Her cancer was Stage 4 (Metastatic) from the beginning and within 21 months it would travel to her brain. She battled her cancer for over ten years and was as brave as any warrior that ever fought in combat. Her courage and inner strength were an inspiration to all who knew her. Despite her cancer, she never lost touch with her humorous side and would make her cancer support group laugh at her jokes and funny noises during meetings. Somehow she always retained her outgoing, friendly, and thoughtful nature. While receiving her own infusion treatments, she would often engage in conversation with other cancer patients, sometimes new to the routine, offering her advice from her years of experience. She would try to offer any help possible, sometimes in the form of hope, since she had survived for so many years, against all odds.

The tick of each second turns into the minutes, hours, and days that make up a life. The years fly by so quickly you just don't realize how precious time is until there are only a few moments left to embrace God's gift of love together.

Dorothy passed away quietly at home, in her own bed, the evening of Monday, March 20, 2023. I cried knowing I would never see her beautiful blue eyes again ..... the ones I adored from day one. I would never again hear the words "I Love You" from her sweet lips. I gave her a last kiss and sat quietly by her bedside, holding her hand. I had lost someone so precious to me that it was hard to imagine going forward without her. It was by far the worst moment of my life. I could only take comfort in knowing that Dorothy's pain and suffering had ended and that she was now in God's care.

Anyone who knew Dorothy will never forget her sweet, kind, and loving ways. I pray to God that I will be worthy to be with her again someday.....my best friend, my one true love, and as she had written in a love note to me 17 days before we were to be wed, my "Wife for Life".

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Below are poems written in her memory, by her devoted husband, Thomas:

## MISSING YOU

Oh dearest Dorothy, I miss you so very much  
I miss your soft words " I Love You" and your gentle, loving touch  
I miss you in the morning when I rise  
I miss your beautiful smile and your gorgeous blue eyes  
I miss you all day long, you're always in my head  
I miss you in the evening, when it's time to go to bed  
I miss you when I think of you so far above

I miss you most since you'll always be my one true love

## WIFE FOR LIFE

It's a terrible thing to lose a wife

Only one other event will forever change your life

It's in the beginning, when you first meet that treasure

Her eyes of blue, and heart of gold, bring happiness beyond measure

At first it's the joy of just being with her

And to listen to her soft voice as she tells you her story

The more you see and hear, the more you want to know

And soon it's true love and down life's road you go

Through good times and bad, your love for each other grows

Until your hearts join as one, as does each of your souls

So many good years together as one

It's hard to accept the emptiness when the last day is done

Hope comes so slow as you grieve and long for her love

But you know God is with you, as is her love from above

Someday when we meet again in a warm, heavenly embrace

The loss of my "WIFE FOR LIFE" I will no longer face.

All of my Love Forever,

Your Loving Husband for 32 years and Soulmate Forever,

Thomas Sobota

# Cemetery Details

## Resurrection Cemetery

18201 Clinton River Rd  
Clinton Township, MI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 23. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Mandziuk & Son Funeral Directors, Inc. - Sterling Heights  
3801 18 Mile Road  
Sterling Heights, MI 48314  
(586) 997-3838

## Rosary

MAR 23. 7:00 PM (ET)

Mandziuk & Son Funeral Directors, Inc. - Sterling Heights  
3801 18 Mile Road  
Sterling Heights, MI 48314  
(586) 997-3838

## Instate

MAR 24. 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Anne Catholic Church  
32000 Mound Rd  
Warren, MI 48092

## Mass of the Christian Burial

MAR 24. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Anne Catholic Church  
32000 Mound Rd  
Warren, MI 48092

# Tribute Wall



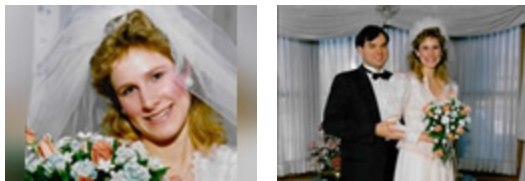
“ 1 file added to the album *Wife for Life*



Mandziuk & Son Funeral Directors, Inc. - October 30, 2024 at 01:36 PM



“ 2 files added to the album *Wife for Life*



Mandziuk & Son Funeral Directors, Inc. - October 29, 2024 at 03:06 PM



“ *Dorothy Anne Sobota*

October 23, 2023 at 04:00 AM



“ *Such a sweet, pleasant lady. I was always amazed at her lighthearted silliness and her sense of humor despite everything going on. I have wonderful memories that i will cherish forever. ❤️ Rest in peace dorothy! I love you, Lisa*

Lisa Nicholson - March 24, 2023 at 09:45 AM

RM

“ Dear Tom, Dorothy was such an inspiration! I will miss talking to her & hearing her laughter. You were her Angel. God Bless You. Rest In Peace Dorothy ❤️ Love & Prayers. Rachel Magyar

Rachel Magyar - March 24, 2023 at 09:04 AM

TS

“ Dorothy’s positive attitude never ceased to amaze me. She didn’t complain about her situation - every conversation left me feeling blessed.

You’ll be missed, but your spirit will be with us always.

Thanks Dorothy for all you did for the people you loved.

Love and prayers,

Tony Sobota

Tony Sobota - March 23, 2023 at 07:34 PM



“ Pink Potpourri Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dorothy Anne Sobota.



March 23, 2023 at 10:28 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Dorothy Anne Sobota.



March 23, 2023 at 08:49 AM

MS

“ I will miss those many meals we shared at your house. To Tom: Words can't express how thankful I am for taking such good care of Dorothy—through all the treatments, doctor visits, and for the endless meals you prepared for her daily. Dorothy told me that she could not have gone through this without you. You are truly her hero. 🌸 thank you so much!

Marlene Stieber - March 22, 2023 at 04:08 PM

AS

So, so sorry to hear that you lost your best friend Tommy. Please know that you are in all of our thoughts and prayers. From the families of Melva and Phil Sobota. We love you! Andy and Debi Sobota

Andy Sobota - March 23, 2023 at 07:11 PM

AS

“ Auntie Mar Stieber purchased the Pink Potpourri Bouquet for the family of Dorothy Anne Sobota.



Auntie Mar Stieber - March 22, 2023 at 03:59 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Dorothy Anne Sobota.



March 22, 2023 at 11:56 AM

TK

“ Teri, Sam, Kevin purchased the Heavenly Heights Bouquet for the family of Dorothy Anne Sobota.



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**Teri, Sam, Kevin** - March 21, 2023 at 10:59 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dorothy Anne Sobota.



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March 21, 2023 at 06:06 PM