



Dorothy E. Szpara

February 14, 1931 - August 28, 2020

Dorothy E. (Ventrice) Szpara, 89, passed away peacefully on Friday, August 28, 2020 at Vero of South Hadley. Born February 14, 1931, daughter of the late Salvator and Stella (Czech) Ventrice, she was a lifelong Chicopee resident and a communicant of the Basilica of St. Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr. Dorothy was owner and operator of Collegian Court Restaurant in Chicopee for twenty-eight years. A caring hostess and friend, Dorothy always added her personal touch to the comfort and satisfaction of her customers. In her leisure time she enjoyed trips to Otis. Dorothy was predeceased by her beloved husband of more than fifty years, Henry S. Szpara, and is survived by her loving children, Linda Anthony and husband Steve of Chicopee, Gary H. Szpara and partner Steve Ethridge of Bethel, ME, and David M. Szpara of Chicopee; cherished grandchildren, Amy, Aryn and Christopher, along with four cherished great-grandchildren; sisters, Ruth Oleskiewicz of Framingham and Sallyanne Knisely of Cape Cod, and brother, Renzo Ventrice of Holyoke. Funeral services and burial for Dorothy will be held privately for her family at their convenience. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, Massachusetts Chapter, 264 Cottage St., Springfield, MA 01104.

Tribute Wall

CH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Christopher - September 11, 2020 at 10:08 PM

FP

“ Linda, Gary, David and grandchildren, Our most sincere condolences on the passing of your Mom. Dorothy had a real zest for living life to its fullest. Recall so many interactions with her and always loved her joining us at a table to catch up and hear about her adventures and her family of which she was so proud. May she rest in eternal peace.

Fred Pajak and Ray Bigelow

Fred Pajak - September 04, 2020 at 08:20 AM

TE

“ Our families have known each other a long time, but I didn't get to know Dorothy until I went to work at Collegiant Court. It was after my mother passed and I was back in Chicopee for a while. It was a sad time for me, but she helped me through it. In between working our butts off (if she asked me to move tables around one more time, she might have passed a lot sooner!) and sitting at the bar after work talking about everything and nothing, she made it a special time where I made a new friend. She was a special lady and my sincere condolences to Linda, Gary and David, she will be missed!

Teenie - September 03, 2020 at 11:02 PM

CH

. "In between working our butts off (if she asked me to move tables around one more time, she might have passed a lot sooner!"

You've got that right!! 😂😂❤️❤️

Christopher - September 04, 2020 at 07:15 PM

SS

“ Sharon Santinello lit a candle in memory of Dorothy E. Szpara



Sharon Santinello - September 02, 2020 at 05:12 PM

BC

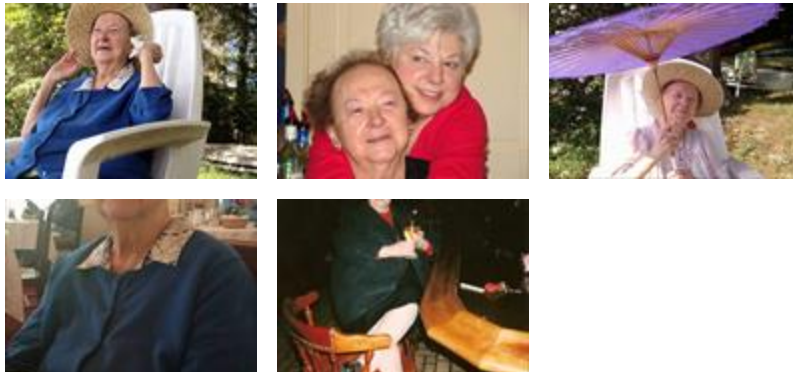
“ Beverly Cassady lit a candle in memory of Dorothy E. Szpara



Beverly Cassady - September 01, 2020 at 09:17 PM

CS

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Christopher Szpara - August 31, 2020 at 08:49 PM

JK

Dorothy always treated us well. My mother Barbara Crosson enjoyed working for Dorothy. They used to banter back and forth. My dad Richard Crosson used to do minor repairs for Dorothy. Then they all sat down together and ate! She was fun to be around and funny !

Joy and Peter Keough - September 01, 2020 at 08:06 PM

CS

“ Christopher Szpara lit a candle in memory of Dorothy E. Szpara



Christopher Szpara - August 31, 2020 at 08:44 PM

Kevin Wallace

“ She was a wonderful lady, always treated us so well...and we loved her. I hope she's having a party in a new life with all her departed loved ones! Kevin & Rick



Kevin Wallace - August 31, 2020 at 06:44 PM

SL

“ I remember the restaurant and her being a gracious hostess. But our best memories are the weekend of Linda and Steve's wedding and the wonderful time at her home. Boy did we party. She will be missed but remains in our hearts ❤️
SUSAN and David Lindow

susan and david Lindow - August 31, 2020 at 03:43 PM

SS

Well I worked for Dorothy, we had plenty of good memories, one was we had just got back from a catering job, we were all tired, dorothy was at the sink doing dishes and someone put a bucket of gravy be hind her well needless to say dorothy ended up headfirst in the bucket, she took it wonderfully, she wiped her glasses off and proceeded to the bar

Sharon Santinello - September 01, 2020 at 09:01 AM

SS

I loved dorothy, she was kind, she cared about all of us that worked for her

Sharon Santinello - September 01, 2020 at 09:04 AM

BC

Dorothy was a boss for 20+ years and remained friends after the restaurant closed. She and I took many road trips together. From local to the Cape. I will always have good memories of the many, many trips. As Chris reminded us, the one thing we always teased Dorothy, we can't lay her out on ice in the salad bar. I'll miss you my friend. Hope you get the rest you never took.

Beverly Cassady - September 01, 2020 at 09:29 PM

SS

Amen Beverly

Sharon Santinello - September 02, 2020 at 05:15 PM

CH



Christopher - September 04, 2020 at 07:16 PM