



## Dorothy E Lapham

January 7, 1961 - July 29, 2023

### In Loving Memory of Dorothy Lapham

Dorothy Collins Lapham of Hampton NH, beloved in the hearts of many, passed away on July 29, 2023. Born in Belmont, Massachusetts, Dorothy's life was one marked by contagious optimism and a love of life, family, friends, and the beach. She was 62 years old at the time of her passing.

Dorothy's journey began on January 7, 1961, when she entered the world as Dorothy Collins.

From an early age, it was evident that she possessed a vibrant spirit and a deep love for the water. This love eventually led her to become the Waterfront Director at Camp Bernadette and during Exceptional Children's (EC) Week at Camp Fatima — a role she cherished. She eventually settled at Hampton Beach, happy to be at the ocean.

Unfortunately, Dorothy's life was significantly impacted at a young age by injuries resulting from her passion and work of lifeguarding, necessitating corrective surgeries resulting in disability. She was extremely grateful to the

many medical and care professionals who helped her over the years, and to her good friends Lisa, Brent and Sandy for their friendship.

Apart from her passion for water-related activities, Dorothy's compassionate nature endeared her to everyone she encountered. She was known for her warm smile, beautiful red hair, and her ability to brighten even the cloudiest of days. She made new friends of strangers wherever she went.

Dorothy's legacy lives on in the memories of her family, friends, colleagues, and the countless campers whose lives she touched.

She is survived by her loving family, who take solace in the knowledge that she will forever be remembered for her boundless love, spirited ways, and her lasting impact on the lives she touched. Dorothy is survived by her mother, Elizabeth (Blackham) Collins of Belmont, MA; her brothers, John Collins and his wife Cynthia of Lexington, MA, and Andrew Collins and his wife Ann of Litchfield, NH; her sisters, Margaret Collins of Concord, NH, Patricia Kelemen and her husband Phillip of Port Orange, FL, and Judy Collins of Exeter, NH, as well as many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her father John Collins and her husband Brian Lapham.

Services for Dorothy will be private. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations to be made in Dorothy's honor to EC Week, <http://www.ecweek.org/>, a cause that was close to her heart.

Rest in peace, dear Dorothy. Your light continues to shine brightly in the

hearts of all those who  
were fortunate enough to know you. You will be deeply missed and fondly  
remembered.

# Tribute Wall

JT

“ *My sincerest condolences to all of the Collins,Lapham family. I will always remember Dodo my silly fun loving Dorothy, we would go to her Doctor appointments in Boston, Exeter NH. or visit her Mom in Belmont and our trips to and from were always either singing on the way or telling stories past and present. I will miss her so and think of her often.  
Love you Dorothy*

*Joe Terruso. September 25th. 2023*

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**Joseph Terruso** - September 25, 2023 at 10:04 PM

MS

“ *My sincerest condolences to the Collins family. In my mind's eye, I see DoDo happily bouncing up & down Hurd Rd with that joyous smile and beautiful red hair. May love surround and hold you all. With love and hugs, Marianne (Smitty) Smith.*

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**Marianne Smith** - August 09, 2023 at 08:40 PM

MF

“ *My condolences to all the Collins family. I will always remember that beautiful shiny red hair and her big smile. I had seen Dorothy a few times at EC Week events. Love to you all. Mari-An McKenney Fitzmaurice*

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**Mari-An Fitzmaurice** - August 08, 2023 at 08:51 PM

LP

“ *Dear Collins family, I am truly saddened, I offer you my love, hugs, prayers and peace. Lisa Canny-Petersen.*

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**Lisa Petersen** - August 08, 2023 at 12:34 PM

EW

“ Dorothy helped our son have safe and memorable years at Camp Fatima EC Week. After years and years from our childhood in Belmont, seeing Dodo on the waterfront made this apprehensive mom feel comfortable with camp.

*Mrs. Collins and Dorothy's siblings we wish you peace as you remember your wonderful daughter/sister. Your entire family made a special impact in the lives of my family.*

*- Ellen McGrail Waddill, Doug Waddill & Timmy Stevens*

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**Ellen (McGrail) Waddill** - August 05, 2023 at 10:37 PM

LB

“ Over 40 years of friendship. We were supposed to write a book about our adventures (East Cambridge, Boston, Boothbay Harbor, Linneus, NH campgrounds, Florida, miscellaneous antics, etc.). Dorothy had all the notes and she remembered everything (sometimes that was a good thing for me, sometimes not - lol). Too many wonderful and hilarious memories to share here. She was one of my very few close friends. Someone who always made me smile, except when she took FOREVER to get ready to go out! lol

*Rest in peace my dear, dear friend Dorothy, . Love you forever and more!!!*

*Lisa Basile-Tracey*

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**Lisa Basile-Tracey** - August 04, 2023 at 03:42 PM

SF

“ Dodo, You were more than a friend, You became family. Nicky's first steps were to you and I wouldn't have wanted it any other way. I was blessed to have had you in my life for 20 years. There are so many memories that I will never forget. I will never forget you Dodo. I Love You.

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**Sandra Frary** - August 02, 2023 at 08:41 PM

JU

“ Of course I have many memories only Dorothy would understand . . . but I need to ask one more time . . .do you think they caught him yet? ~ the special order McDonald's cheeseburger, Susie and Terry, sleeping on the porch, shake your head and forget, I'm still listening, the naughty Dotty list ~ Dorothy I hope you are swimming somewhere pain free ❤️

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**Judy** - August 02, 2023 at 07:16 PM

BM

“ Dodo was a Bright and caring soul. I met her in 2004. I made her watch horror movies with me which was fun lol. We sat on her deck nightly. She and her husband were my absolute best friends. Dodo had a way of turning any situation to a fun and happy one. God bless you Dodo I will Miss you deeply!!! Until we see each other again,  
may you rest in peace, no longer in pain!!! I love you !!!

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**Brent p menard** - August 02, 2023 at 06:13 PM