



Phyllis M. Dizzia

July 18, 1934 - May 24, 2019

Wantage - Phyllis M. Dizzia, 84 years old, passed away at Newton Medical Center on Friday, May 24, 2019.

Born and raised in Paterson, NJ to the late Salvatore and Mary (Fabiano) Dizzia, Phyllis moved to Sussex County in 1970.

She received her BA from Paterson State Teacher College and earned her Master Degree in New Jersey. Miss Dizzia began her teaching career at the Totowa Borough Elementary School, where she taught for 20 years. After moving to Sussex County, she continued her teaching career at Lounsberry Hollow Elementary School in Vernon where she was the 7th grade coordinator and English teacher. Miss Dizzia was the first teacher to receive the Vernon Township teacher of the year award in 1975.

After her retirement from Lounsberry Hollow School in 1990, she volunteered at the former St. Clare's Hospital in Sussex for many years, performing over 7000 hours of service. She was a devoted animal lover and gardener who took great joy in spending time with her family and friends.

Miss Dizzia is predeceased by her brother, Sam Dizzia in 2018. She is survived by her brothers, Neil Dizzia and his wife Elizabeth of Fayetteville, PA and John Paul Dizzia and his wife Lorraine of Cranford; her nieces and nephew, Maria Dizzia and her husband Will Eno, Gina Dizzia and her husband Daniel Fernandez, Ellen Dizzia, and Greg Dizzia and his wife Christie; her great-grandnieces and nephews, Julian, Tomas, Albertine, and Nüwa; and the thousands of students she taught throughout her career.

Funeral services will be held at 12 noon on Saturday, June 1, 2019 at the Pinkel Funeral Home, 31 Bank Street (Route 23), Sussex. Friends may pay their respects to the family on Saturday prior to the service from 10 a.m. to 12 noon at the funeral home. Private cremation services will be held at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations may be made in Phyllis Dizzia's memory to the St. Jude's Senior Group, 24 Beaver Run Rd., Hamburg, NJ 07419, or the Friends of the Sussex- Wantage Library, 69 County Road 639, Wantage, NJ 07461.

Online condolences may be offered to the family at <http://www.pinkelfuneralhome.com>.

Cemetery

Events

Private Cremation Services

JUN

Visitation

10:00AM - 12:00PM

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NJ,

Pinkel Funeral Home, Inc.

31 Bank Street (Route 23), Sussex, NJ, US, 07461

JUN

Service

12:00PM

1

Pinkel Funeral Home, Inc.

31 Bank Street (Route 23), Sussex, NJ, US, 07461

Comments



“ Dear John, Neil and family,
I was sorry to hear of Phyllis's passing. She was very special to me, as she was my very first patient when I opened my practice in Sussex. I remember making house calls on your mother, as well. I know that many of her students remembered her fondly. Her death and funeral times was posted on the Facebook page for former employees, volunteers and professional staff of Walkkill Valley / St. Clare's Hospital, as she was well liked there.
I regret that I was not able to attend her service, and extend my condolences in person.
Linda C. Vickery, MD

Linda Vickery, MD - June 10, 2019 at 03:07 PM



“ Ms. Dizzia was my English teacher at Lounsberry Hollow Middle School. She was a great teacher and I enjoyed her class. She had such a passion for English and for teaching. RIP.

Laurel Symanski Harrigan - June 01, 2019 at 03:39 PM



“ I met Phyllis many years ago when she came to LHMS in Vernon from the Totowa area. She made a tremendous impression on me and many others from that first day. She was so creative, overflowing with knowledge, always willing to share and to encourage others, and so filled with energy that she seemed to bounce from point to point getting things done. Her wit and humor were always on alert and could bring any one to tears with laughter. As happens all too often in life, we lost contact as I moved on to another district school and Phyllis retired. However, I have never forgotten what a powerful, caring personality Phyllis was and how she could light up a room and a life. She will be greatly missed and leaves a lasting impact on so many lives. Phyllis is a true example of a life well lived and well loved.

Helen M. Simpkins, Retired Teacher

Helen Simpkins - May 31, 2019 at 08:36 PM



“ Phyllis Dizzia was an exceptional teacher! When I was hired to teach at Lounsberry Hollow, John Paskey suggested that if I wanted to see a master teacher at work, I should visit Ms. Dizzia's classroom. She was respected and loved by all her colleagues. In her retirement, she was a wonderful volunteer and radiated joy and grace. We will all miss her. Mary Cafarelli, Wantage, retired VTSD teacher

Mary E Cafarelli - May 31, 2019 at 07:01 PM



“ When I returned to teaching at Lounsberry Hollow after raising my children for seven years, Phyllis became my mentor. She was by far the most creative teacher I have ever known. She was so willing to share her methods and advice. I used so many of her ideas throughout my twenty-six years of teaching in Vernon. Also, when my daughter had Phyllis as her English teacher in seventh grade, I saw first hand as a parent the results of having a wonderful teacher. More importantly, Phyllis became my friend for many years after her retirement. A hug from Phyllis could be so comforting. She was a wonderful listener and a great companion for lunch or dinner. She spoke so often of her brothers, nieces, and nephew. It was obvious that she had a loving family. I will truly miss Phyllis. I only wish in her final years that I could have been there for her as she was for me so often.

Arlene Lawler

Arlene Lawler - May 31, 2019 at 07:06 AM



“ When I began teaching, Phyllis was there to support me and show me the ropes of not just teaching English, but how to navigate 7th grade hormones. When I returned after a maternity leave, I slipped into the vacancy left by her retirement. I found teacher's editions filled with personal notes of encouragement that meant so much. Now 39 years later as I approach my own retirement, I can honestly say she was the most influential teacher in my career.

Beverly Everett-Kelly - May 29, 2019 at 10:54 PM



“ My wife Gail and I will miss Phyllis very much, We are grateful we were able to work with her at Lounsberry Hollow Middle School, learn from her, and enjoy being around her, in and out of work. She loved children and life! So many students are lucky to have had her as a teacher. She is the definition of professional educator and master teacher.

Mark K Wallace - May 28, 2019 at 10:37 PM



“ Phyllis was not only a wonderful mentor to many teachers, but she was also an advocate for all of her students. Phyllis provided her friends and colleagues with care and assistance whenever it was needed. She possessed a loving spirit, and made our lives richer for knowing her.

Rosemary Williams - May 28, 2019 at 05:57 PM



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.... - May 28, 2019 at 02:51 PM



“ My career gave me the chance to see and know many teachers. Phyllis Dizzia is in the highest ranking of teaching professionals. Her classroom was a place of learning, not only from books, but from the lessons and joys of life. She truly was a pillar of learning in the Venon schools .
It was an honor to have worked with her, a honor to have nominated her for many teaching awards including NJ Teacher of the Year.
Thanks you Miss Dizzia for your service to your students and school..
You leave this life having made us better.
George Iannacone

george iannacone - May 27, 2019 at 07:54 PM



“ Phyllis was a classmate of mine at Eastside High School in Paterson, and then at Paterson State Teachers College. We commuted together on the bus to the new campus in Wayne, our class was the first to attend that campus for all four years. Phyllis was so special, good humored, diligent, caring. We knew we were so lucky to go there, most of us were from working class folks, usually the first girl to go the college. She remained my friend, we exchanged card and notes. It was a joy when George went to work in Vernon and met her, and told me he had met a classmate of mine. She was a brilliant women and dedicated teacher. Her students were blessed to learn both the academics and lessons of life. And her fellow teachers all knew she was a true professional. Yes we will grieve for her, and miss her, but she lives within each of us who knew her. God Bless us everyone
Lillian Percarpio Iannaccone

Lily Iannaccone - May 27, 2019 at 07:45 PM