



Mildred Arlene Dillie

JUL 25, 1934 - MAR 7, 2026



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COMPLETE FUNERAL SERVICES

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Mildred Arlene Dillie

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Mildred Arlene Dillie passed away peacefully in her home in Forsyth, IL on March 7, 2026.

Mildred was born at home on the farm in Todd County, Minnesota, on July 25, 1934 to Adolph and Edna (Carter) Juvrud. One of three children, she attended a one-room country school through eighth grade, and then graduated from New York Mills (MN) High School in 1954. After earning a bachelor's degree from Morehead State University, in Moorehead, MN, Mildred began a career teaching in elementary schools first in Fargo, ND, then St. Louis Park, MN, followed by work in US government schools on Adak Island, AK, and then in Bremerhaven, Germany.

While in Germany, she met and married a fellow teacher, Donald K. Dillie, in March, 1961; they enjoyed 59 years of marriage until his death in July, 2020. Returning to the states in 1962, she and Don settled in Decatur where she taught first at Oak Grove Elementary School, and then later taught for many years at St. Thomas School until it closed in 1991.

She had decades of active volunteer service with Meals on Wheels, Red Cross blood drives, Friends of the Decatur Public Library book sales, and various groups within Grace United Methodist Church which she and Don joined in 1962. She also volunteered for many years at the Church's thrift store, the Economy Shop.

Mildred always enjoyed travel, including many summer vacations around the county, trips to Europe, and around 40 different trips with Roads Scholars that she and Don took after they both retired. She was a life-long reader, keeping up with current events, always looking for new authors to try, and attended several book discussion groups; she enjoyed cooking, jigsaw puzzles, and, in earlier years, sewing, needlework, and various crafts.



Obituary

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She is survived by her three children, Tom Dillie (Karen Miller) of Canton, OH; Steve Dillie of Wheeling, IL; and Mary (Eric) Gdula of Duluth, MN; two grandchildren, James Miller and Libby Gdula, and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Don Dillie, her parents, and her brothers, James Juvrud and Roger Juvrud.

Memorial gifts may be directed to Midwest Mission (<https://midwestmission.org>) and the

Forsyth Public Library. The family would like to thank the team at DMH Home Hospice for their attentive and compassionate care during Mildred's final days at home.

Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home is providing cremation services for Mildred.

The family will hold an open house/celebration of life on Sunday, March 22, from 2:00-4:00 pm at the Clubhouse at Hickory Point Villas, 670 Marion Ave. in Forsyth.Mi




Events

Mildred Arlene Dillie

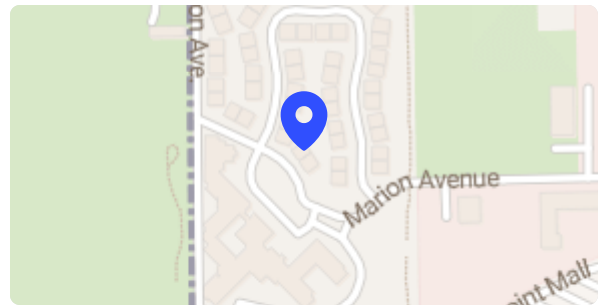
JUL 25, 1934 - MAR 7, 2026

Open House

 **Sunday**, March 22, 2026

 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM CT

 **Clubhouse at Hickory Point Villas**
670 Marion Ave. , Forsyth IL 62535





Tribute Wall

Mildred Arlene Dillie

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Wanda Porter lit a candle in honor of Mildred.

I met Mildred, whom I lovingly called "Millie Dillie", through her husband, Don. Don and I taught together at MacArthur High School, where he was known as a gifted teacher, a true historian, and someone deeply respected by students and colleagues alike. Through that connection, I was blessed to come to know Mildred. Millie was a remarkable woman—intelligent, well-traveled, and full of warmth. She had a way of making people feel welcome the moment they stepped into her home. I will always remember her hospitality, especially the delicious homemade cookies, that she so generously shared during my visits. She was also a woman of deep compassion and generosity, dedicating much of her time to volunteer work and helping others. Her giving spirit was simply part of who she was. Above all, Millie was a devoted wife and a loving mother, and her family was clearly at the center of her life. Some of my fondest memories are the times we spent together with Millie, Don, and Dewey Akins at Steak and Shake. Those outings were never just meals—they were experiences filled with rich conversations, lots of laughter, and a shared appreciation for life's little joys. And of course, we never forgot to make sure we got the senior discount. Millie brought light, kindness, and genuine friendship into my life. She will be greatly missed, and I already feel that loss deeply. I am truly grateful for the memories we shared, the laughter we enjoyed, and the friendship we built. Tom, Steven, Mary—my prayers are with you during this difficult time. I hope we can stay in touch. Rest well, Millie Dillie. You will always be remembered with love. From: Gladys Odeneal



March 22 at 11:12 AM



Candy Carroll posted:

Dear Dillie family: Your mother was a kind and caring teacher at St. Thomas Grade School. She always remembered her students and inquired about their progress long after they had left St. Thomas...our son, AJ, was a prime example as she and I crossed paths frequently over the years. May God bless all of you and know that your mother was a blessing to many. Candy and Steve Carroll Hermitage, TN

March 13 at 11:20 AM



Joanne Price posted:

Mrs. Dillie was my favorite teacher at St. Thomas. I was blessed to have her in 3rd and 5th grade. She was always so encouraging and believed in me and my potential and helped me to believe that for myself. There are no doubt thousands of others who share the same story of her.

March 11 at 12:26 PM



Tribute Wall

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Denise D. Shelby posted:

I have so many memories of childhood spent with Aunt Mildred, Uncle Don, Grandma and her "5 wonderful grandchildren." Mildred was a wonderful aunt, full of memories she was happy to share, memories we made as a family on holidays and special occasions, pictures of Don and my Mom from their childhood which I cherish. The trips to the St. Louis Zoo in our childhood. I remember her and Uncle Don's trips to Savannah and time they made sure to spend with my family and I on some of their trips down our way. I miss her but I know I will always think of her fondly when I take a walk down memory lane.

March 10 at 7:48 PM



Ann Oconnell posted:

In 1972, Mrs. Dillie became my fifth grade teacher at St. Thomas. I had just moved to Decatur from MN and was initially placed in the split 5th/6th grade class. She saw how unhappy I was and was integral in getting me moved to her room!! She will always be my favorite teacher.

March 10 at 7:03 PM



Sonja Songer posted:

Hickory Point was so blessed to have the Dillie's with us for so many years. Mildred and Don were a wonderful couple and their kids were great in providing love, care and support for their parents. God bless you Steven, Tom and Mary. My favorite memory is sitting in Mildred's house around the kitchen table and enjoying tea and a snack. She would not take no for an answer so we sat and talked and enjoyed each others company. Mildred could tell me about Grace Methodist and how she loved the church. I had gone there with my mom in the late 60's early 70's and Mary and I were in Sunday School together. Mildred remember that. What a special lady. She loved having garden home members and ladies from the church over to her home here at Hickory Point. God is holding her in the palm of his hand and has made her whole and reunited with Don. Sonja Songer, Chaplain

March 10 at 4:58 PM



Duane Werner posted:

Mildred Dillie was a gracious and lovely lady. It was my privilege to know her and Don and their family during my years as Organist/Diaconal Minister of Music at Grace United Methodist Church. My sincerest sympathies to all her family. Blessings

March 10 at 12:33 PM



Tribute Wall

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Duane Werner posted:

Mildred Dillie was a wonderful and delightful lady. It was a pleasure to know her and Don and their family during my years as Organist/Diaconal Minister of Music at Grace United Methodist Church. My sincerest sympathies to all her family. Blessings

March 10 at 12:30 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mildred by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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