



# Doris Ruth Sebul

JUL 14, 1933 - AUG 7, 2020



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## **Doris Ruth Sebul**

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**D**oris Ruth Sebul (nee- Durkot), 87, of Fort Myers, formerly of Punta Gorda, Florida passed away Friday, August 7, 2020. A beautiful life was taken tragically when she tested positive for Covid-19 two days after her birthday. She suffered for 23 days before finally succumbing to the illness.

She was born July 14, 1933, in Cleveland, Ohio. She lived in North Royalton, Ohio for many years and moved to Fort Myers, Florida in 1977. After all of her children moved out, she and her husband, Richard moved to Punta Gorda. Together, they renovated a vacation home in Madisonville, Tennessee where they made many wonderful memories with their children and with her sister, Pat and family. Shortly before her husband's death, they moved to Burnt Store Marina. Doris lived there many years before moving into an assisted living facility last year.

Doris was a strong woman for her time and while raising her five children decided to go back to college to complete her degree. The former high school valedictorian graduated with honors and became an elementary school teacher and taught primarily second grade. She touched so many lives throughout nearly 50 years of teaching, even inspiring some to pursue a career in elementary education. She retired from Lee County Schools, twice. The first time was prior to her husband's death. They had hoped to enjoy retirement together. When he died, she returned to teaching again and later retired but continued substituting until she was 84.

Doris will be remembered for her generosity, caring heart, wonderful smile, and long, warm hugs. Doris loved family get-togethers and always provided more than enough food, including plenty of sweets and coffee. She also loved sending and receiving cards for every occasion. Although she was raised catholic, Doris and Richard attended McGregor Baptist for a brief time before his death. Most recently, Doris was a member of the First Assembly of God. No matter what church she attended, her belief in God never wavered.

She is survived by her five children, Richard, Robert, Carolyn (Thomas Gressman), Catherine (Daniel Cute), and Cynthia. She was blessed to have 13 grandchildren; Craig, Christina, Michael,



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Amanda, Patrick, Sara, Kimberly, Kaitlin, Jonathan, Ellie, Alex, Nicolas, and Lucas. And also five great-grandchildren; Brittany, Charles, McKenzie, Jackson, and Lily. She has one

living brother-in-law, Daniel Sebulsy, and will be forever remembered by her numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Richard, her parents, Michael and Theresa Durkot, and her three sisters and two brothers-in-law: Jean and Eugene Terschak, Patricia and James Melhuish, and Jayne Gramp. Also preceded in death are her husband's parents: Peter and Mildred Sebulsy and her husband's sister and husband: Irene and Frank Guzzy.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in memory of Doris Ruth Sebul are suggested to the Alzheimer's Association ([www.act.Alz.org](http://www.act.Alz.org)).

Doris last saw her family through a window on her birthday. It is tragic that she died without family around her, without familiar voices, without hugs. No one should die this way. So when you think of Mom/Grandma/Aunt Doris/Mrs. Sebul please let her inspire you to do your part to end this pandemic.

The family would like to thank all of the caregivers that took care of Doris during her final days. You truly are our heroes and we thank you for being with her and being our voices.

A memorial service is planned for a future date when we can be together in person to celebrate Doris's life.

Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Funeral Home & Cemetery (<https://www.fortmyersmemorial.com/>) is entrusted with final care.



## Tribute Wall

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SH

**Sharon Hornung** lit a candle in honor of Doris.

Aunt Doris, beautiful, hard working woman! Thanks for your gentle presence in my life.

August 16 at 8:47 PM



CG

**Carolyn R Gressman** August 20 at 8:11 AM

Thank you Sharon

CL

**Catherine- "Favorite :) Daughter" Lol** August 18 at 9:49 AM

♥ She will be missed.

HG

**Heather Gramp** posted:

Although I've not been in touch with Aunt Doris for years, that does not diminish in any way the special place she has in my heart, and my sadness at this news. She was clearly an inspiration to many people in her family, her classroom, and beyond. I had no idea that she taught so late in life! Some memories that I hope bring a smile: her \*very\* distinctive fun laugh, being such a gung-ho aunt with games at the cottage, and holiday dinners with all the sisters and cousins at Aunt Pat's. Looking back, although I was just a kid and could not name it, I'm aware now that she made the effort to extend to me this extra level of kindness and compassion. My deepest sympathies for your loss of such a special mom/aunt/woman.

August 15 at 1:34 PM

CG

**Carolyn Sebul Gressman** August 16 at 1:42 PM

Thank you Heather! Carolyn

CL

**Catherine- "Favorite :) Daughter" Lol** August 16 at 5:07 AM

Thank you, Heather. ♥♥♥



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DB

**Deanna Mcnamara Blackwell** posted:

I taught at JCE with Doris. She was a gem and her smile was contagious. She always had gracious words of wisdom for me as a single mom to a boy. The last time I saw her I had just moved to Punta Gorda With my son and we ran into her at Walmart. I think I chased her down bc I was so excited to say hi after a few years. She and I spend a good bit of time talking and shopping that afternoon. It was one of the best days. As I said, it's been 6-7 years since I saw Doris but eyes would light up when she shared stories about her family and valuable lessons learned. I would say she was proudest of her family and, although she'd never say it, she was proud of herself and she was proud to share stories of her heartaches bc it was an experience she valued...she was always so humble in speaking of her successes. She is a woman women should aspire to become.

August 14 at 2:29 PM

CG

**Carolyn Sebul Gressman** August 16 at 1:46 PM

Thank you for sharing, Mom wa a very special person!

CL

**Catherine- "Favorite :) Daughter" Lol** August 15 at 4:10 AM

Thank you for sharing that memory. ❤️❤️❤️

EG

**Elaine Guerin** posted:

Doris Sebul, you were my friend, a loving a kind soul. Your faith never failed, your smile and warmth never left you. Your sense of humor and wit was amazing. I will never forget your support when my oldest daughter passed. Your warm hugs, Faith, and love helped me. I can't imagine the pain you had to suffer, but I truly believe God was by your side. I will not forget you! To your family, I have no words for such a loss, just know you are n my thoughts and I'm sure your Mom is looking down on you from Heaven!

August 14 at 12:49 PM

CG

**Carolyn Sebul Gressman** August 16 at 1:47 PM

Thank you for such kind words Elaine!

CL

**Catherine- "Favorite :) Daughter" Lol** August 14 at 1:34 PM

❤️❤️❤️ Thank you, Elaine.



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**Catherine- "Favorite :) Daughter" Lol** posted:

Mom loved greeting cards... birthday, Christmas, thank you, get well cards. She loved them all. I think she saved every single one she ever got. However, sending them seemed to be even more important than receiving them. So... although I won't be sending cards out, I feel Mom would want me to thank you for each and every thought and prayer said on her behalf as well as those said for her family. Thank you for sharing your memories and reminding us how much Mom was loved. As Mom would say, Thank you and God Bless You."

August 14 at 12:03 PM



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**Bradley Melhuish** lit a candle in honor of Doris.

The fondest memory of Aunt Doris is back in Ohio when we sat around the kitchen table on Delsy Dr and painted plates. I still have mine. Also, all the memories at the cottage. I remember visiting the family in Florida when I was a teenager and she treated me like one her sons. She always had a smile on her face. I'm so blessed to have her and my Mother in my life. I know they're together now with their hubbies having a grand old time. R. I. P Aunt Doris. Love You.



August 14 at 11:48 AM

**TR** **Tresa Aiello Rosenberger** March 6 at 12:34 PM

I was looking through my saved childhood papers and came across a thank you from "Mrs." Sebul. I remember her well even though it was 1972 when I had her for 2nd grade. She was firm but kind! Apparently I liked to chat with her too as she put in the card that she enjoyed our after school conversation! I was sad to see she passed away when I looked her name up! My sincere condolences to the family.

**CG** **Carolyn R Gressman** August 20 at 8:15 AM

Plates...oh so much fun! I have the Mel-Seb Cottage plate and of course mine as well. We do have such wonderful childhood memories with "our" families! We were so lucky! Thanks Brad!

**CL** **Catherine- "Favorite :) Daughter" Lol** August 16 at 6:46 PM



**TD** **Theresa Davis** August 15 at 6:45 PM

Whether childhood memories or the few times our paths intersected in my adult life, I'll always remember Aunt Doris' smile and how genuine our conversations were. Both she and Aunt Pat were wonderful and loving sisters to my mom. I always enjoyed receiving a greeting card from Aunt Doris. She never failed to mention our Lord in some way--sometimes as a simple "God Bless". I truly believe she's with Him now.

**CL** **Catherine- "Favorite :) Daughter" Lol** August 14 at 1:36 PM

So many wonderful memories with both of our families! Mom loved you like her son, Brad. ❤️





# Memories only last if you share them

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



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