



## Dolores Grace Moellers

March 16, 2020

**SELFLESS** (adj) – Concerned more with the needs and wishes of others than with one's own; unselfish.

If there were a photo next to the definition of selfless, it would be of Dolores Grace Moellers, 85, of Little Rock, who died March 16, 2020 at Parkway Village Health Center, surrounded by her family.

She was born in Fort Smith, the youngest of seven children to the late Sarino and Ouida Calderera Lovoi on September 11, 1934. She was raised in this loving home of Italian heritage blocks from their parish, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. She graduated high school from St. Anne's Academy in Fort Smith and, in keeping with her selfless heart, followed a career path in nursing, achieving her RN degree from St. Edward School of Nursing in Fort Smith.

On March 2, 1957, she married the love of her life, Robert L. (Bob) Moellers at the same Immaculate Conception Catholic Church where she was baptized, received first reconciliation and first communion and was confirmed. She always said it was the starched white nurse's uniform that caught the eye of Bobbie Moellers, and "he never stood a chance." The selfless heart beat strongly as she and Bob welcomed their nine children -- six daughters and three sons. They moved with Bob's work to several locations in Arkansas -- Russellville, El Dorado, Fort Smith and Pine Bluff -- and in their final years, they moved to Little Rock to be close to family. Bob died in 2017, shortly after the couple celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

An expert at stretching the dollar -- she canned 300 quarts of tomato puree each year and helped harvest a nearly half-acre garden-- she was also was an excellent cook. The spaghetti suga simmering every Sunday while the family attended Mass could be smelled down the block and was used in all the authentic Italian dishes handed down from her parents -- complete with meatballs and home-made noodles. She made hearty meals and

wonderful desserts and cookies from scratch which never seemed to last very long among the children. The various treats on her Christmas trays – iced shortbread, bourbon balls, cuccidati (Italian fig cookie), peanut brittle – were time-worn recipes that her children now also make and deliver as gifts. She sewed many of the daughters' dresses for Easter, proms and weddings. She also made Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls for each of her 32 grandchildren, along with other dolls, blankets and pillows.

After raising their children, Dolores and Bob had time to travel, not only to be with family, but to take special vacations to Hawaii and Italy, as well as the many car trips around the United States. She also loved to be outdoors, whether it be golfing, fishing, tending her Mary flower garden or burning leaves in the Fall. Indoor activities included puzzles of all kinds – Sudoku, crosswords, jigsaw -- and she especially loved watching the Arkansas Razorbacks play on TV and “Calling the Hogs,” even when they weren't very good! Her love of dominoes led to adult daughters from Little Rock starting a standing dominoes game every Thursday at Parkway Village for the last three years. She also enjoyed the occasional visit to the casino (wink, wink).

Her selfless heart was most evident in her Catholic faith. She was a lector and Eucharistic minister and provided communion to the homebound, particularly at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Pine Bluff, where she and Bob were active parishioners for nearly 35 years. She was instrumental in the church's annual fund-raising spaghetti supper and provided loving care of the linens as a member of the Altar Society, and she also served on the parish council. She continued to live her faith by example in her loving concern for others at Parkway Village Health Center, where she and Bob spent their last years. Recently, as her health prevented her from physically attending Sunday Mass, she reverently watched services on TV with her children and received communion weekly as a homebound parishioner of Christ the King Catholic Church in Little Rock.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she is predeceased by five of her siblings, Paul Lovoi, Antoinette Lovoi Hindman, Vincent Lovoi, Augustina Lovoi and Salvatore Lovoi; and a grandchild, Brittney Hampton.

She is survived by her nine children, in birth order: Cyndi (Tony) Farnam of West Fork; Mary Beth (Jeff) Gramlich of Little Rock; Michelle (Rick) Self of Hurst, Texas; Laura (Pete) Thompson of Powderly, Texas; Patti (Jim) Drake of Little Rock; Robert (Diane) Moellers of Little Rock; John (Serina) Moellers of Jefferson City, Missouri; Becky (Tim) Ridgeway of Little Rock; and Rich (Natalie) Moellers of Morrilton. Also surviving are 31 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren (with one on the way); her remaining sister, Mary Ann McMahon of Fort Smith, sister-in-law, Sandra (Vincent) Lovoi; along with numerous extended family

members, mostly in the Fort Smith area.

Due to mandatory restrictions related to the COVID-19 virus, all services will be limited to immediate family. A private rosary will begin at 1:00 p.m. and Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 2:00 p.m. at Christ the King Catholic Church of Little Rock, Bishop Francis I. Malone of the Diocese of Shreveport presiding, with Rev. Erik Pohlmeier, Rev. Tuyen Do and Rev. Jack Harris concelebrating. Inurnment will be at Christ the King Columbarium. The family intends to have a celebration of life Mass at a later date so that her numerous friends and family members can attend.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the charity of one's choice.

The family would like to thank the many people who supported and cared for Dolores in her last years, especially the staff at Parkway Village and Baptist Health Hospice.

Arrangements by Little Rock Funeral Home, (501)224-2200. Dolores' online guestbook may be signed at [www.littlerockfuneralhome.com](http://www.littlerockfuneralhome.com).



# Comments

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“ Prayers for the repose of the soul for Dolores.

**Jan & Tony Pipkin** - March 22 at 02:35 PM

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“ Moellers family you are all in my prayers. So very sorry for your loss. Such a wonderful family.

**Tim Reith** - March 22 at 12:32 AM

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“ To all the Moellers family - My heart is full of memories of Dolores - from school activities at Watson Chapel to church at St. Joseph's to visits at Parkway Village. My favorite has to be the trips to Catholic High to watch basketball. Treasured times with treasured friends. Love and prayers for all.



**Evelyn Cash** - March 21 at 10:40 AM

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“ Dolores was a full of life and laughter. We're sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers.

Shawn Dugger and family.

**Shawn Dugger** - March 20 at 08:22 AM

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“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Dolores Grace Moellers.



March 20 at 12:54 AM



“ Love my Godmother Aunt Dolores and Uncle Bob. Such a spunky and smart woman who was thoughtful and wise. Aunt Dolores always made you feel important by genuinely listening in conversation and an eternal optimist. Every I watch the Razorbacks I'll think of Dolores. Love

**Bob Ament** - March 19 at 04:12 PM

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“ I feel blessed to have come to know Dolores at Parkway Village as a Eucharistic minister. She was so upbeat and fun to talk with, and had a great sense of humor! She had incredible faith and love of the Lord and a wonderful, devoted family. I will miss her.  
Patricia Hillis

**Patricia Hillis** - March 19 at 02:50 PM

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“ A few years ago I had the privilege of sitting with Dolores while she was in the hospital. We talked & worked a crossword puzzle. As her bedtime approached, she had me call her husband Bob who was in a nursing home. They did not go to bed until they said their prayers together, talked a bit, said goodnight & “I love you.” That was such a powerful testimony of love, faith, and commitment.

**Margie France** - March 19 at 02:32 PM

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“ I will always remember Mrs Moellers with her cute Italian hat at the Spaghetti supper!,, A sweet lady!,, Prayers for her family!



**Linda Simpson ( from St. Joseph's)** - March 18 at 08:52 PM

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“ 28 files added to the album Memories Album



Richard Moellers - March 18 at 05:17 PM

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“ What a beautiful tribute to a beautiful lady. She raised some amazing children. I am a classmate of Robert. I'm so sorry for your loss. You will be in my thoughts and prayers.  
Nancy Harwell Weaver

Nancy Weaver - March 18 at 02:00 PM

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“ I will miss her and always remember her . She was a special light in our world and woman who could laugh easily. I am so glad I have had the privilege of knowing her.

stephanie frase - March 18 at 01:49 PM

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“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dolores Grace Moellers.



March 18 at 12:42 PM

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“ Ann & Rick Chitwood purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Dolores Grace Moellers.



Ann & Rick Chitwood - March 18 at 11:30 AM



“ My husband and I met Bob and Dolores when they came to PHC. Bob was a resident when my husband was moved there and Dolores followed after rehab. They both were wonderful people. In a nursing home atmosphere you grow to love each member of your "new family". I truly came to love Bob and Dolores. Dolores was so kind to John. She always said hello and reached out to touch him which always brought a smile. I got to know their family, particularly the ones who spent their time playing dominos with the residents at PHC and the annual Christmas caroling. I will truly miss her. My love and prayers going out to her family. Peace be with you all. Love Carol

**Carol Hopper** - March 18 at 10:43 AM

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“ A wonderful lady whose love of Jesus Christ was an example for us all. May her family and friends share the peace she now enjoys in his presence.

Bill Waters

**Bill Waters** - March 18 at 09:54 AM

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“ Laura, much love to you and Pete, and the whole family. - Linda and Chris Lynch

**Linda Lynch** - March 17 at 05:16 PM

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“ John, and family. I'm very sorry to hear of your loss. May she rest in love. Prayers of comfort to you all.



**Leigh Anne (Woodrome) Tooke - WC c/o '86** - March 17 at 02:28 PM

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“ Aunt Dolores was a wonderful aunt - happy, humble, and kind. As a young nurse, she bandaged up my injured four or five year old knee and I was so impressed that she was a “real” nurse and I remember she said if she blew on it, it wouldn’t hurt. She made the world a brighter place.

**Annette LoVoi** - March 16 at 08:30 PM