



Dorothy Campbell

November 12, 1936 - April 13, 2023

This past year a creative spirit and spark has moved on from us. Dorothy Evans Fisher Campbell, Dottie, to family and friends, was born November 12th, 1936.

Dottie grew up at 185 Pine Street in Memphis, Tennessee in a supportive and gracious home. Highlights of her early life were dance recitals, school clubs, social organizations, and Cotton Carnival royal court. She received her degree from Vanderbilt University where she was a member of Pi Beta Phi sorority. After graduation, Dottie and some of her Pi Phi sisters took The Grand Continental Tour of Europe during which she had a profound experience which sparked her poetic muse:

With one hand touching a Raphael

at the Sistine Chapel in Rome...

Touch me, Angelo.

Unite me to the Universe...

God touch man, touch man

Touch me, touch you.

For four years she taught school in Memphis, Alexandria Virginia, and Manhattan. Seven wonderful years as a wife were followed by seven years of creative growth in the arts, centered at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in New York City. When suddenly single, she focused on learning to draw & paint, writing poetry, and meditation. She taught The DC Fine Art Class at St. Bart's and the church's drama club provided a stage and an opportunity to write, produce, direct, and perform in DEFC original, mini musicals: The Muse, The Christ Story, Love & Psyche, and Wood Nymphs. From the 1960s to the present her poetry blossomed and was often performed for groups. The most profound poetry came while walking with her beloved poodles, Mishi & Mimi, in Manhattan's Central Park. In the early 1970s Dottie began her career as a professional portrait artist and she also painted landscapes of Central Park. The St. James Episcopal Church Fair provided patrons and darling children to draw and paint. Referrals led to her eventual move from NYC to Greenwich, Connecticut. After many years as part of that community and hundreds of portraits with lovely families, the road led Dottie back to her hometown, Memphis, where she connected with new and old communities at Holy Communion Episcopal Church, Words Cubed creative group, and family. Dottie believed that there is a Central Park in each of us which links all that love and live in the light.

Dottie's parents, Wm. Henry Fisher, Jr. and Dorothy Emerson Evans Fisher; her brother, William (Bill) H. Fisher, III (Valerie); and sister, Natalie Fisher Watson [Bill], have moved on before her. She precedes her nieces and nephews: Bill Fisher IV, Carol Watson Wise [Craig], Lee Watson [Amy], Melanie Fisher Rice [Kirk], Michael Watson [Dianne], and a number of great nieces and nephews.

We leave a trace of who we are,

Where ere we go, what ere we know,

And so, we sow, as best we can,

An ambiance of God made man.

*

The best is yet to be.

(excerpts from Traces by DEFC)

See Traces of her on Facebook and at YouTube.com @artofdcpainterpoet.

Service's for Dorothy Campbell will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, January 8, 2024, at the Church of the Holy Communion located at 4645 Walnut Grove Rd, Memphis, TN 38117. A reception will follow in the church hall.

Please join us for a live stream of the service Monday, January 8th

11:00 am cst

at the following link:

<https://vimeo.com/event/3994913>

Tribute Wall

ME

“ Here is a link to Dottie's YouTube channel with her poetry, music, and art:
<https://youtube.com/@artofdcpainterpoet?si=tlmgM99WRlhDF1gV>

Melanie - January 09, 2024 at 07:09 PM

MN

“ Melanie - Dottie's Niece lit a candle in memory of Dorothy Campbell



Melanie - Dottie's niece - January 09, 2024 at 01:49 PM

AG

“ Dottie taught me art when I was a little girl and became a lifelong friend. Even when I was small, she took my creative work seriously and helped me have confidence in myself. She could distill complex subjects like the human face into easy to replicate shapes. Last year, she gifted me some of the worksheets that she and I had done when I was a child and I've been using them to teach my children. After we'd catch up over a video call, she would send a sketch of one of my children. I will treasure those forever because they are artifacts of the way she could capture the world so beautifully in a sketch (or a poem!). I will miss Dottie's warmth, her creative soul, and her friendship.

Alex Golden - January 05, 2024 at 05:32 PM

TR

“ Dottie joined Toastmasters in Greenwich about 15 years ago, only one meeting before I joined. She immediately grasped public speaking and became my mentor in the club. I appreciated her dramatic style which did not come easily to me. We became friends. Later when she moved to the Memphis area, she introduced me to Word3 poetry writing online. To my surprise, I loved it. Our friendship became even closer as she critiqued my poems -- another mentorship -- and touched her own poetry off mine. I discovered that I could reveal myself in my poems. She shared philosophy with me and extended personal support. I'm very sorry to lose her friendship, and I take comfort in her faith.

Teryl Reynolds - January 04, 2024 at 05:35 PM