



Elizabeth M. Papps

April 17, 1927 - April 3, 2022

Elizabeth M. Papps, 94, passed away on April 3, 2022, at Sunset House. She was born in Greece to Maria and Christos Pappastamos. Elizabeth loved visiting the Shakespeare Festival in Stratford and enjoyed gardening, but her greatest love was teaching. She had a long career teaching English at DeVilbiss and Bowsher High Schools. She was a member of The Torch Club and first female president of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral Parish Council where she was a longtime member.

She is survived by her loving niece, Maria (Robert) Rosales. She was preceded in death by her brother Tom Papps.

Her family wishes to thank all of the staff and caregivers at The Sunset House for the excellent care that she received.

Friends are invited to visit at 10:00AM on Wednesday April 6, 2022 at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 940 N. Superior St., Toledo, Ohio where services will begin at 11:00AM. Rev. Larry Legakis officiant. Interment will be in Toledo Memorial Park Cemetery. Those wishing to make memorial contributions are asked to consider Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral.

Cemetery Details

Toledo Memorial Park

6382 Monroe Street
Sylvania, OH 43560

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 6. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
740 N. Superior St
Toledo, OH 43604

Memorial Service

APR 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral
740 N. Superior St
Toledo, OH 43604

Tribute Wall



“ I only just learned of Miss Papps' passing. I am so sorry I didn't know she was at Sunset House, as I'd have loved to visit her there. Miss Papps was a "tough but fair" teacher when I had her in Sophomore and AP English as a senior. Moreover, she was the rock upon which REBELEES, Bowsher High School's annual musical was founded. Miss Papps hand-picked the writing committee for the show and oversaw the creation of the book. Those of us who were on the committee learned invaluable lessons from her about the mechanics of writing of a script that summer. Working on REBELEES with Miss Papps also provided a little relief from difficulties at home. I graduated in 1973 and later acquired a B.A. from the University of Toledo. But of all the instructors I have had before or since, Miss Papps will always be my most fondly-remembered teacher.

Mark McGovern - September 07, 2023 at 11:02 PM

A square icon with a light gray background and a thin black border. Inside the square, the letters "DJ" are written in a white, sans-serif font. The icon is positioned to the left of the second testimonial box.

“ Miss Papps was probably the most consequential teacher I had. She taught me how to read and write. Her AP English class was no mean experience: a huge reading list and lots of writing. For any point you wanted to make, you had to cite at least three books/essays/plays/poems.
Bowsher, 1967

David K Johnson

David K Johnson - May 16, 2022 at 04:08 PM

DJ

“ I just learned of Miss Elizabeth Papps passing. I was in her English classes my Freshman and Senior years at DeVilbiss. She is the reason I became an educator and majored in English at The University of Toledo. She was always encouraging of her students and convinced them that they could accomplish more. I still have the papers that I wrote for her classes and enjoy reading her notes in them. Throughout my educational career teaching in high school and throughout the college levels undergraduate and graduate she remained the beacon of excellence that I tried to follow. When I earned my EdD, I received a note from her and it was probably the best gift I could have received. She was the very best teacher among all of the many that I have had in my lifetime. May she rest in peace.

Dr. Richard St John - April 14, 2022 at 12:23 PM

SB

“ Miss Papps was hands down my favorite teacher at Bowsher, and one of the top of all in high school, college, and law school. She made AP English in 1966-67 an incredibly rich experience, and inspired me to want to teach. Sara Sun Beale

Sara Sun Beale - April 11, 2022 at 02:33 PM

JW

“ My tribute to Miss Papps should be a few minutes of stream-of-consciousness writing, and I will do that in private, and it will be composed of loving and admiring memories of a wonderful person.

John Wallbank - April 11, 2022 at 04:56 AM



Mariam Kassem

“ My heart is saddened to hear of Miss Papps' passing. She was a phenomenal teacher. She was warm and caring. Through her patience and direction, I was able to write papers. I remember how thrilled I was to receive a 5 (had several 4's as well) on her assignments. Once I earned a 3.2 but Miss Papps had an encouraging smile and a few words of encouragement for me when she handed me the paper. The 3.2 did not hurt as much. After I graduated, Miss Papps helped me when I was at a low point in my career. When I doubted my ability to teach. She offered advice and a shoulder to lean on. She had a kind and loving heart and was a wonderful person. May Maria find solace in knowing she was respected and loved by many. You will be missed Miss Papps. Mariam Kassem BHS '82



Mariam Kassem - April 09, 2022 at 07:58 PM

DL

“ My condolences to the Papps family on the passing of a great lady and teacher. I will be forever grateful to her for efforts to to teach me writing skills and of reading/analyzing some of the great books of literary merit in AP English. I recall that she told me that I wrote in a logical style as an engineer would (yes that is what I had become) but those skills were not the same as needed in other areas and there are differences. Thank you Miss Papps and Rest In Peace.

Donald Loo - April 09, 2022 at 07:13 PM

TJ

“ Ms. Papps provided a college atmosphere class that was still thoroughly enjoyable, with great readings, discussions, and insights, as well as a wry sense of humor. And she genuinely cared. When I was in a full leg cast in Stratford, she tried to get me to take a taxi to the theater (she was, in fact, always right, and I should have always listened). She also found a way for me to "make up" the AP Test. I was the first of two brothers and a sister at Bowsher and I will never forget the sight of her coming through the funeral home door after our Dad died in '04. He loved her too! In school, when I mentioned a selection I was less than thrilled with, she would rattle off a number of books that I should also be reading (right again). She handed back one of my papers to me and it said "Tom, is there hope for any other literary work besides 'The Great Gatsby?'" Thanks for making it worthwhile and fun, dear teacher and lovely lady! Tom Jewell '80 & family

Tom Jewell - April 09, 2022 at 05:12 PM

BB

“ Just thinking about her brings warmth to my heart. She is unquestionably the outstanding teacher from my undergraduate years and I can think of only one other from my graduate years who rivals her. I also have thought of her often. She instilled the gifts of curiosity and critical thinking, two qualities that are so important for success in life. I will not forget her for that.
Bruce Borgelt (1963)

Bruce Borgelt - April 09, 2022 at 04:33 PM

SS

“ RIP Ms Papps. Thanks for inspiring me to become an English teacher. Bowsher class of 1977.

Susann Sawyer - April 09, 2022 at 10:56 AM

WK

“ *During my senior year of high school, I spent 1/2 of my day with Miss Papps. Not only did I take her AP English class, I was in yearbook and was also her student aide. She left a lasting impression on every student she taught. I often thought of her over the years. Thank you for all you did for me and the thousands of other students who also had the honor of saying that they survived Miss Papps' English class!*

Wendy Kilbride - April 08, 2022 at 11:18 PM

EM

“ *I do remember how she carried herself with incredible dignity. You knew she loved Poetry and literature and gave permission for her students to be imaginative. She had an overflow of intelligence. God bless*

Eric Miller - April 08, 2022 at 09:29 PM

JA

“ *Miss Papps had a gift for making literature accessible to every student. She was challenging, professional, kind and supportive. My condolences to her family. It was an honor to have worked with her.*
Jan Kilbride Antal

Janice Antal - April 08, 2022 at 07:03 PM

KS

“ *A fantastic teacher who impacted so many. Our condolences.*

John and Karen (Weihs) Szkutnik, BHS '82

karen szkutnik - April 08, 2022 at 03:50 PM

TB

“ Miss Papps was probably my favorite teacher. I enjoyed her AP English class at Bowsher (1964). But she taught me so much more than just English - she also taught dignity and grace, sprinkled with a delightful sense of humor. I still think of her periodically to this day. It appears that she enjoyed a long life - she will live on in my memory. Tom Bierley

Tom Bierley - April 08, 2022 at 01:05 PM

DR

“ Miss Papps was one of my favorite teachers at Bowsher. I loved AP English. Going to Stratford was a highlight. She inspired a love of literature that grew and continues to this day.

Deb Rasmusson - April 08, 2022 at 12:38 PM

SR

“ My deepest condolences. Ms. Papps was absolutely my favorite teacher at DeVilbiss High School. She not only was my Sophomore year English teacher and Senior year Latin teacher, but also provided transportation to DeVilbiss my Junior year. She was the kindest teacher I knew in Toledo, Ohio. Sheldon Richter, DHS class of 1962

Sheldon Richter - April 08, 2022 at 12:33 PM

DS

“ I remember going to Stratford and how awesome it was. In honors English senior year she read Chaucer in the original old English. She was such a great teacher, loved her AP class.

Debbie Slago - April 08, 2022 at 12:10 PM



“ I still remember her class in 1976-77 and the trip to Stratford Ontario to see "A Midsummer Night's Dream" starring Maggie Smith. She was a wonderful and inspirational teacher!

Tom Smith - April 08, 2022 at 11:37 AM



“ She was a remarkable teacher and woman! So fortunate to have been in her class!

Shannon Myers - April 08, 2022 at 10:21 AM



“ She was one of my favorite teachers at DeVilbiss HS. I had her for sophomore English, then I took her class for senior Lit. She made the classes come alive.

Janet Nicholas Collins - April 08, 2022 at 09:50 AM



“ Oh how sad to hear this. She was the absolute BEST English teacher I ever had the privilege to know, both as a student and then a bit later as a colleague. Always the consummate professional, she made all of us better just being in her presence. Many Rebels will miss her.

Diane Thorpe - April 08, 2022 at 08:28 AM