



## Rosemary E. Williams

May 7, 1919 - June 14, 2021

Rosemary Evelyn (Hamilton) Williams, age 102, loving widow of Dr. John Williams, mother, grandmother, cousin, and friend passed away peacefully at Swan Creek Ohio Living on Monday, June 14, 2021.

Rosemary graduated from Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana in 1940, and majored in music and art. She met her future husband, John Williams, while attending Earlham, and they were married for 60 years, before John passed on. Before starting their family, Rosemary taught elementary school music and art. Their first child, Monty was born in 1942, followed by Patia, 1952, and Cherie, 1955. The family moved to Shippshewana, Indiana where John began his first medical practice. Rosemary devoted her time to homemaking and raising three children. She cooked, played piano and violin, sewed dance recital costumes, planted and harvested a yearly garden, attended Church of the Bretheran with her family, sang in the “Keynoters”, and it was very important to Rosemary that all three of her children received music lessons. Many summers, family members attended a weeklong Friends General Conference (for Quakers), held at college campuses around the country.

As her children became adults, Rosemary had more free time to devote to her love of music. In 1972, the family moved to Toledo where Rosemary joined the Toledo Symphony and later the Jewish Community Center Orchestra, which

then became the Sylvania Community Orchestra. She played violin until 99 years of age. It was not unusual for her to arrange a string quartet to come to her home on a Sunday afternoon and play for hours. For over 20 years, Rosemary attended the Interlochen Summer Adult Music Camp with her fellow musician friend, Cyril Zilka. Throughout those years, Rosemary made many dear friends.

Rosemary grew up just west of Centerville, Indiana on the Gates family farm with her mother, grandmother, auntie, and uncle. She was an only child with one friend who lived across the field. They would meet and play at a big rock on the fence-line when their chores were done, sometimes leaving notes for one another. She remembered the smell of the homemade candies that wafted throughout the rooms of that big old farmhouse every Christmas. Because there was a persimmon tree on their farm, she learned to make persimmon pudding. The family ate “oatsy-doatsy” (oatmeal) every morning for breakfast. Rosemary was a beloved child.

A special quote: “My grandma showed us all that life is vibrant and full of opportunity. She taught us to never give up on dreams and even more important, that dreams come true only with hard work and dedication. Grandma taught us the value of the arts, particularly music.”

Rosemary was a sparkle among her many friends and family. Her collection of hats and turquoise tortoise-shell glasses defined her sense of fashion. The family attributes Rosemary’s longevity to alternative and functional medicine.

Rosemary is preceded in death by her husband, Dr. John Williams; parents, Rose and Leland Hamilton; grandparents, William and Flora (Ranck) Gates; auntie and uncle, Elsie Mae and Everett Gates, and beloved cousins, Genevieve Munson and Graham Gates. She is survived by her son, Monty (Ginger); daughters, Patia and Cherie (Bruce Hammond); her grandchildren,

Kelson Williams, James Sootheran, Colette (Matt) Anderson, and Kristi Hammond; cousin, George (Olive Mae) Ranck; nieces, nephew, and many friends.

Visitation will be at Ansberg-West Funeral Home, 3000 W. Sylvania, Toledo on Friday, June 18, 2021 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., with the funeral service beginning at 7:30 following the visitation. A visitation will also be held at Mills Funeral Home, 405 E. Main Street, Centerville, Indiana on Saturday, June 19, 2021 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., with the funeral service beginning at 2 p.m. Her internment will follow the service immediately at Doddridge Chapel Cemetery, 9471 Chapel Road, Centerville, Indiana. Memorial contributions may be made to the Sylvania Community Arts - Orchestra (5725 Main St., Sylvania, OH 43560).

# Cemetery Details

## **Doddridge Chapel Cemetery**

Centerville, IN

# Previous Events

## **Visitation**

**JUN 18.** 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Ansberg-West Funeral Home  
3000 W. Sylvania Ave  
Toledo, OH 43613

## **Memorial Service**

**JUN 18.** 7:30 PM (ET)

Ansberg-West Funeral Home  
3000 W. Sylvania Ave  
Toledo, OH 43613

# Tribute Wall

SC

“ Paris you may not remember me. I am so sorry to hear of your mother's passing . Sue Cipriani Cox.

Sue Cipriani- Cox - January 12, 2022 at 08:50 PM

SC

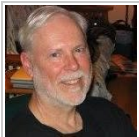
Patia

Sue Cipriani- Cox - January 12, 2022 at 08:51 PM

JM

“ I am so sorry to hear of Rosemary's passing at this late date. She was a special person. Very supportive and encouraged me in my violin playing, as she invited me to her home for string quartet many times. When I could I would stay after for she always had a special dessert purchased for us. She always made me feel cared for. May her family know Christ's comfort and strength.  
Janet Marten

Janet Marten - July 17, 2021 at 08:49 PM



“ Pandemics became the bookends of Mom's life. She was born during the Spanish Flu and died as Covid-19 was yielding to the vaccines. She was passionate about music and passed that gift along to all of her children. She was fun to be with, had a sense of style, loved her grandchildren, and all of us miss her!

❤️ Monty & Ginger

Monty Williams - June 28, 2021 at 06:34 PM

DG

“ Cher, I was saddened by the news of your mothers death. Your Mom and Dad were very good and interesting people and were always very nice to me.  
*Dave Grochowski*

David Grochowski - June 18, 2021 at 10:23 AM

AL

“ Seeing this in the Goshen News brought back many memories of my early violin lessons. My father and Dr. Williams practiced in nearby small towns in northern Indiana in the 1950s. Condolences to you who have lost your mother.

Anne Lehman Lind - June 18, 2021 at 05:44 AM



*Thanks for your your kind words, Anne. I have fond memories of those years!*

Monty Williams - June 28, 2021 at 06:24 PM

PH

“ Whenever I walked into our worship space and Rosemary was sitting in her chair, I knew there would be deep worship. Her presence seem to quiet the whole room.



Paul Helbling - June 17, 2021 at 08:19 PM



*Thanks for coming to the Funeral Home, Paul! All of us will miss her.*

Monty Williams - June 28, 2021 at 06:16 PM

DO

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I will miss her and have so many good memories over the years.*

*Dorothy O'Connor*

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**Dorothy O'Connor** - June 17, 2021 at 03:44 PM



*You were a treasured friend, Dorothy!*

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**Monty Williams** - June 28, 2021 at 06:18 PM