

*A service of witness to the resurrection  
remembering the life of*

# Dorothy Christi Chute Smith



May 1, 1952 -  
October 4, 2021

Gilbert Presbyterian Church

*Officiating: Rev. Terry Palmer & Rev. Mary Saylor*

2:00 p.m., Saturday November 13, 2021

*In Celebration of the Life of  
Dorothy Christi Chute Smith*

November 13, 2021 2:00 P.M.

The Prelude		Susan Martinez
The Call to Worship & Opening Prayer		Rev. Mary Saylor
Singing God's Praise		
	<b><i>"It Is Well With My Soul"</i></b>	Mary Beth Szabo
The Old Testament Scriptures		
	Psalm 23	Isaiah 40:28-31
A Time for Remembering		
The New Testament Lessons		
	Luke 10:25-28	Luke 5:1-11
The Sermon	<b><i>"What Must I Do"</i></b>	Dr. Terry Palmer
The Prayer		
Solo	<b><i>"I'll Walk With God"</i></b>	Mary Beth Szabo
The Benediction		
The Postlude		

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Dorothy (Dottie) Christi Chute Smith, 69, of Gilbert, AZ passed away October 4, 2021. She finished her battle against ALS and joined her Savior. She was the wife of Greg Smith, sharing 35 wonderful years of marriage together.

Dorothy is survived by her husband Greg, and sons Brian of Kanab, UT, and Andrew (Pam) of Huntington Beach, CA. She is also survived by her sister Donna (Gordon) Green of Cuba, NY, brother-in-law Brad (Tracie) Smith of Sherman, NY, sister-in-law Penny Chute of McCormick, SC, as well as aunts, uncles,

nieces, and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents Richard Chute and Joan Osgood Chute, and by her brother Richard E. Chute.

She was born in Philadelphia on May 1, 1952. She moved to the Detroit area as a child, and was raised in Huntington Woods and Harsens Island, MI. Spending summers on the St. Clair River led to a life-long love for the water. She boated, swam, and sailed. Later in life she raced Hobie Cats in Michigan and upstate NY and sailed her Sunfish on the Niagara River. Her last sail was in May of this year in Ft. Myers Beach, a 69th birthday celebration with her husband and close friends.

Dorothy graduated from Berkeley High School, attended Stephens College in Columbia, MO, and graduated from Michigan State with a degree in Ichthyology. After graduation from MSU, she learned that females were not hired at that time at the Michigan DNR. She took a mid-course correction and worked for Marine Pollution Control in Detroit on oil spill cleanup. This, and her awareness of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Resource Conservation and Recovery Acts in the 1970's, changed her career focus. She returned to Michigan State to study Environmental Engineering. She worked for environmental consulting companies in both the Detroit area and Buffalo, NY. She worked as an Environmental Engineer for Olin Corporation in Niagara Falls, NY where she met her husband, Greg. Dot and Greg were married in Deerhurst Presbyterian Church in Kenmore, NY on December 7, 1985.

Dorothy left industry to raise her two sons. She spent the next eight years in Buffalo, NY and then moved with her husband and family to Bethlehem, PA, Rockford, IL and finally Gilbert, AZ. PA friends coaxed the Smiths to come to Gilbert Presbyterian Church after the move to Arizona in 1995, and they found their church home. Dorothy was an active member from the start. She taught Sunday School (starting in the doublewide). Her first Sunday School class was the high school group, and she eventually taught all ages. This helped her to know the members and families in the church.

She served on various committees including the PNC and her more recent work with Stewardship. She also was called as both a Deacon and Elder.

After her boys grew, Dorothy returned to the workforce with Gilbert Public Schools. She was a substitute teacher and worked in pre-school programs in the district. She finished her career at Highland High School where she was with the Agriculture Department and active with Future Farmers of America. Dorothy's personality and demeanor were a perfect fit for her three teacher co-workers and made everyday fun and challenging. She especially enjoyed giving guidance to the high schoolers. She helped them find post-high school career options, whether it was employment, vocational training, community college or a four-year college.

Dorothy was an avid reader and crafter. With her move to Arizona, one of her first group of friends all had children in the same pre-school class (the class was the "Friendly Fish"). This circle of friends formed an informal book club. They spent time reading, discussing, crafting, and talking about families and friends over the next 25 years. In the small Val Vista Lakes community, this circle of friends grew with new neighbors. It sometimes shrank when families moved away, but the friendships remained, and were rekindled when they returned to Gilbert.

Dorothy and her husband also caught the camping bug later in life. They travelled to and camped at several National Parks and Monuments in the West, always looking for unique local history and the road less travelled.

Dorothy participated in a Phase 3 Clinical Trial with Barrow Neurological and the Healy Center for an experimental medication for the treatment of ALS. She hoped the trial would advance the effort to find a cure for this disease.

*In lieu of flowers,  
please consider a memorial donation  
to the  
ALS Association-Arizona Chapter,  
360 E Coronado Rd, Ste 140, Phoenix, AZ 85004  
or to  
Gilbert Presbyterian Church.*

Thank you to Soloist, Mary Beth Szabo