



## Dorothy Elizabeth Klaus

June 7, 1934 - January 10, 2021

Dorothy 'Dottie' Elizabeth (Minton) Klaus, age 86, passed peacefully in her sleep on Sunday morning - January 10, 2021.

Dottie was born June 7, 1934 in San Antonio, Texas, to Gordon and Opal Minton. Opal's marriage to Gordon Minton dissolved in 1936. Opal met Carl Dorow in 1939 and they married in 1946. Carl was a wonderful stepfather to Dottie and her older sister JoAnn (Minton) Smith. The family of four welcomed a baby sister Virginia "Ginger" (Dorow) Walker in 1948.

Dottie graduated from Harlandale High School in San Antonio, Texas in 1951. She attended Graceland College in Lamoni, Iowa for two years and Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas for an additional two years. She graduated from Trinity with a degree in Elementary Education in 1955.

Dottie was always energetic and friendly. She was a cheerleader at Harlandale High School, Graceland College and Trinity University. During those years, she developed many strong friendships which she has maintained throughout her lifetime. Through high school and college, Dottie also had many suitors. However, they all fell away when she met Dalton Klaus, the handsome football standout, who also attended Trinity University. Dottie and Dalton met in square dancing class, began dating steadily and were soon voted Beau and Belle of the Ball at Trinity's Senior Spring Dance. Dottie and Dalton married in 1955 and had three children; David, Trudy and

Kimberly.

Dottie loved her family and serving others. She taught school for a total of 24 years at Serna, Ft Sam Houston and Regency Place Elementary schools. While raising three children and teaching school full time, she taught Sunday school classes and lead the children's choir at her home church, now known as The Community of Christ Church. Dottie always loved to sing. Starting at age 12, she began singing in front of large groups and took voice lessons in college. Dottie sang at home, in the car, at school, at church and at church camps. Many lives were touched by the emotion she conveyed when she sang.

Dottie loved to sing, garden and paint. She had flowers planted around the home she and Dalton built with the help of family and a few friends. Dottie's garden supplied food for the family, neighbors and friends at church and school. Her flowers became beautiful bouquets she took to friends who were ill or needed cheering up.

After retiring from teaching, Dottie opened a video store which was quite successful for 3 years until bigger chain stores put the "mom and pop" stores out of business. Using the equipment from her video store, Dottie began a business video-taping weddings, graduations, anniversary and birthday parties. She was very busy with this venture for almost 10 years. Eventually, she decided to try her hand at oil painting. She took classes and became quite accomplished. She painted a picture for each of her grandchildren.

Dottie, Dalton and the family spent a few weeks each summer at Camp Sionito, their church campground, in Bandera, Texas. When the church campground was purchased in 1948, many people volunteered once a month at "work parties". Those volunteers cleared the land and began building the structures for large groups of church members to gather and enjoy. Dottie's

family was part of those work parties from 1946 until the present. During the year they worked at Sionito one weekend each month. During the summers, they met for week long youth camps and reunions. Dottie was a counselor, teacher and campfire leader. While her husband Dalton was a counselor, lifeguard and Camp Director. Some from her family still attend those camps and reunions each summer. Some of her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren continue working one weekend a month at the “work parties”. Sionito is a meaningful part of the Klaus family.

Dottie is survived by; her sister Ginger (Dorow) Walker, her children David Klaus (wife Cindy ‘Voss’ Klaus), Trudy ‘Klaus’ Lee (husband Scott Lee) and Kimberly Klaus , her grandchildren; Ryan Harms (wife Amber ‘Canterbury’ Harms), Christy Harms, Cameron Harms, Daniel Klaus, Matthew Klaus (wife Natalie ‘Miller’ Klaus), Danielle Powers and Jenna Weller as well as her great grand-daughters Brynlee Harms and Rilyn Harms who called Dottie “Special Grandma”. She also leaves behind many loving nieces and nephews. Dottie is preceded in death by her parents Carl and Opal Dorow, her loving husband Dalton Klaus and sister JoAnn (Minton) Smith.

Details for Dottie’s Celebration of Life (via ZOOM) will be posted on this site soon. Or contact Trudy Lee 816-522-4502 [trudylee\\_3@yahoo.com](mailto:trudylee_3@yahoo.com)

In lieu of flowers, donations would be most appreciated for  
Camp Sionito or Community of Christ Church - Shenandoah Congregation  
c/o Dottie Klaus  
19915 Park Ranch  
San Antonio, TX 78259

Please join us as we  
Celebrate the Life of  
Dottie Klaus

January 31, 2021

3:00 pm

The Zoom link  
is available for connection  
starting at 2:45 -

To join, go to the congregational website [www.cofchristsa.org](http://www.cofchristsa.org). Within the Worship section at the bottom of the main page, there is a link titled "Join Zoom" to join by video or a phone number to join by audio.

If you just want to fire up Zoom and join the call, the Meeting ID is 503 805 205. No password is required.

# Cemetery Details

## **Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery**

1520 Harry Wurzbach  
San Antonio, TX 78209

# Tribute Wall

DB

“ One of the biggest highlights in my life was being welcomed into the Klaus family at 10 years old when I met Trudy, my lifelong friend. Dottie and Dalton took me under their wing and treated me as one of their own. They became my second set of parents. We enjoyed so many trips, be it at summer camp, or a skiing/fishing trip. Dottie used to make me laugh so hard at her antics. When she would laugh, you couldn't help but laugh. Then when you laughed, she would just laugh harder. Her constant smile would light up a room. She was the sweetest, kindest person I've had the pleasure to know. Trudy, Kim and Dave, find peace in knowing that Dottie is back at Daltons side, maybe square-dancing again!!! What an amazing mom you all had. Thank you for sharing her with me.

Debbie Baird Brown - January 20, 2021 at 01:02 PM

TL

Thank you Debbie. You definitely were an important part of our family!  
Love you much!

Trudy Lee - January 24, 2021 at 06:32 AM

TW

“ There are so many memories of Dottie and Dalton as our neighbors on Menger Drive. The one thing I know is that you couldn't say Dottie without saying Dalton and you couldn't say Dalton without saying Dottie Both Dottie and Dalton loved their Savior Jesus Christ and worked hard to fit their life in to Jesus's life. Words can not express how they touched our lives. We can only hope that we do the same. Love you both Dick and Teresa Wirtz

Teresa and Dick Wirtz - January 19, 2021 at 10:11 AM

TL

*Thank you Theresa — you and Dick were the most awesome neighbors all these years! We all loved having you both so close, Thank you for all the love and support you provided. ❤️*

Trudy Lee - January 24, 2021 at 06:37 AM

GW


*“ You have been there all of my life, one of my "three mothers". I remember fun times camping at the lake, attending camp at Sionito, going to your house to visit or help with the kids. The day Emily was born, y'all drove to Waco to see the new niece. You have been advisor, a shoulder to cry on, and the music for every important event in my life. You were the best "big sister" I could have every had. I will always love you.*

Ginger Walker - January 17, 2021 at 01:56 PM

TL

*So sweet Ginger ❤️ Mom thought the world of you. Love you —*

Trudy Lee - January 24, 2021 at 06:40 AM

  
Kimberly Klaus

*“ Love you mom. Now and forever. You were the wind beneath our wings. God Bless you and may you forever rest in peace. Thank you... for everything...*

Kimberly Klaus - January 17, 2021 at 11:19 AM

T(

*“ Mom loved her family and had so many sweet friends. She cherished each and every one. Thank you all for the love, hugs, smiles and for being part of the life Mom loved so much. We appreciate all the calls, visits and messages we have received. ❤️*

Trudy Lee (daughter) - January 14, 2021 at 09:42 AM