



## Dixie Lee Reichel

March 29, 1947 - September 24, 2020

Dixie Lee Reichel passed away peacefully on Thursday, September 24, 2020 at Washington Hospital Center, Washington, D.C. with her family by her side. She was 73 years young (as she would always say). She will be dearly missed and forever in our hearts.

Born on March 29, 1947 in Grasonville, MD, she was the daughter of the late Thomas V. O'Donnell and Evelene S. Bickford O'Donnell Linhard.

Dixie married her first husband, Larry South and had two sons – Jerry and Darren. Dixie began working in the food service industry at age 16 at local restaurants such as Chester River Inn, Holly's Diner, Cove Grill and Heritage Harbor Adult Community where she always had a smile for everyone. She moved to Calvert County at age 24 where she met and married her second husband, Rudi Reichel and had her third son Rudi. She lived in Calvert County with her 3 boys until 1982 when she moved to Montross, VA and worked at The Inn at Montross. There she made friends who would be with her for life. In 1997, she returned to Maryland's Eastern Shore to be closer to her loved ones. Dixie enjoyed dancing, cooking, decorating, shopping, and spending time with her family. Dixie had a vivacious personality. She always had a smile on her face, a laugh on her lips and made friends wherever she called home. Dixie had a spot in her loving heart for all dogs – but especially her Sally and many other fur babies. She was active in the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary and Women of the Moose (Bay Country Chapter). She was a

friend of Bill W. for 14 years.

Dixie is survived by her loving children: Jerry South (Christy), Darren South (Shannon Kyer), and Rudi Reichel (Mesha Cox); a brother: Dean O'Donnell (Felicia); 8 Grandchildren and nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, Dixie was preceded in death by her brother Thomas O'Donnell. All of these she loved and touched deeply.

Private Services for family will be at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home PA in Chester, MD.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Humane Society of Queen Anne's County.

Please join us in celebrating her life on Saturday, October 24, 2020 at Jackson's Creek at 1pm. Please reach out to family members for details.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Dixie Lee Reichel*



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**Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home** - October 01, 2020 at 04:01 PM



“ *Dixie Lee Reichel*

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October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Dixie Lee Reichel*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Dixie Lee Reichel*

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January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Oh, I need to leave this alone....Bea...you were on my mind to call...Dixie..I know you just wet your pants, when you saw I addressed this screw up, and screwed up again...going to stop posting*

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**Nancie Lewis Hall** - October 18, 2020 at 12:21 PM

NH

“*Bea, I know you were looking down and laughing your head off. Saturday, October 18th there sat Nancie Lewis Hall and Diane Cannon Lewis at Jackson Creek, waiting for the family to arrive. At 1:15 pm called funeral home, yes memorial is 10/24. Ok, Diane we will wait a little longer. This am I was sent an invite to join family on Oct 24th, wait that was yesterday, no, it is next Saturday. Dixie, I know, you, D'Ett and Sue Robinson were rolling around heaven laughing at your friends. Love and miss you girlfriend.*

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**Nancie Lewis Hall** - October 18, 2020 at 12:18 PM

DH

“*I talked with Dixie over many years at social gatherings (Felicia, Dean's wife, is my first cousin). She was always great company. And I will never forget that smile - it radiated light and joy. But the best times were the lunches I enjoyed in more recent years with Dixie and Felicia. She and I were the same age. When you spend as much time laughing as eating - now that's a great lunch! And she also reminded me a bit of my Mom. They both endured great hardship, but always tried to stay positive and were full of love for others. My prayers go out to all of her loved ones. What a great spirit.*

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**Diana Hoffman** - October 14, 2020 at 07:46 PM

CB

“*Sending condolences to the entire family. I had the pleasure of meeting Ms Reichel through my job at a pharmacy she used to frequent. Then had the opportunity to meet one of her son's. She was one of the kindest and pleasant people I have encountered during my time there. It is a great loss the world has suffered by losing such a rare and great human being. God Bless!*

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**Clara B.** - October 12, 2020 at 01:57 PM

NH

“ Nancie Lewis Hall lit a candle in memory of Dixie Lee Reichel



Nancie Lewis Hall - September 30, 2020 at 08:06 AM

NH

“ It is Saturday night sleep-over at Dixie's house. WCAO 60 on your radio blasting the tunes, and the cha-cha contest was on. Boys, how we loved to talk about "the boys"! Dixie's make-up, she was an artist. I loved how I looked, after, as she would say, brought out "my Beauty?" But, I best not have that look when Willie Lewis picked me up. Stevensville High Class of 1965, 50th year reunion, in walks Dixie, that smile, and who was that guy? So, "old Nanc", in the food line, says, your "Mom" was a mess, a good mess, growing up. And the gentleman replies, she is not my Mom, she is my "very special friend"...we all laughed the entire night, and he had a ball dancing with her classmates. 1965 Girls group was created, every year, day after Thanksgiving, we met for lunch at Annie's...what a fun group. The last time Dixie joined us her, wonderful, son, had a driver bring her to our luncheon. We could tell she was not feeling well, but she had that smile and that laugh and they say laughter is the best medicine, and this group created much laughter. Dixie, you were a true friend to all, and thank you for keeping my secrets, secrets. Love and Miss you "pretty lady"..... Nancie Lewis  
My thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.

P.S. Know you and D'ett are having a blast! And tell Buddy Dean..dust off those 45's the girls are going to dance when we meet again.

Nancie Lewis Hall - September 30, 2020 at 08:05 AM

MT

“ Jerry, Darren and Rudi, so very sorry for your loss. Dixie brought so much fun and laughter to so many of us. She always had a smile and a laugh that turned heads. She taught me how to dance with the refrigerator door because none of my 4 brothers would dance with me. I don't think many people knew that she lived on a farm and even tried to milk one of Pop's cows. She talked the cow into a few dance moves to avoid being knocked off of the milking stool! Dixie is already dancing in Heaven with all her dogs that she loved throughout the years. Rest in peace my friend.

*Marianne Terrell*

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**Marianne Terrell** - September 29, 2020 at 09:10 PM

JW

“ So glad that we were classmates and lucky enough to grow up together at a wonderful time. Our class was so full of great girls who knew how to have fun and cared about each other. So glad I got to be with you the last few years. You will be missed but happy memories will remain. Julia

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**Julia Walters** - September 29, 2020 at 01:57 PM

BK

“ Playing on the “big inner tubes” in the waters of Jacksons Creek, eating too many pears from the pear tree, sleeping on quilts in the floor of grandmothers’ porch, dancing to the latest tunes, double dates and giggling over nothing, oh the sweet memories that seem like yesterday! I can still hear that laugh, the one she inherited from her mom, my dear Aunt Ebb, genuine and real and that zest for life from the time she was a kid. Rest In Peace Dixie, you were loved and will certainly be missed.

Your Cousin,  
Bea O’Donnell Kelley

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**Bea O’Donnell Kelley** - September 29, 2020 at 11:59 AM

BK

“ Bea O’Donnell Kelley lit a candle in memory of Dixie Lee Reichel



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**Bea O’Donnell Kelley** - September 29, 2020 at 11:49 AM

JB

“ So sorry to hear about Dixie! Sending hugs and prayers!



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**Joyce Benton** - September 29, 2020 at 09:51 AM

PS

“ So sorry to hear that another of our classmates has left us. I know she is with the Lord. We had wonderful times in our youth. She taught us all the latest dances from The Buddy Dean Show. Her Mom let us dance in their living room. What a happy time we had in our youth and I know Dixie will be dancing in Heaven. To her family - sorry for your loss.  
Patricia Smith



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**Patricia Smith** - September 29, 2020 at 08:58 AM