



Doris H. Downer

October 25, 2023

Doris Marian Shimp Harris Downer, age 97, currently living in Sea Isle City, NJ, formerly of Upper Pittsgrove Township, NJ passed away on October 25, 2023. Born June 18, 1926 in Bridgeton, NJ to the late Harold Ellsworth and Marian (Husted) Shimp, Doris was a 1943 graduate of Bridgeton High School and went on to attend the Pierce Business College and Rutgers University.

Over the years, Doris worked as a bookkeeper for Iles and Shimp, served as the tax collector for Upper Pittsgrove Township and worked as a bank teller at the First National Bank of Elmer from which she retired. After retirement, Doris continued to serve her community as a volunteer at the South Jersey Hospital in Elmer and for Meals on Wheels in Salem County. She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Penns Grove Chapter #86 since 1946, serving as the Worthy Matron in 1954. She was also a member of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority in which she became a life member in 1957. Her true passion was playing Bridge, belonging to the South Jersey Bridge League as well as many other local Bridge groups.

Doris is survived by her children, Sharon H. Boyer and her husband Scott, Creigh P. Harris and his wife Beth; her daughter in law Joan Harris; her stepchildren Edmund E. Downer, Jr. and his wife Geraldine and Judith V. Downer and her husband Joseph Bongiovanni; her grandchildren Erin Harris, Michael Harris, Patrick Harris, Rachel Harris and Devon Boyer; her step

grandchildren Richard Bongiovanni, John Bongiovanni, David Miller, Keith Miller, Elizabeth Engel and Jacquelyn Engel. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her husbands, George Russell Harris in 1976 and Edmund Eugene Downer, Sr. in 2010, her son Alan R. Harris in 2022 and her siblings Harold P. Shimp, Dorothy Gregory and Shirley Hepler.

A celebration of Doris' life will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at Adams Funeral Home, 64 Broad Street, Woodstown, NJ 08098. There will be a visitation starting at 10 AM leading to the memorial service at 11 AM. Inurnment will take place at 2:30 PM at Chestnut Grove Cemetery in Elmer, NJ. In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made in Doris' memory to the Elmer Fire Department, PO Box 459, Elmer, NJ 08318.

www.adamsfuneralhome.org

Cemetery Details

Chestnut Grove Cemetery

2-32 Richwood Rd
Elmer, NJ 08318-2516

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 15. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home
64 Broad St.
Woodstown, NJ 08098
adamsfuneralhome@comcast.net

Memorial Service

NOV 15. 11:00 AM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home
64 Broad St.
Woodstown, NJ 08098
adamsfuneralhome@comcast.net

Tribute Wall



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Doris H. Downer.*



November 09, 2023 at 10:13 PM



“ *many fond memories of a very nice lady*

lester roork - November 06, 2023 at 10:14 AM



“ *Many years have passed since I had the pleasure of seeing Doris. My parents were friends and as I grew up I always adored her. She had a beautiful smile and a loving spirit. May God be with you Sharon and Craig as well as the extended family. Treasure your precious memories for they will live on.*
Sincerely Bette Jean (Keller) Coyne

Bette Jean Coyne - November 03, 2023 at 04:39 PM

LP

“ *My Condolences To Doris' Family,*

I have a lot of Memories over many years of Doris and The Harris Family.

I have been friends with her daughter Sharon since we met at Barbara Adams Dance Academy in Elmer, NJ at a very young age and have stayed friends to this day! I feel very fortunate to have her as my friend!

I would always ask her about her Mom and Brothers so I could keep up with how they were doing in their lives!

Hanging around with Sharon as we grew up I felt like Doris was my "second Mom"! She was always kind and welcoming, I was very happy to have her in my life!

Know that I am thinking of her entire family at this time and wishing you well as you grieve her loss! She will be missed!!

Lisa Ponti

(originally from Daretown, NJ)

Lisa Marie Ponti - October 27, 2023 at 02:51 PM