



Dorothy A. Holveck

July 11, 2025

Dorothy A. Holveck, 95, formerly of Whitehall, passed away peacefully with her girls by her side on Friday, July 11, 2025, at Sacred Heart Senior Living by the Creek in Northampton.

Born in Allentown, she was the daughter of the late Lawrence and Dorothy (Mahalick) Holveck. Dorothy proudly served her country as a U.S. Navy nurse during the Korean War. She was a devoted member of Sacred Heart Church in Allentown, where she played a vital role in compiling and preserving the church archives. Her love of genealogy also led her to dedicate many years to organizing the Sacred Heart Hospital nursing archives.

Dorothy began her nursing career at Sacred Heart Hospital and later joined the Lehigh Valley Health Network, where she was instrumental in establishing the critical care and burn units. She also helped train the medical helicopter nursing team. In the 1980s, she took her expertise abroad, helping to open and work in the critical care unit at The King's Hospital in Saudi Arabia. She retired in the early 1990s after decades of devoted service, known for both her compassionate care and her leadership in advancing critical care medicine.

Dorothy will be fondly remembered not only for her remarkable professional legacy but also for her adventurous spirit and love of travel, which took her across the globe.

She is survived by her daughter, Deborah Erkinger of Whitehall, wife of the late James Erkinger; granddaughters, Kim Conahan and husband Ken of Whitehall, and Lynn Sauerzopf and husband Kevin of Schnecksville; and her cherished great-grandsons, Austin and Parker Sauerzopf. She is also survived by nieces and nephews, and their families.

In addition to her parents, Dorothy was predeceased by her siblings.

Mass of Christian Burial: 10:00 AM, Saturday, August 2, 2025 at St. Francis of Assisi R. C. Church, 1046 W Cedar St, Allentown. Calling hour will begin at 9:00 AM at the church.

Memorials can be considered to Sacred Heart Church, c/o Trexler Funeral Home, 1625 W. Highland St., Allentown, PA 18102

Cemetery Details

Sacred Heart Cemetery

306 Windsor St.
Whitehall, PA 18052

Previous Events

Calling Hour

AUG 2. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
1046 W Cedar St.
Allentown, PA 18102

Memorial Mass

AUG 2. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
1046 W Cedar St.
Allentown, PA 18102

Tribute Wall

MB

“ I am so sorry to learn of Dorothy's passing even though it was some time ago. Dorothy was so kind to share genealogy information and photos with me about my great grandfather and great grandmother.

My great grandmother married her second husband and Dorothy descends from that line so I am Dorothy's 2nd ½ cousin once removed

I was so pleased to meet her several times once at her home in Bethlehem and at my home near Philadelphia where she brought so much information about our ancestors and I was and am so very grateful. She was so very kind to me.

My sincere condolences to her family. I shall remember her with my daily rosary.

Mary Ann Barrow

Mary Ann Barrow - June 03 at 01:01 PM

MS

“ Margo Snyder lit a candle in memory of Dorothy A. Holveck



Margo Snyder - August 08, 2025 at 02:31 PM

MS

*My sympathy to Deb and her girls... You had a very special mother .. grandmother
. God bless you all.. I'm sorry for the loss Eternal rest grant her o Lord Amen*

Margo Snyder - August 08, 2025 at 02:33 PM

AB

“ I was friends with Cathy Holveck for so many years. She talked about Dorothy so much that I felt she was my aunt as well, even though I had never met her. Years later I got a job at Sacred Heart Senior living and I finally had the pleasure of meeting her in person. She was just as sweet as I always heard stories about her. I often found myself calling her Aunt Dottie when I would go in her room in the morning. We would both laugh. She would say thats ok, you can call me that. She will be missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to the family

amy Beers - July 22, 2025 at 01:01 PM

“ Oh, my heart just stopped. I don't know how we will ever forget her. She was our matriarch of the Holveck family. I am in shock! Please Debbie and her “Good Morning Sunshine “ girls I am so glad you were with Aunt Dottie to the end. She was a light that shined on all of our lives and dear friends. I just remember her dedication to her faith, love of nursing, soft soothing voice, and love for us all. Her little cards she wrote to her friends and I remember not too long ago seeing a card from her on my rocking chair I knew it was her. Thank you Aunt Dottie and my Godmother for all you did for me. The green S chair watching the shows on a Saturday night, football games when her daughter was in the band with hot apple cider, candies to keep us inline at Mass.

All I can say to this point I thank Aunt Dottie for our phone calls, her generosity, her love of God, all she did. I talk to people all the time about her and will continue till I see you again. I just started my series of children books and her adventures with myself and sister as children, about your never ending reassuring voice, her soft voice to make you feel the world was a happy place.

Debbie she finally got her grand boys after wanting us girls who had all girls to call them Rebecca - remember she even wanted me to call Matthew Mathis after her grandfather. Of course non us of did! I love you Debbie always my favorite! You scamp getting me to always look what your mother got you. She is in her glory now with God!!! I am grateful for this. Till we meet again I can say hello Aunt Dottie so glad to see you

Please let me know what I can do to help, I will be so grateful to do Aunt Dottie a last good night with all her calls! Anything, you hear! Bless you all by God and finely her looking out for you! I can't stop going on about her!!

I can't imagine life without her. So sorry Debbie, Kim, Lynn, and no doubt the boys. I am not sorry for the great matriarch of our family. Goodnight and sleep tight, you good morning sunshine is finally

here.

Catherine L Holveck - July 21, 2025 at 10:33 AM

KC

“*Mrs. Holveck was always kind and such a wonderful teacher. Her legacy is in the many nurses she worked with and shared her caring and compassionate knowledge of nursing.*”

Krista Casey - July 21, 2025 at 09:48 AM

DS

“*Rest in peace, Dotty! You made work fun with your witty sense of humor. You will be greatly missed.*”



Deb Sterner - July 20, 2025 at 09:54 AM

KM

“*Worked at Sacred Heart Hospital in EKG department under supervision of Miss Holveck. She was the kindest person and wonderful nurse I had the honor to know. My condolences to her daughter and all her family who loved her,*”

Kathi Mory - July 20, 2025 at 03:15 AM



“*Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Dorothy A. Holveck.*”



July 16, 2025 at 09:35 AM

MD

“ *I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Dorothy! Always enjoyed my conversations with her and time spent off and on over the years. She was always so sweet and kind. Sending my condolences to you all!*

Mary Kate

Mary Dusseau - July 15, 2025 at 08:38 PM