

Dorothy Haley

Area Representative, Europe, 1994-96 State President Great Britain 1987-89

First Recipient European Achievement Award 2007

Passed away on 30th May 2016



So very sorry to learn of the death of our Dear Dorothy. She was one of our first and favorite DKG members in Europe—quite a dynamo who made great contributions to our Society. We will miss her for sure. We mourn her death and celebrate her life. May she rest in God's Love and Peace. Blessings and Love to Great Britain, all of Europe and to all who knew and loved her. Sharing a little story of Dorothy's humor: At one of our DKG Regional Conferences in Great Britain,

when I was serving as International President and Dorothy was at the final luncheon, where we were meeting in a lovely historic home, the meeting space was divided by a wall making the setting two rooms. I was the final speaker for this luncheon and attempted to explain how I might move back and forth to each room for the presentation. I was going to speak on the theme for the biennium which was *Leading With Wisdom and Passion*. Dorothy spoke right up and said, "Barbara, you just take that Wisdom over to the next room and we will take the Passion over here." So like Dorothy. She had the passion for sure---dedication and commitment to our Society and to her travels, often alone and with great energy. We will miss you, friend Dorothy.

Barbara Day, International President 2006-2008

Dorothy loved to keep photographs of everywhere she had been, and she went to so many places!

A particular interest was medieval unicorn tapestries which told a story. She loved to put together slides from which she could make a presentation during workshops—with a little help from the more computer savvy. Most of the fun came from the commentaries; Dorothy always knew just what she wanted to say about each tableau, including what each scene represented

DKG members swarmed to attend these sessions, and their great enjoyment was evident.

Kate York, Gamma Chapter, Regional Director 2010-2012

Dorothy was Delta Kappa Gamma! We owe her so much. without her drive and enthusiasm we wouldn't have had the European Region. Her loyalty and devotion to Gamma will never be forgotten. She was a great friend, generous and kind. What will I do without my 'other book-end'?

Rest in Peace Dorothy, you will be greatly missed. God Bless.
Evelyn Goodsell, Gamma Chapter



It's so good that Dorothy had such a fulfilling life with her teaching career, friends and family as well as such amazing travel experiences. I remember being inspired by Dorothy's passion and commitment when I first joined DKG..

Sharing a room with her at the European Conference gave me a real insight into Dorothy's valuable existence. She regaled me with stories of her teaching days and trips all over the world until two in the morning and was then up and dressed before I woke up. One morning the shower was running a long time so I called to check that Dorothy was alright but there was no reply. She later told me that she couldn't reach the tap to turn it off and didn't want to disturb me! One evening we went into central Amsterdam for a meal and were walking by the canal. Dorothy was beautifully dressed in turquoise with a white hat and gloves. A young girl called out, "Wow, look at that dear little Grannie!" Dorothy was then surrounded by people taking photos of her and she very much enjoyed posing for them! I am happy to have known Dorothy who led life to the full and she must have made a difference to everyone she met.

Liz Malik, Gamma Chapter President

We all know how instrumental Dorothy was in the formation of the European Region but what we did not see is the hours spent on familiarising herself with the Constitution, the networking she did with all the State Presidents throughout the Society and her charismatic persuasion to the International Executive Board. Whatever Dorothy did she was especially well prepared, and gave some well attended workshops at many a conference. She spent hours getting the GB Archives 'just right'. No-one else would have given them such thought and taken such care

I remember (and the picture is still vivid in my mind although I was not there), her telling us of her 'hang gliding' experience from high up over Rio to the beach below. This was a retirement celebration. The young man organising the jump was reluctant to take such an elderly person but she, unsurprisingly convinced him that she had the nerve and she could run fast enough. He said that she must not stop running as they prepared for 'take off' and she followed his instructions to the letter, so much, in fact, that her legs were still 'running' as she soared high into the sky. I would have loved to have seen that!

Gloria Redston, Gamma Chapter





I first met Dorothy 17 years ago; little did I imagine how great a part in my life this diminutive lady would play.

Sharing a room during Regional Conferences

was always an experience – my furniture re-arranging skills were honed to perfection as Dorothy’s suggestions for reorganisation were attempted. Rooms, considered unsuitable for our occupation, were changed – usually she and Carole would remain in the room whilst I was sent on errands to speak to ‘someone in authority’. **But we laughed, and we laughed**

And then there were the journeys to and from the airport; trying to manage Dorothy’s suitcase and, in later years, her wheelchair, along with our own. Finally relaxing, exhausted, as she settled into her seat, eagerly looking forward to the offer of a glass of Rosé wine – her favourite tippie – from the steward. And during the entire flight, **we laughed and we laughed.**

I remember taking part in her country dancing workshop during the Regional Conference in Baden Baden, and witnessing her exasperation at the inability of one of the participants to follow the simplest of steps, however many times it was explained. **But she laughed, and we laughed**



Lunches out had their moments too; chairs were always too low beneath the table, so cushions to add height were sought. Then, of course, a footstool was required. Carole and I had fun locating these. Once settled, conversation and wine flowed, **and we laughed, and we laughed**

Yes, in stature Dorothy was diminutive, but she was larger than life. Once you met Dorothy, you never forgot her. She was an inveterate letter writer and kept in touch with family and friends from all over the world, often inviting herself to stay; it didn’t seem to matter how long she had known someone, they were her friends and, of course, they would be happy to accommodate her! **But when she was with them, I bet they laughed and they laughed.**



She would never divulge her age – she didn’t want to be judged according to the number of years that she had lived, but by what she was able to achieve. I attended workshops where she would speak, accompanied by one of Kate’s superb PowerPoints, with no notes, and speak non-stop, without hesitation or repetition (but usually some deviation) for 45 minutes. And not just on one topic, but several. She would do her research, and remember. Amazing.

Dorothy was inspiring, interesting – and interested - and determined. Those who knew her before I did, know how vital she was in the formation of a European Region, and she remained passionate about this right until she died. She was proud of the part she played – and rightly so. So passionate, indeed, that it caused a little upset at one European Conference when a certain expression escaped her lips to the consternation of many. **But some of us – well, we just laughed**

So, a very special person has left us; but all the time there are people who remember her, she remains with us. And when I think of her and her stories of adventure, and misadventure, my mouth begins to twitch – **and I laugh.**

Kathrin Hodgson State President GB

I extend my deepest sympathy to all of you. Dorothy, our dear Granny of DKG Europe, will be dearly missed by all of us...

Her unique personality has always inspired me. I will always remember her courageous and challenging speeches at meetings. I am happy to have known her and I am grateful for her friendship

With all good wishes and greetings, yours in DKG, and beyond,
Marika Heimbach (Germany)



Very sad news about Dorothy who was a force of nature.

When we were at the European Regional in Iceland some of us were organising a trip out. Dorothy had already taken the local bus north, changed to another bus for the journey back, and all before we were even ready to leave. She will be missed a great deal.. ..

Diana Bell, Alpha Chapter



This is from me and my husband Ken Meaney, who remembers to have had several times nice chats with Dorothy - he actually says they made quite friends - and he admired her smart conversations.

We all who knew her in Finland admired her very much.

Eija Liisa Sokka-Meaney, Finland

My condolences to you. She was amazing!

Sandra Smith Bull, DKG Executive Director

I first became aware of Dorothy’s vibrant personality when she asked me to stand as State President. She was most persuasive but at that time I was too involved with other things to accept.

However we found an unexpected link with New Zealand. We had both been there at the same time in the fifties and then found ourselves both in Napier at the same time much more recently. We never managed to link up, but I did speak to her while she was having a bath!

She never seemed to age. I knew her for twenty years, at all the conferences, always impeccably dressed, always feisty and positive.

Bettina Kulsdom. Gamma Chapter

We will miss her very much and certainly will think a lot of her in Nashville where she will be remembered as the person who made the European Region possible. But so much more. For me she will be remembered as the unique person she was. There is only one Dorothy Haley

Trijny Schmitz du Moulin (The Netherlands)

I was very sad to hear that Dorothy has passed away. I think that everyone who has met her will remember her. She was quite formidable but very approachable at the same time. She seems to have made the most of every minute of her life, until the end of course, but this is never in our hands

Maud Thomson, Gamma Chapter



I let other people who know more about it and can express it better than me, praise Dorothy for her big merits concerning DKG and the fifth region.

I can't really imagine future conferences without her never ending questions and tales that even kept her from eating the most delicious meals put in front of her - at least not before they were cold. I'll dearly miss those tiny envelopes containing equally tiny, every time different but always cute, notelets covered to the last centimetre in her just as tiny and neat handwriting. They described her daily adventures in her own inimitable style, full of humour even when talking about her frequent ,smaller or bigger ,accidents with or without her beloved car that provided the freedom and independence she couldn't imagine to live without.

So I don't wish for her to rest in peace, as she couldn't nor wouldn't want to, but wherever she is now to be surrounded by interesting people and make new discoveries every day

Brigitte Wichmann Germany

I love her so much, what a positive person she has been.

Margarita Handschmidt (Estonia)

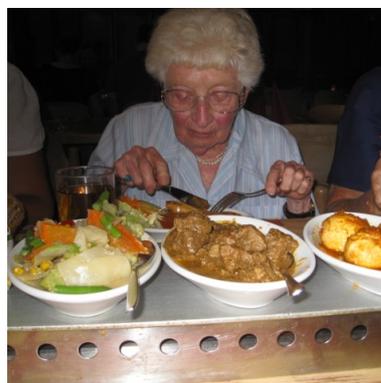


Over the years at International and Regional Conferences Dorothy and Jim (the Society photographer) became friends. They built up a real rapport with each other,.

One year he brought her a necklace as a present. She was thrilled and very touched.



Dorothy in serious discussion with Sandra Blacker



There were times when Dorothy concentrated on eating and let conversation rest awhile!