



## Elaine Mary Dunkle

April 4, 1942 - September 7, 2023

Elaine Mary Dunkle 81, of Estero, FL died on Thursday, September 7, 2023, at her residence. Elaine was born on April 4, 1942, in Youngstown, OH the only child of the late Emil and Mary (Bodnar) Cooper. She had been a resident of Estero since 2001 moving from Kettering, OH.

She attended grade school and high school in Youngstown and did her undergraduate studies at Youngstown State University where she received her Bachelor's degree. She also earned her Master's degree in Education from Wright State University.

Elaine taught for 30-plus years with the Kettering City Schools teaching 1st through 5th grades. She also taught the reading recovery program for children with reading problems. She finished her career as a 1st-grade teacher and was awarded an Excellence in Teaching Award for making a tremendous impact on the students she served.

In 1962, she was voted the Homecoming Queen at Youngstown State University. She was also a Pershing Rifles sponsor and worked in the ROTC office.

Elaine was a parishioner at Our Lady of Light Catholic Community and loved to travel, read, golf, and cook and try new recipes.

She is survived by her loving husband of 59 years, Robert K. Dunkle of Estero, FL; two daughters, Lori Wright (Douglas) of Estero, FL, and Kristin Johnson (Dirk) of Louisville, CO; and three grandchildren, Lance Johnson, Luke Johnson and Rebecca Wright.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, September 15, 2023, at 2:00 PM at Our Lady of Light Catholic Community. A reception for family and friends will follow in the Parish Life Center. Her Mass will live streamed and can be viewed at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1069218994246693/>

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in her memory may be made to the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation, the Moffitt Cancer Center, or the James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute at The Ohio State University.

To sign her guest register or to leave online condolences please visit [www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com](http://www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com).

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home Family Owned and Operated Since 1978.

# Cemetery Details

## Our Lady of Light Memorial Garden

19680 Cypress View Dr.  
Ft. Myers, FL 33967

# Previous Events

## Mass of Christian Burial

SEP **15**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Our Lady of Light Catholic Community  
19680 Cypress View Dr.  
Ft. Myers, FL 33967

## Reception

SEP **15**. 3:00 PM (ET)

Our Lady of Light Parish Life Center  
19680 Cypress View Dr.  
Ft. Myers  
Ft. Myers, FL 33967

# Tribute Wall



“ *Elaine Mary Dunkle*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Our dear friend, Elaine  
Remembering you in prayer today. Bill and I were so blessed to know you, such a special lady, such a lovely smile. I will miss your friendship, your advice. I hope we were of some comfort to one another, battling cancer.*

*Our deepest sympathy to Bob, Lori, Kristin and families. May God bless you and hold you in the palm of His hand. Love, Kathy & Bill Corbett, Keller, TX*

**Kathy Corbett** - September 15, 2023 at 12:53 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Elaine Mary Dunkle.*



September 14, 2023 at 12:33 AM

TB

“ Tom, Bev, Carol, Jack & Bob purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Elaine Mary Dunkle.



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**Tom, Bev, Carol, Jack & Bob** - September 13, 2023 at 03:26 PM

SS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Stephanie Dunkle Shapiro** - September 10, 2023 at 08:07 PM

DD

“ My sympathies to the Dunkle family may she rest in peace.

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**David Danko** - September 10, 2023 at 05:35 PM

HG

“ 21 years ago I met Elaine at a neighborhood party from that moment I was elated to know her. Over the years we enjoyed so many good times with her and Bob (included a marathon night of playing Mexican Train.) I will miss her so much. We stayed good friends and had Long telephone conversations. We cry because of our loss but I know she's with Jesus because He only takes the best... and she is the Best ❤️

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**Helene Gennari** - September 09, 2023 at 06:19 PM