



## Doris I. Sekerka

April 20, 1928 - November 19, 2022

Doris I. Sekerka, 94, died peacefully in her sleep on Friday, November 19, 2022, at home in Saline, where she lived a nurturing and dedicated life as wife, mother, aunt, friend, educator, benefactor and confidante for more than 50 years.

Doris worked at Sears & Roebuck (as it was then called) while attending the University of Toledo (Ohio) from which she graduated in 1950. In addition to earning a degree in Elementary Education and pursuing her Master's at Eastern Michigan University, Doris was also well known as the redhead in the singing trio Blonde, Brunette, and Redhead which headlined most Sundays at the Lutheran church. After marrying Stan Sekerka on June 30, 1951 and bearing 3 children, she returned to her passion in the mid-1960s and taught kindergarten through 3rd grade at Houghton Elementary School in Saline (where she was regularly requested as the preferred teacher for siblings of former students) until her retirement in 1988. Doris took advantage of her children's relocation to California and, after retirement, she and Stan traveled extensively in the west, Hawaii and Alaska as well as environs closer to home. She also enjoyed international travel to Canada, Wales, eastern Europe and Israel among others.

Doris' lifetime involvement with her church family led her to the First United Methodist Church in Saline where she was active in the choir as well as women's and bible study groups and supported the church's outreach to teens and those less fortunate. In addition, Doris (and her husband Stan) assisted

greatly with fund-raising and building the new facility north of Saline.

Doris was always ready to rally support, organize food for any needing help and displayed a natural loving and giving nature. She was a sensitive, sharing woman who worked hard, cared deeply about her family and friends and will be missed every day.

Doris was greatly loved! She is survived by many devoted friends and her children Susan (John), Scott (Clarissa) and Bradley who has been his mom's dedicated and primary caregiver for the last nearly 2 years, allowing Doris to live her final days at home.

Friends may join the family for a gathering which will be held on Saturday, June 3, 2023 from 12:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M. at the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline. Burial will follow and a graveside service will be held in the Oakwood Cemetery in Saline with Rev. Dr. James Tuttle officiating. A gathering of friends will follow the graveside service and will take place at the Saline American Legion Post 322. If so inclined, please make memorial contributions in Doris' name to the First United Methodist Church in Saline or Saline Area Social Service. Many thanks to St. Joseph Mercy Home Care and Hospice who assisted in end of life support and to which memorial contributions in Doris' name may also be made. Arrangements entrusted to the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline. To leave your memory of Doris, to sign her guestbook, or for directions please visit [www.rbfhsaline.com](http://www.rbfhsaline.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood Cemetery

227 West Michigan Ave  
Saline, MI 48176

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 3. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
301 E Michigan Ave  
Saline, MI 48176  
(734) 429-9760  
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com  
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

## Graveside Service

JUN 3. 2:20 PM - 2:40 PM (ET)

Oakwood Cemetery  
227 West Michigan Ave  
Saline, MI 48176

## Gathering of Friends

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JUN 3. 2:40 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Saline American Legion  
320 West Michigan Ave.  
Saline, MI 48176  
<http://www.salinelegion.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Doris I. Sekerka*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *Jennifer Bertke (Stalker)*

*I remember Miss Doris from kindergarten, we were neighbors for 23 years and I cleaned her house for her for many years. Doris and I became close friends and we really enjoyed our time together. We had a lot of fun and laughter together! I began to help take care of her not long after her husband passed.*

*Miss Doris and I had sooo much fun together we would sit at the kitchen table and talk and the next thing you know we are just belly laughing with each other! She loved to look through her magazines with me, she would sometimes fall asleep when I would give her a manicure. I truly enjoyed each and every moment with her, she became a beautiful and treasured friend to me and I will forever cherish my memories with her and forever love and miss her deeply!! Xoxo 🥰*

**Jennifer** - June 03, 2023 at 08:13 AM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Doris I. Sekerka.*



June 01, 2023 at 03:40 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Doris I. Sekerka.

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June 01, 2023 at 03:40 PM

KH

“ Dear Sue, John, Scott, Clarissa and Brad,

*I am so so very sorry for the loss of your wonderful, sweet and caring mother.*

*She was truly selfless and provided each one of us with perfect examples of her never ending love and kindness.*

*Please know your mom was a very special person to me and my family. So much so, as you know, she was bestowed the honorary title of “Aunt Doris” to us. A role she seemed to enjoy and never take lightly. She was involved in all of our big events, always making sure everything went just right. She acted not only as our counselor and friend, but also one of our biggest cheerleaders. I will forever cherish those memories.*

*I especially smile thinking of her very close friendship with my mom. Friendship doesn't seem to do that relationship justice as it was more of a sisterhood that they enjoyed. That relationship was meant to be and began almost immediately when your mom became my brother's kindergarten teacher. It grew stronger as my mom began to substitute teach beside her and their bond grew stronger and stronger year after year. Their friendship remained strong until the day my mom was no longer with us. I remember your mom providing comfort to my mom the day before she passed away. The detail that stands out the most to me that day was your mom telling my mom how jealous she was that she would be meeting Jesus before her.*

*I wanted to share this memory with you with the hope it brings you all some comfort in knowing that she too is now happy and healthy and rejoicing with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*

*Keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers,*

*Karen (Matzinger) Heaney*

Karen Heaney - December 10, 2022 at 11:33 AM

CS

“ A few years ago, Doris became a care giver to her husband, Stan. She also assumed more responsibility for household bills and other personal household files. I was asked to assist her in this. It took many more hours/days than I allotted. It wasn't that she didn't understand the task or know who the companies were and the services they provided e.g., utilities; she knew all of that. What extended the time needed, were her stories of the people behind the files, especially when concerning the more personal files. Doris had many dear friends; she regaled me with tales about the people she associated with whom she spoke within those businesses or, especially those personal friends from her school days and beloved church.

She had several photos of people in the files and would have to stop to tell me about each picture - who they were, what they did, about their families, how nice they were and/or how much she missed them if they had moved or were otherwise not in recent or constant contact. She was not able to get out as much to socialize as she had previously.

A friend recently mentioned to me, “Doris was always so nice and had such beautiful skin!” Anyone who met her could not help but notice her beautiful complexion, it belied her age by tens of years, but her real superpower was her genuine compassion and care for others. I loved any time I got to spend with her and felt honored that she shared those stories and her time with me.

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Clarissa Sekerka - December 05, 2022 at 06:51 PM

JH

“ I will always remember Aunt Doris’s caring, warm-hearted and outgoing people to anyone she came in contact with, and can still hear her laugh. I always enjoyed reading her letters to my parents around the Holidays (that usually started on one side of a postcard and ended several sheets of notebook paper later). Aunt Doris - and Uncle Stanley - were truly special people and will forever be missed.

John Hanline - November 30, 2022 at 10:37 PM

SF

“ Brad, your Mom was one of the sweetest moms ever. Always enjoyed running into her at the grocery store, at the Rec Center or wherever and just getting a chance to visit with her. She will be missed by many. Sending you my sympathy in your loss.

Scott and Patti Fosdick - November 29, 2022 at 06:05 PM

K(

“ Mrs. Sekerka was my kindergarten teacher in 1975. I remember one day when I cried because I didn’t want to leave my mom and she gave me her beaded necklace to wear to cheer me up. She was by far one of my favorite teachers. RIP and know that you have touched many lives during your time at Houghton Elementary school.

Kim Cabildo (Wiedmeyer) - November 29, 2022 at 12:43 PM

AS

I didn’t have the privilege of knowing Doris but I’m a friend of her daughter Sue. Just knowing Sue man’s the wonderful human being that she is, I know her Mom passed on to her the loving n compassionate person she is. Peace and prayers to her family . What a wonderful life she had!

Agnes Smith - November 29, 2022 at 01:26 PM

ID

*Doris was a dear friend for many years. Doris, Kate and I took fun trips together, including a balloon ride. We spent many Sundays together sharing good food and going down memory lane together. I will always miss her. Irene Dernberger*

**irene dernberger** - November 30, 2022 at 10:30 AM

SJ

*My Mother, Betty Washburn, enjoyed her friendship with Doris. Now they are reunited. I'm sorry for your loss and glad you helped her remain at her home.*

**Sue Johnson** - November 30, 2022 at 11:43 AM

SZ

*I am so sorry to learn of Doris's passing. She was a dear friend and mentor to me during the almost 30 years I attended First United Methodist Church in Saline. She was so wise and caring and introduced me to the choir director upon my first visit to the church, which led to many fulfilling years singing in the choir and later the praise team. Doris was so kind and loving and very dear to my family. I will always cherish my memories of her and Stan. She was a true and faithful servant who is resting with her savior now.*

**Sandra Zemba** - December 08, 2022 at 09:46 PM

HO

*Knew Doris and Stan first of all through Jensen Elementary School, where Stan became our son John's Principal. Then met Doris through my best friend, Sue Matzinger, were Doris became our youngest son's teacher. She became a wonderful teacher and friend to us. When we left Saline in 1983, we kept in touch for many years.*

**HEATHER OCONNELL** - May 30, 2023 at 08:04 PM