



## Doris Elaine Schlender

January 10, 1944 - June 14, 2024

Doris Elaine Schlender (Koester) passed away peacefully after a journey with Alzheimer's with family by her side June 14, 2024 in Mooresville, North Carolina. Doris was born in Northfield, Minnesota January 10, 1944 to Mr. and Mrs. William and Cora Koester.

Raised in Northfield, Minnesota on the family farm, Doris graduated from Northfield High School, and went on to study at the University of Minnesota in Saint Paul. During her married life she resided in Minnesota and Indiana, as well as spending over 40 years in Marietta, Georgia before lastly moving to Mooresville, North Carolina to be near her children and grandchildren.

During her time in Marietta she was an avid ALTA league tennis player, gardener and successful business owner and office business manager; She was co-owner in Peachtree Limited, Inc. and Southern Playgrounds, Inc. Her business management career was spent at Scholastic Inc, Bauerfeind USA and Complete Water Services LLC. She worked tirelessly, and selflessly for her family and places of employment. She was a true multi-tasker and wonderful home-maker, mother and friend. She enjoyed many fond memories with her tennis and neighborhood friends - especially relishing in play with neighborhood kids and her grandsons, spending hours in her beautifully landscaped yard or in her woods building forts and camp fires, or joining in on a good snow ball fight or scooter race. Throughout her life she was an

amazing slalom water-skier, hardly missing an annual vacation to her favorite lake vacation to 'Up North' Minnesota, which also served as a family reunion with her six siblings. She was water skiing up to the age of 78. She continued her lifelong love of nature and the outdoors at her home near Lake Norman, in Mooresville, North Carolina where she most recently resided.

She selflessly dedicated her whole life to her family. She cared endlessly for her daughters, always making sure they made it to their next sporting practice, after school class and offering emotional support and true friendship in their later years. She is survived by her two daughters and their families, Mandy Lee Schlender Tantillo (Joseph), and grandsons William Joseph and Thomas Warren; Leslie Elaine Schlender (Julian Robinson) and grandson Rowan Koester Robinson; as well as Warren Schlender; her siblings David William Koester of Dennison, Minnesota, Joanie Lee (Tom) of Denver, Colorado, Vernon Koester (Joan Kraus) and Lois Koester (Skip DeLong) both of Northfield, Minnesota, brother-in-law Tom Swanson (NM), as well as several nieces, nephews and grand nieces and nephews. Her entire Koester family, and her grandsons, were both her emotional rock and source of endless joy.

She is predeceased by Mr. and Mrs. Elmer and Lena Schlender, Barney Schlender; and her beloved parents Mr. and Mrs. William Dewey and Cora Julietta Koester, and sisters Eunice Swanson, Marcia Koester and sister-in-law Gail Koester.

Sincere and deepest gratitude and thanks goes out to the entire care team and chaplains of the S. Mitchell Mack Hospice House of Mooresville, for their deep caring and insurance of her comfort in her final days.

In lieu of flowers, plant a perennial or favorite tree in her memory.

# Cemetery Details

## **Cavin-Cook FH & Crematory**

494 E. Plaza Drive  
Mooresville, NC 28115

# Tribute Wall

GS

“Doris and family (including beagle Sally) lived across from my ex and me on Resin St., Marietta, back in the late 70s, early 80s. We all enjoyed water skiing on Lake Allatoona. Doris could keep any conversation going! She was a caring, fun-loving person!

Gwen

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**Gwen Spence** - July 08, 2024 at 10:48 AM

GR

“She took me in! Doris hosted me without hesitation after I graduated from college in 1991 and wanted to move to Atlanta. She let me join the family for a time, though she'd never met me before. I could relate to her because of our mutual midwestern roots, and she showed me a balanced way of living, that is-- work and play and family. We shared a love for tennis. Though I hadn't seen her for so many years, I learned of her resilience in life and this helped when I needed to be resilient in my own. She had great girls! My condolences for all the family.

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**Gretchen** - July 05, 2024 at 05:35 PM



“Apologies for the delay in getting this posted (July 3, 2024), we welcome any remembrances or condolences from family and friends and we will share those at a family gathering in her remembrance later this month.

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**Leslie Robinson** - July 05, 2024 at 11:36 AM

TS

*Leslie, Mandy & family:*

*Doris was such a joy to us every summer @ Green Roof Lodge. We always enjoyed chatting with her when she would come up to the lodge for her bag of ice throughout the week. She always commented about the different flavors of ice cream, but rarely indulged! We missed her visits this past summer and will always remember her smile. Hold tight to all the wonderful memories! You are in our thoughts and prayers!*

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**Tracy Smith** - October 06, 2024 at 10:57 PM