



Donna Lee Sutton

APR 23, 1941 - AUG 1, 2025



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Donna Lee (Diffenderfer) Sutton, 84, of Lakeland, FL, passed away on August 1, 2025—30 years to the day, and within 4 minutes, after her beloved husband Ed. We know this was not a coincidence, but rather her grand exit with a heavenly mic drop.

Donna brought color, kindness, and just the right amount of sass to everything she touched. She adored her family—son Andrew and daughter-in-law Kim, grandsons Matthew and Mark, granddaughter-in-law Tiffany, great-grandson Logan, and her sister Ginny, who she loved to torment, along with brother-in-law Bill.

She had so many adventures and friends in her life. She was giving and always wanted to be the life of the party. Her friends adored her and all of her extended family lovingly called her mom or nanny.

Donna wore many hats in life: Administrative secretary at a mental health hospital in Philadelphia (where she met Ed), Tupperware manager, real estate agent, unicorn steak salesperson (ask us later), grocery store sample guru, and flower shop owner. But the role she held most dear—and executed flawlessly—was Queen.

She loved deeply: her church, her community, her dinner club friends, and her Philadelphia teams. She never missed an Eagles, Flyers, or Phillies game, and she never missed an opportunity to remind you how truly terrible the Cowboys are. Her fridge proudly featured Lebanon bologna, and she believed a cheesesteak could cure most things (especially when paired with a soft pretzel).

A celebration of Donna's remarkable life will be held at Gentry-Morrison Funeral Home, on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 11:00 a.m., with a reception to follow featuring some of her favorite Philly treats—because no good story ever started with a salad.



Obituary

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In lieu of flowers, please:

Love your family passionately, support your favorite teams (unless it's the Cowboys), and never underestimate the Queen.



Events

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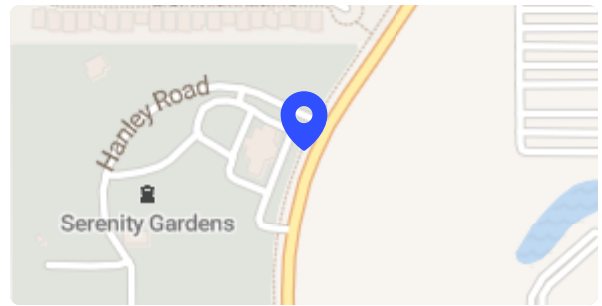
Celebration of Life

 **Wednesday**, August 20, 2025

 11:00 AM ET

 **Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - Serenity Gardens Chapel**

3350 Mall Hill Drive, Lakeland FL 33810





Tribute Wall

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Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes shared a **Video**.



August 16 at 5:20 AM



Deanna Wise Morrison August 16 at 10:10 PM

What a beautiful tribute to Donna. Deanna Wise Morrison..Class of 1959 WSHS



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Sutton family.



August 22 at 10:01 AM



Anonymous sent a Basket of Memories to the Sutton family.



August 18 at 11:22 AM



Gary And Ronalee Fagan sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Sutton family.



August 17 at 8:57 AM



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Sally & Bill Carty sent a virtual gift in honor of Donna.



They say that a life worth living is a life well lived. Donna lived a beautiful life. And those she loved (and was warmly loved by) were her everything. Bill and I were blessed to be considered 'family' by Donna. And oh the adventures we shared! From vacationing on Dauphin Island through all of our great cruises to the Caribbean, you could always count on this beautiful, outspoken, funny soul to remind you that she was always there and up for pretty much anything. A truly special memory was of her birthday dinner midway through our cruise where the servers in the dining room came dancing right past her, dressed in their oriental Dragon costumes. Her face lit into the most gorgeous smile, and her eyes simply sparkled with happiness. I think I, too, have to agree that Queen suited her perfectly. So many memories are made over 29+ years. Thank you for every laugh, every story and every kindness Donna. You were always one special Lady.

August 10 at 6:51 PM



Deanna Morrison posted:

Donna and I were classmates. We both went different directions but many years later we connected again. We saw each other at our class reunions in fact when she was living in NJ she came to PA and stayed with my husband and I. Donna was always fun to be around and she dearly loved her family. May Gods Blessings give you comfort during this time of grief. Deanna Wise Morrison

August 4 at 2:16 PM



Bolad'S Family sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Sutton family.



August 4 at 6:54 AM



Ed Kramer posted:

+Donna and I were classmates. Years later I had moved to Pensacola, Fl and after a divorce I need a home so I called a Real Estate Co and who shows up but Donna. All that distance from where we grew up to meet down there.

August 4 at 2:43 AM



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MF

Marlene Fisher sent a virtual gift in honor of Donna.

I had the pleasure of meeting Donna at the Marine Corp marathon in Washington, DC when both of our adult children participated! She was as friendly as she was gracious! She left an impression that I will never forget! May you all find peace in your memories ❤️



August 3 at 6:29 PM

MH

Moriah Hill posted:

Donna has had a significant difference in Evelyn and my lives. Donna was Evelyn's guardian ad litem for Evelyn and her sister Gracie for almost 4 years. It was an extremely hard case, but Donna stuck with it the whole way. Through all the trials and tribulations, Donna and I became close friends. Donna stayed involved with Evelyn's progress and shared birthdays and Christmas time with us. I am used to Donna and I calling each other just to catch up on everyday life events. It will be hard when I want to call her just to talk.. and I can't. I am so glad I spoke with Donna a few days before she passed. We got to say I much we loved her. Donna will forever be my friend. I know we will see her in heaven.

August 3 at 8:46 AM

MW

Mike And Heather Watson posted:

Just a beautiful woman all around. Heather and I are very fortunate to have known her and able to call her friend. I have never seen her without a smile on her face in every encounter, she had something to laugh about which always made me feel happy. She was infectious. She will be missed.

August 3 at 2:24 AM

PW

Patricia Whiting August 6 at 3:46 AM

Donna was such a blessing . I was apart of the Widows club. Enjoyed my time with Donna and her faithfulness in encouraging us to continue to enjoy life in all the conflicts we endure, May God bless and comfort you 🙏



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PK

Patti And Jim Kerr posted:

Queen is a great description for Donna. Like all royalty, any room she was in became her throne room and she was a commanding presence. Nonetheless, our favorite times with Donna were when she would talk about her girlhood. Many times we think of senior adults as always being aged, and forget they were once children and teens. Donna told us a great story once about driving from Pennsylvania to California with a girlfriend in a two seater MGA sports car in the late 1950's. Hollywood should have made a movie about that adventure. We liked how her eyes lit up telling that story and others she told. We could see that a part of that ingenue lived in her still. We always loved seeing Donna on our Pennsylvania and Florida visits and will miss talking to her.

August 2 at 2:20 PM

PL

Peter Leimeister posted:

Donna Sutton , was a second Mom to me and my family , I loved calling her Mom and treating her like she was my Mom , She always wanted to be the center of attention and had a sass to her that you can love ! Mom had an amazing life and her journey continues back with her husband . She will be missed by many but there is so many memories to think about that will keep her fresh in our everyday lives ! God has her and I feel blessed to be part of her life ! Thank you The Leimeister family

August 2 at 2:18 PM



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GF

Gary And Ronalee Fagan posted:

Oh Donna, Donna, Donna.....It sounds to us like Andy authored your obituary! Anyway, it's very, very thoughtful, as well as humorous, and we guarantee that you would not only approve, but appreciate greatly. We'll miss you a bunch! Hopefully, we'll get to meet up later. Love You!

August 2 at 11:02 AM

RB

Richard Berry August 2 at 3:38 PM

Diffy and I, given alphabetical seating, oftensat across from each other in high school. She always gave me the latest on who was datable, who would say "yes "(no, not that way). Loved her. She was great to talk to. She was full of lifeDick Berry

KN

Keith Neill August 2 at 2:31 PM

She was a character. We loved chatting with her every time we visited. What an infectious laugh!Andrew, praying that you and your family find peace and strength in this difficult time.Keith and Sunny Neill

BJ

Bill Jezior August 2 at 11:15 AM

What can I say Donna, your first night and a crazy come from behind exciting Phillies win. Rest easy and watch over your family.



Media

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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Donna by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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