



## Deborah Dryden Turoff

July 22, 1944 - May 18, 2022

Deborah Dryden Turoff, 77, went to be with her heavenly family on Wednesday evening, May 18, 2022, following a battle with dementia. Debby was surrounded by her family and cherished caregivers at Kemper House Worthington.

Debby was born on July 22, 1944, in Springfield, Massachusetts to James and Gloria Dryden. Debby grew up in Dayton, Ohio and graduated from Colonel White High School in 1962. She graduated from The Ohio State University in 1966 with a degree in Psychology. It was there that she met the love of her life, her late husband Stuart James Turoff, and they were married on November 19, 1966.

Debby had an entrepreneurial spirit and a long and rewarding professional career. Initially, she served as a social worker along with teaching sewing and cooking classes. Following the premature passing of her husband in 1983, Debby moved into the printing business, where she served as a customer service representative at R. R. Donnelley & Sons in Willard, Ohio. While in Willard, Debby had the honor of serving as the first woman president of the Willard City Council. She was named the Mansfield News Journal Woman of the Year for 1980. Debby later moved to the Columbus, Ohio area where she worked as a customer service representative for Lithokraft II, and later as a tax consultant at H&R Block.

Full of adventure and a love of the outdoors in any season, Debby could frequently be seen running, biking, swimming or snow skiing. She ran her first marathon at the age of 50, and later qualified for and completed the Boston Marathon. She loved riding in the Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure, touring the state of Ohio every year with family, friends and new companions. She started the Willard Ski Club and skied everywhere from New York to Austria. Her favorite vacation spot was her beloved Long Beach Island, NJ where she spent weeks every summer her entire life.

Debby was a member of Indianola Presbyterian Church in Columbus, where she served as a Deacon for many years.

Debby is survived by her sister, Deirdre (Dryden) Humphrey, her three children, Beth (Turoff) McCreary, Tamara (Turoff) Keough and James Turoff, each of their spouses, seven grandchildren and an extended family whom she loved and cherished. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Friday, June 10, 2022, at 3:00 pm at Indianola Presbyterian Church, 1970 Waldeck Avenue, Columbus, Ohio. Gathering of friends and family will begin at 2:00 pm and a meal will follow the service in the fellowship hall. For those unable to attend in person, please visit <https://www.indianolapres.org/> for details on live streaming of the service.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, contributions may be directed to Outdoor Pursuits (<https://outdoor-pursuits.org>) or Indianola Presbyterian Church (<https://www.indianolapres.org>).

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Remembrance

JUN 10. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Indianola Presbyterian Church  
1970 Waldeck Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43201

## Celebration of Life

JUN 10. 3:00 PM (ET)

Indianola Presbyterian Church  
1970 Waldeck Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43201

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rutherford Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Deborah Dryden Turoff*



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**Rutherford Funeral Homes** - June 08, 2022 at 01:23 PM

DH

*Thinking of my sister Debby frequently. It has been 6 months since she passed. I enjoyed looking through the wonderful video again today. What phenomenal memories; what a great inspiration she was to many people. Love you, Debby. ❤️*

*Deirdre Dryden Humphrey*

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**Deedy Dryden Humphrey** - November 29, 2022 at 10:10 AM



“ *Deborah Dryden Turoff*

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January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM

TB

“ I met Debby in 2002 through a dating service and had wonderful times with her. She helped me learn how to snow ski at several places in Central Ohio. She was a beautiful person and loved Ohio State University football as much as I do. Several years ago, I made a wooden plaque of the OSU Block "O" and mailed it to her. Each year I sent her a birthday card. It was when the 2022 birthday card was returned unopened that I realized something was wrong. Today, I read her obituary on the Dispatch on-line page and I'm so sad to learn of her passing.

Thomas Barnes - September 22, 2022 at 05:29 PM

SS

“ Thinking of you all today as you celebrate Debby's life, her generosity, her spirit, and her kindness. May you know the comfort of God's love as you grieve and give thanks for a life well lived.

Rev. Dr. Susan Warrener Smith

Susan Warrener Smith - June 10, 2022 at 09:06 AM

AG

“ Aunt Diane, Susan and Greg purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Deborah Dryden Turoff.



Aunt Diane, Susan and Greg - June 09, 2022 at 07:11 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Deborah Dryden Turoff.*



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June 08, 2022 at 04:04 PM



“ *Ever Upward Bouquet was purchased for the family of Deborah Dryden Turoff.*



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June 08, 2022 at 01:06 PM



“ *Loli Thomsen & Family purchased the Beautiful i n Blue for the family of Deborah Dryden Turoff.*



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**Loli Thomsen & Family** - June 08, 2022 at 10:31 AM



“ *We have so many special memories of Debby and the Turoff family- watching fireworks on the 4th in Debby's convertible, beautiful Passover Seders at her house with Carol's parents, dinners, Donnelley picnics & events. There was nothing that Debby couldn't do or make. She was warm and caring, a loving mother, wife and friend.*

*Love, Carol and Barry Cohen*

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**Barry Cohen** - June 04, 2022 at 11:53 AM

BM

*So nice to hear from you, Barry and Carol! I have very fond memories of you as well. I'm so glad this news (albeit sad) has reached you.*  
*Beth*

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**Beth McCreary** - June 05, 2022 at 02:57 PM

CE

“ *I well remember Debbie in my years in Willard from 1977-82 at the public library.*

*My condolences and prayers go out to entire Turoff family.*

*Charles Eames*

*Waycross, Georgia*

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**Charles Eames** - May 26, 2022 at 06:57 AM

BM

*Thank you, Charles.*

*Beth (Turoff) McCreary*

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**Beth McCreary** - May 30, 2022 at 09:48 PM

PK

“ I knew Debby mostly through her marriage to Stu. I worked as a secretary for Stu at RRD while still a senior in high school through a co-op program. Back then there were few opportunities for women in the business world but Stu saw my abilities and knew I could do more so he actively sought promotions for me within the plant and Debby encouraged me as well. I was devastated when we lost Stu at such a young age and admired Debby so much for her commitment to him both before, during and after his illness. She worked hard to raise their 3 children by herself and did a fantastic job, I'm sure. With their influence, I was able to work my way up to Manufacturing Supervisor at that plant. The world has suffered another great loss with her passing.

*Pam King*

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**Pam King** - May 22, 2022 at 12:48 PM

BM

*Dear Pam,  
Thank you so much for this thoughtful and lovely remembrance. I don't often hear from people (outside the family) who remember my dad, and this was particularly special to read.  
Beth (Turoff) McCreary*

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**Beth (Turoff) McCreary** - May 25, 2022 at 07:38 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Deborah Dryden Turoff.*



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May 21, 2022 at 07:01 PM