



## Ruth Elizabeth Doherty

January 5, 1943 - December 6, 2021

Ruth Elizabeth Doherty, 78, of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, passed away in Manassas, Virginia on December 6, 2021. Ruth was born on January 5, 1943 to Ruth and Joseph Olsen, Sr., in Boston, Massachusetts. She graduated from Medford High School in 1960. Ruth moved soon after to Pittsfield, MA to own and run the Dunkin Donuts franchise in Colstville. She later worked for many years at Adams Supermarket. Then, she decided to go back to school in Nursing. She was an RN at Berkshire Medical Center, in several different roles.

She was an avid volunteer in many community programs, such as Tanglewood, Clark Art Institute, and many other events and activities.

Ruth was very active in the Alcoholics Anonymous community with many speaking engagements, sponsoring, and mentoring. She was very social and had many friends. Her love of music brought her to piano lessons late in life.

Ruth recently moved to Wingate Residences at Melbourne Place in Pittsfield, after more than 50 years as a Dalton, MA resident. She really enjoyed and thrived in that environment, with many friends and activities.

Ruth is survived by her son, James "Jim" Doherty and his wife, Cheryl; grandchildren, Chauna, Jaclyn, Kyle, Tre, and Savon; 8 great-grandchildren; Her brother Joseph Olsen Jr and his wife Collette Cavegn, and numerous very close nieces and nephews. She will be greatly missed by many other relatives and close friends.

Ruth is predeceased by her two beloved sons, John and Billy, and her two sisters Carol Davis and Marie Knight.

A funeral service will be held at Berkshire First Church of the Nazarene on Saturday, December 18, 2021, 10:00 AM, at 165 North St. Dalton, MA 01226, with burial to follow at 11:00 AM at Ashuelot Cemetery, 189 Ashuelot St. in Dalton, MA.

A reception will follow directly after at the Dalton American Legion, 258 North St. Dalton, MA 01226.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making donations in loving memory of Ruth Elizabeth Doherty to LUPUS Foundation of America [www.lupus.org](http://www.lupus.org) or your local women's shelter.

# Cemetery Details

## Ashuelot Cemetery

189 Ashuelot St  
Dalton  
Dalton, MA 01226

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

DEC 18. 10:00 AM (ET)

Berkshire First Church of the Nazarine  
165 North Street  
Dalton, MA 01226

## Burial

DEC 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ashuelot Cemetery  
189 Ashuelot St  
Dalton  
Dalton, MA 01226

## Reception

DEC 18. 12:00 PM (ET)

Dalton American Legion  
258 North Street  
Dalton, MA 01226

# Tribute Wall

JP

“ Ruthie was a part of my recovery on day 1. I was always grateful to see her and hear her wisdom. Grateful for many opportunities to spend time with her. Regrettably with my schedule and the weather... I will not be there today but wanted to send my condolences to her family and all of her friends. You will be missed greatly Ruthie. I am envisioning you, your sons, Lorraine and Jean all reunited! Love you forever!

Joan Peters - December 18, 2021 at 09:02 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Ruth Elizabeth Doherty.



December 16, 2021 at 06:58 AM



“ Sweet Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Ruth Elizabeth Doherty.



December 16, 2021 at 03:14 AM

MO

“ I 1st met Ruthy in the summer of 1985 she was a big help to me and a loving and understanding person to all. she will be sadly missed. rest in peace Ruthy --- say hello to all our friends that have gone before us

Michael O'Keefe - December 15, 2021 at 03:13 PM

DC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Denise Demick Case - December 15, 2021 at 11:45 AM

DC

*What a joyous personality. I so enjoyed taking Ruth and the other residents from Wingate at Melbourne Place to Ioka Valley this fall. Ruth loved our trips and was so very active in our community life here. She cherished and embraced life and all its opportunities. We will miss her adventurous spirit and kindness.*

Denise Demick Case - December 15, 2021 at 11:48 AM

TM

“ Tom & Sandy Maloney purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Ruth Elizabeth Doherty.



Tom & Sandy Maloney - December 14, 2021 at 03:01 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Ruth Elizabeth Doherty.



December 13, 2021 at 08:23 PM

LM

“ Ruthie was an exceptional person and was responsible for ALOT of us to have a completely different life. She will be sorely missed 😊

Lori M - December 11, 2021 at 03:53 PM

LI

“ One of the great ones, love you always. Xo liseann

liseann - December 11, 2021 at 03:25 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Ruth Elizabeth Doherty.



December 11, 2021 at 03:18 PM

FH

“ Ruth you are a huge part of who I am today with your help and support I got through my divorce and came out a better person I will miss you and your smile rest easy 🥺 till we meet again 🥺🥺

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**Frank hatch** - December 11, 2021 at 02:09 PM

LT

“ My very dear friend and confident held me up in difficult times and shared my gratitude in joyful times. Rest in peace Ruthie. I will miss you. To your family and friends I send my deepest sympathy and love. I share your joy as I know you are in the loving arms of your Higher Power. Love and hugs, Lori

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**Lori Talis** - December 11, 2021 at 11:31 AM