



Velleda G. Knox

January 11, 1929 - December 9, 2015

Velleda G. Knox, 86, of Concord Twp. passed away December 9, 2015 at her home. She was born January 11, 1929 in New York, New York.

Velleda studied in New York City at the School of Performing Arts and Ballet Arts at Carnegie Hall. After relocating to Northeast Ohio, she began her own ballet studio, first in Willoughby-on-the-Lake above the old fire station and then at the Mentor-on-the Lake fire station. In addition to her classes, she began a new tradition of presenting full-length storybook ballets such as “Peter Pan” and “Snow White” instead of the usual ballet recitals. She was soon invited to teach at the Willoughby Fine Arts Association, moved with them from their original building on Spaulding Street in downtown Willoughby to their current location on the grounds of the Andrews Osborne Academy. Mrs. Knox taught at the Willoughby Fine Arts for many years, delighting in seeing some of her students go on to careers in professional ballet companies as well as eventually seeing the children of former students coming to her for instruction.

Velleda was also an accomplished actress, appearing at community theaters across N.E. Ohio from Beck Center in Lakewood, Greenbriar in Parma Heights where she won a Best Supporting Actress award, Chagrin Valley Little Theater, and the historic Rabbit Run Theater in Madison, Ohio. Most recently, she reprised her role as Madam Arcati in *Blithe Spirit* at the Ashtabula Arts

Center. Mrs. Knox was a member of Playhouse Square's prestigious Hermit Club, where she also performed. A true Renaissance woman, she was a collector of many things from LLadro figurines to Waterford Crystal to the toys she loved. More significantly, she was also a private pilot and an animal lover and advocate, raising many orphaned baby animals and returning them to the wild.

Survivors are her children Ellen Knox Dare (Jim Dare, Ron Walsh) and William J. Knox (Richard England); daughter in law Cris A. Knox; grandchildren Jay A. Knox (Leslie) and Zak Knox; great grandchildren Carter, Grace, Rory and Avery; her brother Gregory Goldberg (Terry Gold) as well as many nieces, nephews, and cousins, and her devoted dog Sixpence and cat Sasha.

She was preceded in death by her husband William W. Knox; sons Thomas L. and Richard R. Knox and her brother Lowell Goldberg.

Funeral service will be held 11 a.m. Friday at Old South Church, 9802 Chillicothe Rd., Kirtland.

The family will receive friends from 3-8 p.m. Thursday at the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor.

Interment will be at Mentor Cemetery.

As Velleda would wish please send flowers for display at her services and / or contribute to the Nature Conservancy, the National Audubon Society or other animal charities. Send flowers and offer condolences at www.brunners.com

Cemetery Details

Mentor Cemetery

6881 Hopkins Rd.
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 974-5733

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 17. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center
8466 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-3401
ajs@brunners.com
<https://www.brunners.com/>

Funeral Service

DEC 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Old South Church
9802 Chillicothe Rd.
Kirtland, OH 44094

Tribute Wall

BF

“ *My memories of the Knox family go way back. I always felt very close to the Knox family even though we did not get together that much. In ninth grade I had the privlledge of taking ballet with her at the old Fine Arts bulding. She always had a letter from Ellen, and she shared some things with us. It was so important that we moved our hands in a certain way,and that we felt the music. She always had a live pianist play for the lessons. Her student ballet performances were always very theatrical. It was also wonderful to see Velleda and Ellen performing in plays together as adults. She will truly be missed.*

Bonnie Savage Fainacci - December 20, 2015 at 04:45 PM

JD

“ *Jim Dare purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Velleda G. Knox.*



Jim Dare - December 16, 2015 at 11:13 PM

JD

“ *Velleda, Not only a Huge talent, but someone I was proud to call my Mother... Many years of fond memories, laughs, and all around fun times! I will really miss you... My deepest sympathy to Ellen and Billy... Love and Sorrow.. Jim--*

Jim Dare - December 16, 2015 at 04:13 PM

RT

“ *Ron Fenstermaker and the Engineered Plastics Team purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Velleda G. Knox.*



Ron Fenstermaker and the Engineered Plastics Team -
December 16, 2015 at 09:41 AM

NG

“ *Nancy and David Gauss purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Velleda G. Knox.*



Nancy and David Gauss - December 15, 2015 at 03:54 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Velleda G. Knox.*



December 15, 2015 at 01:42 PM

DC

“ *Truly enjoyed working with her at Rabbit Run Theater over the years. Such a sweet lady.*

Deborah Cattell - December 14, 2015 at 03:43 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Velleda G. Knox.*



December 14, 2015 at 11:05 AM



“ *What an accomplished woman. Velleda enhanced the lives of so many people. She was talented and kind, dedicated to her family and the casues she loved in life. God bless her soul.*
Kitty O'Shea.

Kitty O'Shea - December 13, 2015 at 11:50 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Velleda G. Knox.*



December 13, 2015 at 07:53 AM