



The family would like to thank people for the many cards, flowers and kind messages that they have received during this difficult time.

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Donations received, in memory of Doreen, will be shared between the British Heart Foundation and Cancer Research UK

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To leave a message of condolence, or to donate online, please visit the obituaries page www.jacksonsfuneralservices.co.uk



Jacksons of Silsden Funeral Directors, 11 Bolton Road, Silsden, BD20 0JY
Tel: 01535 654069

In Loving Memory of



Doreen Whiteoak

24th May 1933 - 11th January 2021

Skipton Crematorium
Tuesday 2nd February 2021
11.20 am

Doreen Whiteoak 24th May 1933 - 11th January 2021.

Doreen was born on the 24th May 1933 at Bank Foot Farm, Sutton in Craven to Edward (Ted) and Florence Lister. The second eldest of six daughters she had, from an early age, often to look after her younger siblings whilst their mother was out working in the local mill.

Doreen attended Sutton Church School, and during hay time she was expected, and did, stay off school to help her father gathering the hay where they made use of the family horse and cart on the steep slopes of Ted's land above Sutton Clough. In her early teens she was a member Sutton Church Choir and then later of Sutton Amateurs. On leaving school she began her employment at the 'Standard' weaving mill at Junction, Cross Hills, where she was a silk weaver.

In the early 1950's she met her future husband Eric who worked at Garnett Leaches' Ashfield Farm only a stones throw from Doreen's work place. Oft was the time when she knew that Eric would be passing with the cows she would sneak out of the side door of the Mill for some 'fresh air' and a secret meeting with him. They were married at Sutton Church on the 29th January 1955 taking their honeymoon in Blackpool, which in later years became a favourite haunt for them, and set up home in Gordon Street, Sutton. Much of their leisure time, throughout their lives, was spent at local dances and they both enjoyed evenings at 'Charlies' Cinema in Cross Hills.

A short time later that year the chance came for them to purchase and move to Hainsworth House Farm at Kildwick Grange, Eric's old family farm. The farmhouse, which had no running water and very little in the way of modern facilities, had been empty for well over a year this giving Doreen the opportunity to make it their 'own'. Here her skills as a home maker came to fruition, teaching herself how to wallpaper and paint and where regularly she had to use her ability with a screwdriver or hammer around the house constantly trying to improve their home. All this whilst still helping Eric on the farm when, particularly during the summer months, there were many long hours spent hay making, but were all refreshed with her excellent home made parkin and lemonade.

Eric and Doreen had three children, Gillian, Pauline and Harry, Harry eventually working on the family farm at Kildwick Grange before they sold up and moved to Field House Farm at Kettlesing, Harrogate in 1986 where they built their own bungalow. Which gave her a second wind in home making and once again Doreen showed her skills in the decorating department.

With her children now all married and the arrival of grandchildren it was here she took an active hands on role with them and they all remember very well, particularly, her home made ginger biscuits and bread.

Doreen had many loves in her life, including, Radio 2 - it was always on when anyone called, her routine, the Saturday shopping, those long summer days and dancing to name just a few.

At 60 years of age she was determined to go on holiday by air with the result that the two of them visited Jersey to take a weeks holiday. Then there was many the time in later life, before Eric passed away and they were semi-retired, that they would take coach holidays together both to the seaside and to the Scottish Highlands.

On her own now Doreen continued to maintain her very high standards in life and displayed her will power to 'carry on' regardless. A perfect example here was 5 years ago when she had, unbeknown to her, had a heart attack which did not stop her driving the 20 miles to Cross Hills to see Pauline then walking the 1 1/2 miles to see Gillian before retracing her steps back home.

Her strong mind and will power carried her through the final few months of her life, now in a care home, she always fought through to come back from what appeared to be her conclusion. The pride she had in her appearance never diminished - she had her hair permed only a week before passing away!

A tough woman through to the end.

Order of Service

Entry Music:

Water Music - George Frederic Handel

Welcome & Opening Words

Hymn:

Immortal Invisible, God Only Wise

Eulogy

Hymn:

Thine Be The Glory

The Lords Prayer

Closing Words

Recessional Music:

Wind Beneath My Wings - Bette Midler