



## Mrs. Dorothy Jean Wood

October 26, 1933 - May 2, 2026

DOROTHY JEAN WOOD, lovingly known to family, friends, and the community as "Dot," was born on October 26, 1933, in Columbus, Mississippi, to Harry Billups and Ora Nell Billups. She received her formal education at Lincoln High School and carried throughout her life the strength, grace, and resilience that would become the foundation of the woman so many loved and admired.

Later in life, Dot relocated to Washington, D.C., where she met the love of her life, Deron Wood. The two were united in marriage in December 1984 and shared more than four decades of unwavering love, laughter, partnership, and devotion. In 1986, Dot and Deron relocated back to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where together they built a beautiful life centered on family, friendship, faith, and community.

Dot was widely known and deeply loved throughout Milwaukee as the proud owner and operator of Dot's House of Joy. For many years, her establishment was far more than a tavern; it was a place where people gathered to feel welcomed, uplifted, and loved. Dot had a remarkable gift for bringing people together. Through her warmth, humor, generous spirit, and open heart, she created an atmosphere filled with music, laughter, joy, and unforgettable memories. To many, Dot's House of Joy became a second home, and Dot became family.

Her impact extended far beyond bloodlines. She formed lifelong friendships, nurtured countless relationships, and touched the lives of everyone fortunate enough to know her. Her legacy of love, kindness, and community will continue to live on in the hearts of all who shared in her life.

Dorothy "Dot" Wood peacefully departed this life on Saturday, May 2, 2026. She was preceded in death by her beloved son, Otis D. White Sr.; her parents, Harry and Ora Nell Billups; her sisters, Irma Smith and Valentina Brewer; and her brother, Harry Billups II.

She leaves to cherish her precious memory her devoted husband, Deron Wood; her loving grandchildren, Otis D. White Jr., Deonte White, and Chante White; a host of great-grandchildren, loving relatives, and dear friends.

A special acknowledgment is extended to Otajia White, Dorothy's great-granddaughter, whom Dot lovingly raised as her own.

# Cemetery Details

## Graceland Cemetery

6401 N. 43rd St.  
Milwaukee, WI

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 15. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Northwest Funeral Chapel  
6630 W. Hampton Ave  
Milwaukee, WI

## Funeral Service

MAY 15. 1:00 PM (CT)

Northwest Funeral Chapel  
6630 W. Hampton Ave  
Milwaukee, WI

# Tribute Wall

QF

“ *Quarles Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dorothy Jean Wood*



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**Quarles Family** - May 08 at 02:56 PM

AM

*Rest Easy Dot...Tell Kate I love her ❤️ and behave yourself up there.*

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**Alysia Mullins** - May 15 at 07:35 AM

SA

*Our condolences to the family. Praying God's strength.*

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**Sinita Anderson** - May 15 at 01:23 PM