



## Mrs. Dorothy M. Cole Lehtola

July 7, 1928 - April 9, 2017

Dorothy M. (Cole) Lehtola, age 88, of Thonotosassa, FL died on April 9, 2017 surrounded by loving family members. She was born in Blakeley, GA on July 7, 1928, the 10th child of Sam D. and Docia R. (Jordan) Cole. She was a life-long resident of Hillsborough County, originally in Dover, but thereafter Brandon and most recently Thonotosassa. She had many interests, among which were sewing, gardening, cooking, and all the activities at her church, the Dover Advent Christian Church where she was a devoted member all her life.

She is preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Albert A. Lehtola and is survived by her two sons, Tony (Joyce) of Thonotosassa, FL and Michael (Bruce Bearden) of San Francisco, CA. as well as three grandchildren, Scott A. Lehtola (Sandra), David M. Lehtola, (Marisa), Kristen M. Smith (Cary), nine great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be at the Dover Advent Christian Church, 14202 Downing Street, Dover, FL. On Thursday, April 13, 2017. The visitation is at 2 pm followed by the funeral at 3 pm. Burial will be at Hopewell Memorial Gardens, Plant City, FL. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Dover Advent Christian Church, PO Box 396 Dover, FL 33527. Expressions of condolence at [www.HopewellFuneral.com](http://www.HopewellFuneral.com).



# Cemetery Details

## Hopewell Memorial Gardens

6005 County Road 39 South  
Plant City, FL 33567  
(813) 737-3128  
office@hopewellfuneral.com  
<https://www.hopewellfuneral.com>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 13. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Dover Advent Christian Church  
14202 Downing Street  
Dover, FL

## Celebration of Life

APR 13. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Dover Advent Christian Church  
14202 Downing Street  
Dover, FL

# Tribute Wall

CG

“ *Michael and family,  
The Gunn family sends our thoughts and prayers to your family. Our mothers, Dot and Dot, remained friends for years since our families were neighbors. I'm so sorry this comes so late, but I just learned of your mother's passing. My mother is now 92 and though she has dementia, she remembers your mother, her dear friend. I had hoped to reunite them (my mother lives in an A.L.F. near me in Leesburg, FL). Your mother will be remembered as a wonderful friend and neighbor who shared her love, talents, and friendship. Sending love your way,  
Carolee Gunn-Wheeler*

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**Carolee Gunn-Wheeler** - March 21, 2019 at 02:40 AM

RS

“ *I have sweet memories of your mother going back to my elementary school years. Our moms taking part in PTA and other school activities. Then, to reconnect with her in the past few years and visit with her was a joy. I hope to remember her distinctive voice; something about the intonation, was so sweet, caring and kind. And that is how I will remember her - sweet, caring and kind.*

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**Randy Sumner** - April 13, 2017 at 03:51 PM

KD

“ *Tony, Mike and family, "Aunt" Dorothy had such a great personality and was fun to be around. My fondest memory will always be the "girl's day out" when I first visited her in FL. To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. Oh what a wonderful thing to know she is there! We know you will miss her so much.  
Love you all, Karen & Craig Davis*

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**Karen Davis** - April 12, 2017 at 11:10 AM

MA

“ Dorothy was on the sweetest women I have ever known. When I started going to church with her she welcomed me with open arms and was always smiling no matter what was going on in her life. She loved to laugh and encourage every one. I will really miss her.

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**Mary** - April 12, 2017 at 09:19 AM

LF

“ Liisa, Eino and Markus from Finland purchased the Sapphire Skies Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Dorothy M. Cole Lehtola.



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**Liisa, Eino and Markus from Finland** - April 12, 2017 at 02:24 AM

TS

“ Tom Sattler purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Mrs. Dorothy M. Cole Lehtola.



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**Tom Sattler** - April 12, 2017 at 12:44 AM

SA

“ We’re sorry for your loss and sending our condolences for you all Lehtola family.

*Dorothy was a great Lady and we are honored to know & meet her once.*

*Best of wishes,*

*relatives from Piehinki, Finland.*



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**Soile Ahola** - April 11, 2017 at 11:57 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Mrs. Dorothy M. Cole Lehtola.



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April 11, 2017 at 11:06 PM

RJ

“ Richard and Jeff purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Dorothy M. Cole Lehtola.



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**Richard and Jeff** - April 11, 2017 at 11:04 PM

RB

“ It was 1973 when Michael and i visited Mr. and Mrs. Lehtola . Dorothy made me feel like family though we had just met. She made us a great dinner of Southern foods. I have a lasting impression of her genuine loving heat and open, genuine smile. She sat next to me that Sunday at The Dover Advent Christian Church as we listened to the sermon and with great joy had Michael at the piano that Sunday. Dorothy , you remain in my heart for ever. God Bless . Richard

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**Richard Bowdle** - April 11, 2017 at 10:19 PM

TF

“ The Charlie Young and Josh Young family. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Dorothy M. Cole Lehtola.



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**The Charlie Young and Josh Young family.** - April 11, 2017 at 09:32 PM

HT

“ Howard Hill & Jay Thayer purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of Mrs. Dorothy M. Cole Lehtola.



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**Howard Hill & Jay Thayer** - April 11, 2017 at 08:28 PM

BB

“ *Bill & Veronica Bercaw lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Dorothy M. Cole Lehtola*



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**Bill & Veronica Bercaw** - April 11, 2017 at 05:54 PM

BB

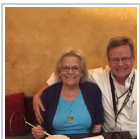
*On Angel's Wings you were taken away,  
But in our hearts you will always stay.  
We will hear your whisper in the tallest trees,  
Feel your love in the gentle breeze.  
And when we find we miss you the most,  
Inside our beautiful memories  
We will hold you close.  
You are an Angel watching over us.  
With the comfort and blessings you bring,  
Forever on Angel's Wings.*

*Dorothy was so special to many people, loved by many and will be missed by many. Everyone who knew her loved her.  
We will miss you Dorothy, along with your smiling face.*

*Veronica & Bill*

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**Bill & Veronica Bercaw** - April 11, 2017 at 05:59 PM



“ *She made the best hush puppies, and when she did I would not go home until after supper. Miss those days. Sonja*

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**Sonja McGuire** - April 11, 2017 at 04:55 PM