



Dianne HOWARD 1941 – 2017

HOWARD, Dianne L. 75, of Springfield, passed away unexpectedly following complications from a hip fracture on February 5, 2017. She was born in Mansfield, Ohio on September 16, 1941, the daughter of the late James Dallas and Erma Lucille (Rush) Rakestraw. A 1959 graduate of Springfield High School, she attended the Springfield Business College. Dianne worked as an OHSHIP counselor for United Senior Services and previously worked as a secretary for Mercy Medical Center and Schaefer's Bakery. She was a member of First Christian Church and volunteered as a tutor for at-risk children. Dianne loved to garden, travel, cook, and enjoy fun times with family and friends. Survivors include her husband of 50 years, W. Darrell Howard; daughter, Blythe Howard-Chou and her husband, Hsuan-Min Chou and their daughter, Delia Claire Chou; her extended family of several cousins including Sandra Kentner, Cindy Rust and Carol Groeber; and a close friend, Daryl Yaw. She was preceded in death by her brother, Dick Rakestraw. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the [Arthritis Foundation](#), 1355 Peachtree St. NE, Suite 600, Atlanta, GA 30309, United Senior Services, 125 W. Main St., Springfield, OH 45502 or the Animal Welfare League, 6330 Willowdale Rd., Springfield, OH 45502.