



## Mrs. Eurydice Everstine Mitchell Canelos

February 4, 1930 - January 11, 2022

Eurydice Everstine Mitchell Canelos, known as Dickie to her family and friends, passed away on January 11, 2022, in Towson, MD. She was born in 1930 and raised in Cumberland, where her parents had settled after leaving Asia Minor near the ancient city of Troy. Michael and Pauline (Karamihali) Mitchell, Everstine's parents, owned and operated a restaurant until her father's untimely death when Everstine was only 6 years old. In 1936, with an infant son and two young daughters, Everstine's mother was a role model of strength and determination as she continued to operate the restaurant on her own. These same qualities resonated in Everstine throughout her lifetime.

Everstine attended Greek School in the evenings where she learned to read and write Greek as a second language. She attended Allegheny High School and was active in the Drama Club, holding leading roles in several musicals. She also participated in several musical groups to showcase her soprano voice. Additionally, she served as Business Manager of the yearbook and News Editor of the school newspaper. Upon graduation in 1948, Everstine received several honors, the most coveted being the "Welcome Home Award" given to the most outstanding senior of the graduating class, as well as being voted "Best All Around". After high school, Dickie attended Fairmont College and West Virginia University where she majored in journalism in order to pursue her love of writing.

Everstine and her family moved to Baltimore in 1950, where she worked as a copywriter for the May Company (later known as the Hecht Company). She soon became a member of Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, as it was called then. Forging new friendships that have continued for over 70 years, it was also there that Everstine was to meet her future husband, Aristides "Otts" Canelos. Soon after their move to Baltimore, Everstine's mother suffered a stroke, leaving her completely debilitated. Having to support her brother, Michael, who was only 16, Everstine became the Fashion Copywriter at Hochschild Kohn Department Store after a hard-won battle for a 30 cent per hour wage increase. When she was bringing up her daughters as a stay-at-home mom, she was also known for her freelance fashion work for Hutzler's and Stewart's Department stores. One of her fashion pages was given an award for Outstanding Writing. Every year Everstine would write the Hoschild-Kohn Christmas catalogue, which had an August deadline. Her daughters remember how she would descend to the basement where it was cooler, place a wet towel around her neck and turn on a fan and phonograph playing Christmas Carols. This would get her in the mood to write Christmas copy and her lovely voice could be heard throughout the house. She was a classically trained soprano and her repertoire included songs from Puccini operas, such as La Boehme and Madame Butterfly. Her lyric soprano voice was often heard at church weddings, but also appreciated by her daughters at bedtime. Favorite lullabies ranged from O Mio Babbino Caro to Summertime. Everstine continued her work as a copywriter until 1973 when her beloved husband, "Otts" passed away at 46 years old. Next, she spent a little over 20 years working for Baltimore County government until her retirement in 1996. Otts and Dickie (as she was later called) were active members of Annunciation Cathedral, where he served two terms as president of the Parish Counsel. She was also a member of the Philoptochos Society (known as friends of the poor), The Ladies Tea Guild (now Women's Guild), The

Hellenic Museum, The Daughters of Penelope and was a member of the Annunciation Cathedral Choir for many years. When The Ladies Tea Guild hosted fashion shows with local department stores, Dickie wrote the fashion copy for the stores, was involved in program design, assisted dressing parishioner models and helped to plan the annual event. "Miss Dickie" also served as an advisor for Junior Goya for many years with her husband, Otts, and continued while her daughters were active in the church youth group. Her love of cooking began at an early age and she passed this on to her daughters, as well. It became a hobby to collect and share recipes with friends and family members, as well as to make dishes for a variety of holiday gatherings and dinner parties. Writing a cookbook seemed to be a natural progression. She was the author of several cookbooks, Ambrosia and Nectar, and The Best of Greek Cookery which she co-authored with the late Carol Larios Prevas. The third cookbook was Greek Home Cooking in America. She rewrote over 250 recipes from the parishioners of the Annunciation Cathedral and contributed 350 recipes of her own. Over 3000 copies have been sold all over the country. Since Dickie has sold so many copies herself, she became known as "the cookbook lady." In later years, Yia Yia, as she was known to her grandchildren, continued her passion for watching cooking shows, collecting recipes and discussing her favorite chefs with her granddaughter, Laura. She also imparted her love of cooking to her grandsons, Alex and Andrew, inviting them for impromptu meals and sharing cooking secrets.

Dickie loved to travel in Europe, but especially in Greece, where she visited multiple times. The highlight of one trip was traveling to Renkioi, the town in Asia Minor from which her parents emigrated in 1922. There she saw the home of her ancestors and the groves of olive trees with the Aegean Sea glistening under a lovely sunset, just as her parents had always described. Dickie knew more than her share of loss, but her faith in God and love for

her family gave her strength and an appreciation for every moment, which she instilled in her loved ones and friends. She is survived by her daughters, Paula Morris, son-in-law, Bill, Christina Mayhew, and son-in-law, David, a sister, Sylvia Butler, three grandchildren, Alexander, Andrew, Laura, and one great-granddaughter, Eliana. She was predeceased by her husband, Aristides Canelos, her brother, Michael Mitchell and her grandson, Evan Morris.

May her memory be eternal!

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On January 11, 2022, “Dicki” Canelos (nee Mitchell) beloved wife of the late Aristides “Otts” Canelos; dear father of Paula Morris (Bill) and Christina Mayhew (David); treasured grandmother of Alexander Mayhew, Andrew Morris (Melissa) and Laura Mayhew and the late Evan Morris; dear great-grandmother of Eliana M. Morris; devoted sister of Sylvia M. Butler and the late Michael Mitchell.

Service and interment private. A Celebration of Dickie’s Life will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Annunciation ([annunciationbaltimore.org](http://annunciationbaltimore.org)).

# Tribute Wall

ME

“ *Miss Dickie will surely be missed. I have wonderful childhood memories of our families' times together. Much Love Melanie Pefinis*

mel - January 15, 2022 at 10:55 AM

CM

*Our families did enjoy so many good times together, Melanie. I do believe our moms are catching up with one another!*

Christina Mayhew - May 03, 2022 at 11:02 AM

CJ

“ *Dickie was my second mother. We worked together for many years sitting right next to one another in the basement of the credit union. She was a big help in planning my wedding. I have many fond memories. Her memory will live on. What a wonderful person who loved her family so very much. I send my love and condolences to Christina and Paula and your families at this difficult time. Dickie will be missed greatly but never forgotten.*

*Cindy & Larry Johnson*

Cindy Johnson - January 14, 2022 at 08:56 AM

CM

*Thank you so much. My mom truly enjoyed working with you, Cindy and thought the world of you. Aside from cooking, wedding and events planning was also her calling!*

Christina Mayhew - May 03, 2022 at 11:04 AM

DL

“ Dickie was like a second “mom” to me!! Paula, you’re my witness!! For 27 years she was my patient and sent many, many patients to my Podiatry practice. We would laugh and giggle and talk food of course! When my own mom moved in with us, she and I wanted to make a recipe from Dickies cookbook....no way could we work with the phyllo dough. I called Dickie and the next day, an entourage of Yia-Yia’s came to my home (including Paula and our mutual hairdresser). The laughter, excitement and the making of food brought a group of 12 people together on that Sunday. This is one of my favorite memories of some very special people who are now angels looking down on us. I loved your mother and our last visit she hugged me and whispered good-bye....tears rolled down my cheeks, I knew then, I wasn’t going to see her again. With heartfelt sympathy and all my love, may she Rest In Peace. Dr. Diane Lebedeff

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**Diane Lebedeff** - January 14, 2022 at 08:00 AM

CM

My mom enjoyed that day at your home, sharing recipes and cooking advice with family and friends. My son told me about the tearful goodbye between you and mom at that last visit. Thank for your kind words and all the joy you brought her. She treasured your friendship. Christina Mayhew

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**Christina Mayhew** - May 03, 2022 at 11:17 AM

CP

“ I have so many fond memories, as a kid, of going to see my Nona at Christmas time. And later on seeing her when back from Switzerland to visit the family. Seeing her was always refreshing as her exuberance was contagious and she was always so fun to be around. I’ll never forget her beautiful voice when she sang at our stateside wedding!! All my love and condolences to Paula and Christina.

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**Chris Poletis** - January 14, 2022 at 03:40 AM

CM

*Thank you, my mom would be so happy to hear your kind words. Our families shared so many good times over the years. My mom loved being able to spend time with you and your family when you visited from Switzerland. Singing, cooking and family were her passions!*

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**Christina Mayhew** - May 03, 2022 at 11:51 AM

MS

*“ I loved Dickie and her kindness throughout the years. She was dedicated to her Cathedral and sweet family, and her wisdom, smile and enthusiasm were points of inspiration. Dickie's Greek cookbook is legendary.*

*May her memory be eternal! My love to Paula, Christina and their families.*

*Melody Simmons*

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**Melody Simmons** - January 13, 2022 at 04:42 PM

CM

*My mom had looked forward to working with you at events at the Cathedral and had many fond memories. Thank you for taking the time to share, I am sure my mom would appreciate it! Christina Mayhew*

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**Christina Mayhew** - May 03, 2022 at 12:00 PM

TB

*“ We worked many years together selling Dickie's cookbook, and what a fun and learning experience those years were! Dickie was a perfectionist and passionate not only about her cookbook but her church, her family and just about everything she put her hand to.*

*She will be so missed! We send our love and condolences to Paula, Christina and all the family. May her memory be eternal.*

*Titsa & Manny Bronstein*

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**Titsa & Manny Bronstein** - January 13, 2022 at 04:07 PM

CM

*My mom loved all the beautiful staging you did every year when we sold her cookbook! She appreciated your friendship and creativity. Thank you for all the fond memories.*

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**Christina C Mayhew** - May 03, 2022 at 11:42 AM

AS

“ *Miss Dickie was like a second mother to many of us in Goya....Brings back many memories of our time then! She was very knowledgeable and a super sweet lady!! May her memory be eternal!!! Love and hugs to Paula & Christina!!*

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**Angie Stavrakis** - January 13, 2022 at 04:01 PM

CM

*Thank you, Angie. My mom treasured all those memories when she was an advisor to her Jr. Goya kids. She loved all of you! Christina Mayhew*

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**Christina Mayhew** - May 03, 2022 at 11:34 AM

PN

“ *I am saddened by the loss of Thea Dickie. Memories of her go back to my early childhood, and through my entire life, she always seemed to have a bright smile, and always seemed positive and happy. Thea Dickie had such determination and energy to stay involved with the church that she loved and its people even when it became difficult to do. She will live on in our memories with love. May her memory be eternal.*

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**Pam Nopulos** - January 13, 2022 at 03:53 PM

LS

“ Dickie and Otts were warm and wonderful neighbors when I first came to Baltimore as Mrs. Peter John Prevas in 1966. They were both deeply involved at Annunciation with their children in so many ways. Each brought sunshine, spiritual light and happiness into our lives in the community. .May their memory be eternal.

Loretta Prevas Siotka

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**Loretta Prevas Siotka** - January 13, 2022 at 03:42 PM

FN

“ Dickie's enthusiasm for life was contagious. She had a beautiful soprano voice and was a wonderful addition to the Annunciation Cathedral Choir. She will be missed. May her memory be eternal.  
Love,  
Flfi Nichols

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**Fotini Nichols** - January 13, 2022 at 03:30 PM

EP

“ I am so sorry to hear of Dickie's passing. She was a wonderful dedicated church lady who took great pride in our Church's cookbook. May her memory be eternal!

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**Elizabeth Petrides** - January 13, 2022 at 03:24 PM

CP

I'm so sad to have heard that my Nona has passed away. I have so many sweet memories of seeing her at Christmas time when I was a kid and of course after, when I would return home from Switzerland to visit the family. I'll never forget her wonderful voice singing at our wedding in the States. She was a wonderful and caring Nona! My sincere love and condolences to Christina and Paula. ❤️  
Chris

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**Chris Poletis** - January 13, 2022 at 04:13 PM

AB

“ So many memories of when we were all kids with my Mom and your Mom and Dad. So much life spent together in Church events and family events. We are losing the greatest generation of Greek Orthodox Americans that there will ever be. Sending love to you (Paula and Christina) and your families. May her memory be eternal.

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**Aritee Bond** - January 13, 2022 at 03:23 PM

CM

*My mom and dad enjoyed all the times our families spent together over the years. Really does go way back! My mom appreciated all the support and assistance you and Bill gave her when she was selling the cookbook at the festivals. It's nice for everyone to share memories of my mom. Christina Mayhew*

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**Christina Mayhew** - May 03, 2022 at 12:15 PM

KM

“ So sorry to hear about Miss Dickie's passing. She was a lovely lady, and I recall her match-making efforts on my behalf when we traveled to Virginia Beach and stayed with your Thea. Watching the two of them bickering was too funny! Zoe se mas, Kyriakos Marudas

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**Kyriakos Marudas** - January 13, 2022 at 01:48 PM

CM

*Thank you for sharing your memories. My mom enjoyed so many good times with you and your family, which included your trip to VA Beach. She loved talking to your mom on the phone many a morning and cooking dishes to bring to your parents and Yia Yia. They shared a special friendship. Christina Mayhew*

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**Christina Mayhew** - May 03, 2022 at 12:59 PM

MP

“ So sorry to hear about Ms.Dickies passing. She was a funny, warm & smart woman. She will be missed by many. May her memory be eternal. With love, Mia, Mark, Eli and Rae

Mia Pefinis-Jensen - January 13, 2022 at 01:33 PM

VS

Dickie was a wonderful women who did a lot for our community and was a positive force with all she did. Quite a legacy with her time, efforts and scrutiny of the recipes for her leadership with our community cookbooks. May she Rest In Peace

vangie sakled - January 13, 2022 at 07:45 PM

VS

Vangie Sakles

vangie sakles - January 13, 2022 at 07:49 PM

RA

Dear Thea Dickie, thank youfor all the kindness you showed me over the years. I am always in awe of the grace and love in how your handled everything. Especially as a Mother few could equal you. There are no good byes, only see you later. We continue. Love, Ronnie

Ron Anthony - January 15, 2022 at 12:10 PM

CM

Ron, thank you for all you did for my mom over the years. You never hesitated to help her when she called. Mom enjoyed spending time with you and cherished all the memories. Christina Mayhew

Christina Mayhew - May 03, 2022 at 12:20 PM

JS

*To Dickie's Family -*

*I am lucky to have known Dickie and am grateful you told me of her passing. She was open and caring as a person and we had many nice discussions when I would come to work for her. It was easy to relax with her, whatever we were doing, and when she told me about her recipe book that she wrote, I was always impressed with her love of her heritage and her devotion to keeping it alive. She was someone who was easy to get to know thoroughly as she embraced every moment of her life.*

*Julie Sarro*

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**Julie Sarro** - June 29, 2022 at 10:25 PM