

DOROTHY DOAN

“There was a job to do,
and so we did it.”



HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR
NURSE VETERAN

Dorothy was born on a farm near Komoka, Ontario in 1915. Her path to a distinguished career in healthcare began when she graduated from the Strathroy Hospital School of Nursing in 1935 and became a Registered Nurse. In 1942 she began serving with the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps, stationing in South Africa, Egypt, and Italy throughout the Second World War and attaining the rank of Captain as a Nursing Sister. Upon returning to Canada she enrolled at the University of Toronto, completing a course in Administration of Nursing Service in 1954. In 1960 she completed a Canadian Hospital Association course in Hospital Organization and Management by correspondence while working in Strathroy. In addition to working at Toronto Western Hospital, Dorothy was Superintendent of Strathroy Hospital and was integral to the funding, design, and construction of the new Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital, where she would remain as Executive Director until her retirement in 1981.

The above quote attributed to Dorothy was her matter-of-fact recollection of the dangers of nursing during WWII, and reflects the focused, pragmatic leadership she is remembered for. This determined attitude led Dorothy to become one of the first Canadian women to attain a fellowship in the American College of Hospital Administrators. Dorothy passed away in 2006, leaving behind a legacy of volunteer work and constant, caring service demonstrating her character as a person of exceptional integrity.



IN ARDUIS FIDELIS