

Christine Gregory White

Obituary (4 August 1917 - 6 January 2007)

Christine Gregory White, 89, died Saturday, January 6, 2007 at her home in West Point. Services are Tuesday at 2 p.m. at First Christian Church with the Rev. Sonny Wray officiating. Burial will follow at Greenwood Cemetery in West Point. Visitation is today from 5-8 p.m. at Calvert Funeral Home. The body will be at the church one hour prior to services.

Ms. White was born Aug. 4, 1917, in Okolona to the late Zula Pope Gregory and Andrew Jackson Gregory. She was a member of First Christian Church where she was a Sunday school teacher. She served as president of West Point Women's Culture Club. She graduated with honors from Mississippi State College for Women in 1938. She began teaching math first in Okolona and then in Pontotoc.

In 1939, she was employed by the West Point public school system to teach mathematics and she taught until 1965 and received numerous honors and awards. In 1965, she was recruited by Mississippi University for Women as a professor of mathematics and she taught there until 1982 with many honors and recognitions. Mrs. White was granted a lifetime membership to Phi Kappa Phi, a society of academic excellence, Delta Kappa Gamma, an honorary teacher organization, Phi Kappa Delta and Professor Emeritus at Mississippi University for Women.

At West Point High School, she was instrumental in state-wide mathematics curriculum reform, as well as developing a range of district text books. She served on the Department of Education Committee to write the first state-wide course of study for high school mathematics. She was one of the first women selected by the Math and Science Foundation to pursue an advanced degree at the University of Florida in 1965. She was a former secretary of Mississippi Teachers of College Mathematics and Chairman of Mississippi-Louisiana Division of National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. In 1985, The Christine White Mathematics Scholarship Award was established by her former students.

She was nominated for Teacher of the Year at Mississippi University for Women, by the departments of Mathematics and Physical Science. She was inducted into the West Point Hall of Fame in 1986 for her numerous accomplishments.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brothers, Jack Gregory Sr. and Elliott Gregory. She is survived by her daughters, Andrea White of Knoxville, Tenn., and Christine White Wallace of West Point; son, Donald Gregory White of Gainesville, Va.; and nine grandchildren, Bill Sugg III, Nicole Randall, Gregory Sugg, Jack Randall, IV, Christine Andrea Baird, Benjamin Gregory White, Stephen Richard White, Steven Carl 'Colt' Wallace, Jr., and Clara Bailey Wallace.

Pallbearers will be Jack and John Andrew Gregory, Bill and Gregory Sugg, and Benjamin and Stephen White.