

Dr. Gladys Crates

Dr. Gladys Hayes Crates, 64, joined the Holy Trinity of our Lord after a long illness with cancer Wednesday, May 23, 2007, surrounded by family.

She was a teacher, educator, humanitarian, dear friend, wife, mother and grandmother who will be deeply missed and much beloved with fond memories.



Born Feb. 15, 1943, in Kitchner, Ontario, Canada, she lived most of her life in Chattanooga. She was proud of her birth country and was a devoted member of her home community for over 40 years. After attending Girls Preparatory School and Duke University, Gladys received both a bachelor's and master's degree in mathematics from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and a doctorate degree in educational administration and supervision from the University of Tennessee. She began her teaching career in 1973 and retired in 2005 from Chattanooga State Technical Community College as dean, arts and sciences division. Devoted to the classroom and mathematics education, she pioneered basic algebra television courses at Chatta-

nooga State and was instrumental in development of innovative teaching techniques and course curriculum. She was honored for her dedication to students, teachers and teaching with the College's Debbie Waggoner "Above and Beyond" Award for sustained excellence over her 30-year career in education. Gladys was published and made numerous presentations with respect to the education of mathematics, including basic mathematics programs for local public television, course development for the Tennessee Valley Authority Nuclear Operations Training Program, and other teaching innovations.

A lifelong Episcopalian, she had great passion for her church, St. Paul's Episcopal. She was active in the Alter Guild, DOC Program, served on the vestry, and retired only recently as treasurer when her health would not allow her to continue. As a board member and volunteer for numerous service organizations, Gladys contributed to many diverse causes. As president of the In-As-Much Mission, she helped serve the homeless and the needy, and she was actively involved in many educational groups and cultural endeavors, including the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association Women's Council, the Girls Club and the annual Riverbend Festival. As an outreach commitment of her faith and devotion to education, Dr. Crates participated in Brainerd Presbyterian Church's Uganda Children's Project by providing scholarships for the education of two young Ugandan children. Her former associates, friends and grandchildren were proud to honor Gladys by establishing an academic scholarship in her name at Chattanooga State as a testament to her commitment to students and the teaching profession.

A lifelong independent thinker and spirit, a polyglot of differing circles of friends whom she treasured deeply, a frequent traveler to experience and learn about different cultures and people around the world, Gladys lived life to its fullest and continues to be a blessing to many. A committed and loving wife to her best friend and husband Bobby, a proud mother who provided support and a constancy of love for her children, an adoring "Gamma" to her grandchildren who brought her much joy, Gladys will be fondly remembered for the goodness of her ways.

Survivors include husband, Retired Rear Adm. Robert C. Crates; sons, Robert B. (Leigh) Crates, of Fort Worth, Texas, and Dr. John M. (Angela) Crates, of Plano, Texas; four grandchildren, Chandler, Cameron, Campbell and Will; brother, Alan, and sister, Ellie, and their spouses; nieces and nephews; and godchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Kay and Rae Hayes.

Funeral services will be held Monday, May 28, at 4:30 p.m. in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 305 W. Seventh St.

The family will receive friends one hour before funeral time at the church.

There will be a family-only interment in the St. Paul's Labyrinth after which the family will receive friends at a reception at the church to celebrate the life of Gladys.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that consideration be made of a donation to the Gladys H. Crates Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Chattanooga State Foundation, 4501 Amnicola Highway, Chattanooga, TN 37406; St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 305 W. Seventh St., Chattanooga, TN 37402; Chattanooga Area Food Bank, 20089 Curtain Pole Road, Chattanooga, TN 37406; or a charity of your choice.

The family wishes blessings for the clergy of St. Paul's and Hospice of Chattanooga for their outstanding love and care.

Condolences may be sent at www.heritagefh.com.

Arrangements are by Heritage Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 7454 East Brainerd Road.