IN MEMORIAM

MARY EVELYN BUICE ALDERSON

Dr. Mary Evelyn Buice Alderson, Retired Associate Professor in the Department of Kinesiology and Health Education, died Saturday, December 25, 1993, at age 85. She was a resident of the Retirement and Nursing Center in Austin and had suffered for several years from Parkinson's Disease. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. C.J. (Shorty) Alderson, Associate Professor Emeritus, who died August 31, 1970. They are buried in the Austin Memorial Park.

Dr. Alderson was born January 30, 1908, in Hillsboro, Texas, to Joseph Baxter Buice and Emma Rogers Buice. She attended public schools in Hillsboro and graduated as valedictorian from Hillsboro Junior College. She received the bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of North Texas in Denton and the Doctor of Education Degree from The University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Alderson served for 44 years in the teaching profession. She was teacher of Grades 3 to 7 at Mountain Springs, Hill County, Texas, from 1927 to 1929; principal and teacher of Grades 4 to 7 at Jessie Hill School in 1929-30; teacher at Hillsboro High School and Hillsboro Junior College from 1931 to 1942; and teacher of health and physical education at Mississippi State College for Women from 1942 to 1946. She joined the faculty of the Department of Physical and Health Education, as it was know then, at The University of Texas and served until her retirement in 1973.

Her primary responsibility during her 27 years on the faculty was teaching courses for the women undergraduate majors in physical education and supervising them in student teaching. While she was effective in the classroom, her principal contribution to their development was counseling them in individual conferences. Her students have had successful careers as teachers and/or administrators in the elementary and secondary schools and in colleges and universities to include those in The University of Texas System. There have been few teachers who were better liked and more highly respected. This is evidenced by comments made by her former students in attendance at her funeral and others earlier in December during the state convention in Galveston of the Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance, an organization for which she served as President.

After her retirement she pursued a second career in painting that she had begun earlier. She studied in Austin and at various places in and outside the United States and became a highly respected artist. Her paintings were exhibited at many trade shows, and she was successful in selling them.

In addition to being an outstanding teacher, she made significant contributions through professional associations at the state, district, and national levels. She served as an officer and on committees and participated on convention programs for the Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance; the American Alliance and Southern District
Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance; and the National and Southern District Associations for Physical Education of College Women. She was also affiliated with the American School Health Association; National Recreation Association; National Education Association; National Society for College Teachers of Education; American Association of University Professors; American Association for University Women; and Texas State Teachers Association. She served in numerous capacities with the American Red Cross and the Girl Scouts of America and was active in the Presbyterian Church.

Dr. Alderson received many honors in recognition for her services. She was elected to membership in Kappa Delta Pi, Pi Lambda Theta, and Delta Kappa Gamma. She was listed in *Who’s Who of American Women* and *Who’s Who in American Education*. She was the recipient of the Honor Awards from the Southern Association for Physical Education of College Women; American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance; Southern District Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance; and Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance.
This Memorial Resolution was prepared by a special committee consisting of Professors Lynn W. McCraw (Chair), Mary Lou A. LeCompte, and Waneen W. Spirduso.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Book


Articles


*Scale for Evaluation of the Undergraduate Professional Program in Physical Education*, published by the author, Austin, Texas, 1952.


