IN MEMORIAM

MARY VIRGINIA DRYDEN

Mary Virginia Dryden was born on January 27, 1913, in Montgomery City, Missouri. She graduated from high school in Crescent Springs, Kentucky. She received her B.A. degree from Mt. St. Joseph College, Mt. St. Joseph, Ohio, in June 1934.

She received her M.Ed. degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1941, majoring in administration, psychology and scientific methods. She was a nursing graduate of Good Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing in Cincinnati in 1935.

Virginia was registered to practice nursing in the states of Ohio, Illinois, Arizona, Louisiana, Washington, South Dakota and Texas. She was a member of the American Nurses Association, the National League for Nursing and AAUP.

During her professional career, Virginia worked as a general duty nurse in Cincinnati and in Lafayette, Louisiana, as an instructor in nursing at St. Joseph Hospital in Phoenix and at the Lubbock Sanitarium in Lubbock, Texas. For a brief period she was Dean of the School of Nursing at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington. She also served as Director of the School of Nursing at St. Francis Sanitarium in Monroe, Louisiana, and Director of Nurses at St. Joseph Hospital in Mitchell, South Dakota.

Virginia was first appointed to The University of Texas faculty in Galveston as Assistant Professor in 1948. In 1951 she was promoted to Associate Professor. For a brief period in the late 1950's she served as Assistant Dean of the School of Nursing. She transferred to the Austin campus in 1967 and served as graduate adviser and taught curriculum and
instruction until her retirement in 1973. In 1968 she edited the book *Nursing Trends*, which was widely received at the time.

Virginia was respected and admired by her students for her knowledge and teaching abilities in curriculum and instruction. She is remembered for her sense of humor, love of teaching and joy in the achievements of her students. She is also remembered for her love of nature and animals.

An excerpt from her written response to the honors accorded her at her retirement, at which time she was appointed Associate Professor Emeritus, reflects some of her spirit and philosophy:

> A school is a mix of many persons and times. You, my students, colleagues, and students who have become colleagues must share the credit for what we have achieved, for that achievement has been possible only through our mutual endeavor. Whatever I have contributed in that endeavor has been freely given. I have immense confidence and faith in the human spirit, uniquely represented in each of you. What I have sought to do is to free that spirit to achieve to the fullest its proper destiny. My consistent intent has been to engage you in a true partnership for learning and development. This, in my view, is the essence of teaching.

Virginia retired to Lafayette, Louisiana. She lived there until her death on August 5, 1985.
This Memorial Resolution was prepared by a Special Committee consisting of Professors William E. Field, Jr. (Chairman), Jerry N. Blaylock, Mitzi I. Dreher.