

Marjorie Jordan Wilson Andrea

Date of Birth: December 12, 1922
Date of Death: May 29, 2012
Country of Birth: United States
Place of Birth: Asheville, NC
Place of Death: Midlothian, TX



Memberships:

Texas Retired Teachers Association

Audubon Society

American Mensa, Ltd.

University of North Carolina Chapel Hill alumni

Montreat College NC alumni

The Writers' Group, Fun-N-Sun, San Benito, TX

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, Lubbock, former member

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Lubbock, former member

All Saints' Episcopal Church, San Benito, TX, former member

St. Paul Episcopal Church, Waxahachie, TX

Biography: Marjorie Jordan Wilson Andrea, 89, died of natural causes at home in Midlothian, Texas, on May 29, 2012, surrounded by her family.

A Memorial Service and Celebration of Life reception will be held on Saturday, June 30, 2012, at 11 a.m., at St. Paul Episcopal Church, 624 Ovilla Road at Highway 287, Waxahachie, TX.

Marjorie Wilson Andrea not only touched lives but changed them with her generous and compassionate heart. She inspired others with her passion and faith to make a difference in the world just as she did. Her quick wit and love of learning endured throughout her life.

Marjorie's greatest legacy, besides her friends and family, was her 16 years at Coronado High School in Lubbock where she taught journalism and publications. She and her students consistently produced the award-winning Crest newspapers and El Viajero yearbooks, including best newspaper in Texas for all schools of all sizes. Her former students cared about and loved her, regularly keeping in touch. Many followed in her footsteps to help young people themselves, some becoming journalists and teachers.

She was born in Asheville, North Carolina, on December 12, 1922, and graduated from high school at age 16. She completed her associates degree at Montreat College in Montreat, NC, before becoming a Tar Heel at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She earned her bachelor's degree in journalism in 1946 and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa academic honor society. Nicknamed "Scoop" for her talent of getting the story, Marjorie Jordan worked as a print news reporter for the Fayetteville (NC) Observer and the Winston-Salem (NC) Observer.

In 1951, Marjorie married newspaper journalist William C. "Bill" Wilson with whom she had 3 children: Jan, John and Joan. She was widowed in 1988 and married Ray Andrea in 1994. Mr. Andrea died in 2005. They lived in Fun N Sun at Hibiscus 214.

She began teaching English and journalism in Fort Stockton, Texas, in 1962. She completed her master's degree in English in 1970 by commuting 140 miles round-trip regularly to Sul Ross State University in Alpine and maintaining all "A" grades in her courses while raising three children under age 10.

As a publications sponsor in Lubbock, Marjorie Wilson lead state and national high school journalism organizations, including serving as president of the Texas Association of Journalism Directors and as co-editor for 2 years of the National Journalism Educators magazine. In 1975, the publications she sponsored won one of top six newspapers nationwide and one of top four yearbooks nationwide - the first time a school won both awards in the same year. She was also a nationally recognized speaker, writer and workshop presenter; and a life member of Mensa.

An active member in the Presbyterian Church from infancy through college, Marjorie joined the Episcopal Church upon marriage. She served in numerous congregations on the altar guild, vestry and women's groups; taught Sunday school; and in 1976, was licensed as one of the first two women lay readers and chalice bearers in the Northwest Texas Diocese. She was a lay eucharistic minister for 27 years. She read the Bible daily and completed a yearly reading of the entire book 18 times.

After 20 years teaching, Marjorie Wilson retired from the Lubbock Independent School District to the Rio Grande Valley, Texas, in 1984. She then travelled throughout the U.S. in an RV, and to Israel, Greece, Turkey, Canada, Mexico, Hawaii, and on numerous cruises of the Caribbean. In San Benito and Harlingen, Texas, she tutored elementary school students for 11 years and served on the boards of both the food pantry and family crisis center. Marjorie also enjoyed bird watching, reading, writing, square dancing, making crafts, and loving on her cat, Charlie.

Marjorie Wilson Andrea is survived by her children - Jan and husband Richard Norton of Lubbock, John Wilson and fiancée Laurie Bush of Durango, Colorado, Joan and husband Mike Burnard of Midlothian with whom she lived for the past 4 years, and stepson Philip Andrea of Aventura, Florida; grandchildren - Jeff, Jody and Denna Burnard; great grandchildren - Brittany and Joseph Burnard; great-great grandchild Ebony Burnard; nephews and nieces; great nieces and great nephews; caregiver Kathy Clark; and her loving church family at St. Paul Episcopal Church in Waxahachie, Texas.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband William Charles "Bill" Wilson in 1988; husband Ray Andrea in 2005; and brothers Bill Jordan, formerly of Marion, North Carolina, and Milton Jordan, formerly of Sarasota, Florida

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests gifts in her honor to St. Paul Episcopal Church at <http://www.spcwax.org> or the LEAP Foundation, which provides free surgical care to children and adults born with deformities at <http://www.leap-foundation.org>.