



Evelyn R. Martin

April 3, 2016

Evelyn Jean Rolfs Martin was born to Dorothy Gertrude (Yarwood) Rolfs and Richard August Rolfs on July 25, 1927 in the farm home in Glenwood Township, Winneshiek County, Iowa. She was baptized at Decorah Lutheran Church and confirmed at Burr Oak Lutheran Church. She died on February 8, 2016 at Haven Hospice in Gainesville, FL.

She attended rural one-room elementary schools in Calmar and Burr Oak Townships and graduated from Decorah High School in 1946. After two years at Luther College in Decorah, IA, she taught two years elementary school in Calmar. She earned her BA at Luther College in 1951, with majors in English and Elementary Education and a minor in History.

After teaching third grade in New Hampton, IA, she was hired to teach dependent children at an Army post near Dexheim, Germany in 1953-54. She taught in a two-room school with grades four through six. In 1954-55 she shared teaching selected classes for seventh and eighth graders at the Mainz American School.

She married 1LT Jack Martin, Army Corps of Engineers in a civil ceremony in Wiesbaden, Germany on January 29, 1955 and a church ceremony in Dexheim on February 19, 1955. After their time in Germany, the family lived in Massachusetts, Alabama, Virginia, Nebraska, Hawaii, Texas, and Florida

while raising their sons John, Richard, David, Scott and Jeffrey. She was largely responsible for providing continuity and stability during the fifteen family moves in 20 years. Her first priority was putting up pictures and curtains – then it was “home” again.

After their years as a military family, the family moved to Gainesville, FL in 1975 where the children attended high school and the University of Florida while their father taught at UF’s School of Building Construction. Then in 2004 they moved into Oak Hammock, a local retirement community.

Over the years, she participated in her children’s activities in scouting, athletics and school. She taught Sunday School in Hawaii, Texas, and at First Lutheran Church in Gainesville. Major adult activities included church librarian, Bethel Series bible teacher, altar guild, and docent at the Florida State Museum of Natural History.

Besides sewing, her personal interests included calligraphy, painting, gardening and reading.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years and their sons and wives, John and Susan, Richard and Cathie, David and Mary, Scott and Caroline, Jeffrey and Maren. There are three grand-children, three step-grandchildren, and five step-great-grandchildren. Her sisters are Louise Rolfs and Margaret Jeche of Rochester, MN.

A memorial service will be held at First Lutheran Church, 1801 NW 5th Ave, Gainesville at 11:00 AM on February 20, 2016. Burial will be in Fort Lauderdale at a later date. Expressions of sympathy may be made to First Lutheran Church of Gainesville, FL 32603 for the Child Development Center. Arrangements are by Forest Meadows Funeral Home (352) 378-2528.

Tribute Wall

RJ

“ You also have a wonderful family1
May you rest in peace with the Lord!
Ricardo Morales, Jr.

Ricardo Morales, Jr. - September 11, 2023 at 04:44 PM