



Nancy Elizabeth Van Voorhis

May 2, 2022 - October 28, 2009

Nancy Elizabeth (Moss) VanVoorhis
Winfield, AL-Nancy Elizabeth (Moss) VanVoorhis, age 87, of Winfield, AL, formerly of Mattoon, IL, passed away on Wednesday, October 28, 2009 at the Golden Living Center in Winfield, AL.
The funeral service in her honor will begin at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, November 3, 2009 at the First United Methodist Church in Mattoon, IL with Reverend Ken Hutchins and Reverend Julia Melgreen officiating. Interment will be in VanVoorhis Cemetery, Hindsboro, IL . Visitation will be held Monday evening from 5:00-7:00 p.m., at Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938.
Mrs. VanVoorhis was born May 2, 1922, in Charleston, IL, the daughter of Alva Theodore and Nancy Elizabeth (Cuppy) Moss, both deceased. She married Ned F. VanVoorhis on September 7, 1946 in Arcola, IL. He passed away July 5, 2005. Survivors include their daughter and son in law, Susan and Dr. W.S. 'Bill' Konetzki of Winfield, AL; four grandchildren: Katrina E. Jackson of Crystal Lake, IL, Michelle Cates of Winfield, AL, Vanessa N. Aceto of Chicago, IL, and Alexander Konetzki of Chicago, IL; great grandchildren, Holden and Gabriel Cates, and Graham and Elizabeth Jackson; a brother, Harold Moss of Charleston, IL; a sister Tyrenne Howrey (103 years old) of Champaign, IL; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband and parents, Mrs. VanVoorhis was preceded in death by a son, Timothy E. VanVoorhis, a brother, Paul Moss, and a sister, Katheryn Hodge.
Elizabeth was a resident of Mattoon, IL most of her life, graduated from Eastern Illinois University with a Bachelors and Masters

Degree; was head of the Music Department at Lakeland College; served as Choral Director for the Mattoon High School; and founded with her daughter Susan, the VanVoorhis School of Music. Elizabeth was member of the First United Methodist Church of Mattoon, IL since 1967, where she served as organist and choir director. \r\nMemorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church Music Fund, 1601 Charleston Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938 or CCAR Industries, 1530 Lincoln Avenue, Charleston, IL 61920.\r\nPlease visit www.mitchell-jerdan.com to light a virtual candle in her honor or share a memory with her family.\r\n

Tribute Wall



“ *Nancy Elizabeth Van Voorhis*

October 08, 2023 at 07:40 PM



“ *Took private voice & piano lessons from Mrs Van Voorhis 1979-1982....she prepared me for a 4 yr college. She was stern but sweet at the same time. She was 1 of the greats!! Moved away from Central IL in 1994 & just moved back...checked for her online so I could say hello.*

Gary Elzy - October 23, 2021 at 09:19 PM

TG

“ Mrs. VanVoorhis was the Chorus Teacher at Tuscola High School in the early 1960s. She was incredible. We all loved her as a teacher, but perhaps more importantly as a person. She squeezed every drop of talent out of us; which in my case was not much -- but she managed to put 8 of us together in a Men's Double Ensemble. Now that all that time has passed, I guess it's okay to say we were pretty good. I remember lots of "extra" performances at Rotary, Women's Club and the like; as well as many TCHS events. I remember doing secular music, but many of our songs were religious too. Knowing how much those experiences, and the fellowship with my Brothers in Song (and Mrs. VanVoorhis) meant to me; I am very disappointed that America has allowed a few to influence the removal of our Christian roots from schools and their programs. I loved Mrs. VanVoorhis. She took a bunch of jocks and instilled in us a thrilling love of music and close harmony. Singing with those guys (and in the full mixed chorus too) was one of the highlights of my life. I have great memories of winning the Conference Championship in Football but winning awards and entertaining our families and friends in song is equally memorable -- all thanks to Mrs. VanVoorhis. Knowing that she continued to positively influence people the rest of her life is a blessing to me. I know without doubt that I am a better human being today because she was willing to squeeze some talent out of me that I didn't know I had. There is a country song, "Blue Tatoo", with these words: "Someday when I'm dead and gone, to Heaven the land of my dreams; I ain't gonna worry on losin' my job to bad times or big machines. I ain't gonna pay my money away to dues or hospital plans; I'm gonna pick coal where to blue Heavens roll, and SING WITH THE ANGEL BAND, just SING WITH THE ANGEL BAND!" Imagine how much better Heaven's music is today, with Elizabeth VanVoorhis there! Thanks for sharing her with us.

Tom Grubb - December 06, 2009 at 10:11 PM

SS

“ Susan-We were so sorry to learn of your mother's passing. She wore many hats and wore them well. Your mom lit up a room when she walked in. We are losing this generation of wonderful parents. We are thinking of you and your family as you say goodbye to a wonderful mother, grandmother, teacher, mentor, role model, and friend. Love, Steve and Connie Shrader

Stephen and Connie Shrader - November 04, 2009 at 12:03 PM