



Mrs. Gayle Jordan Doran

October 2, 1939 - September 25, 2019

Mrs. Gayle Jordan Doran, 79, of Albany died Wednesday Sept 25, 2019 at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital.

The family will receive friends Friday from 5:00 to 7:00PM at Kimbrell-Stern.

Born in Shellman, GA and grew up in Cuthbert, GA, Mrs. Doran taught school for 30 years at Deerfield-Windsor School. She enjoyed Braves Baseball, Golf and Tennis. Mrs. Doran also loved to travel and spending time at the beach house in Jacksonville, FL.

She was preceded in death by her parents Oliver and Mickey Jordan; her husband Jim Doran.

Survivors include her son Chris Doran and Pilar of Gainesville, FL; a daughter Stacey Doran of Albany; her grandchildren Gavin Doran, Chase Doran, Allen Folsom and Christopher Folsom; a sister Sandra South of Jacksonville Beach, FL.

Cemetery

Events

Crown Hill Cemetery
Albany

SEP 27 Visitation 05:00PM - 07:00PM
Kimbrell-Stern
1503 Dawson Road, Albany, GA, US, 31707

Comments



“ I remember Mrs. Doran teaching me Biology in 10th grade at Deerfield Windsor back in the 80s. She was good teacher and tough. You really had to know your stuff and you could not fake it with her. She taught at a college level and she expected college level effort! I remember her attending some of the tennis matches that me and her son would go to, and I always remember her as warm and intelligent person. So sorry to hear of her passing.

David Sims - November 10, 2019 at 10:58 AM



“ Stacy and Chris: Warm thoughts and condolences. Your mother had a profound and positive impact on the lives of so many of us at DWS, and lessons I learned from her continue to shape me as a person and as an educator.
David Coleman

David Coleman - October 02, 2019 at 11:18 AM



“ Dear Stacey,

You are one of my former students from Deerfield-Windsor School during the 1980s who I have not found and caught up with on social media. When I heard of your mother's passing away, I thought of you and the grief you are experiencing in this time of loss and celebration of her life. I will pray for you, your brother, and other family members during this time. Your mother, Mrs. Gayle Doran, was a good friend and mentor to me as a young teacher at DWS in the eight years I was in Albany: four years in the 80s and four in the 90s. As Academic Dean, she taught me her "Be Ready (BR)" method of teaching, which I still use today in my AP classes. She helped make me the educator I am today. However, I don't think I have made as profound of an impact as she made on her students. I am very sad to hear of this news and now regret that I have been out of touch with her and you for so many years. If you are so inclined, my personal email is bensongcrawford@gmail.com if you would like to get back in touch with me and my family. Sincerely, Benson Crawford

Benson Crawford - September 29, 2019 at 10:00 AM



“ I know I wasn't the first, or the last, student to walk into Mrs. Doran's biology room suffering from adolescence. Carrying around unhealthy shame, not sure where my boundaries existed apart from peers, and a general lack of comfort and confidence in who I was, all seemed to disappear in her presence and in her class. Everyone was welcomed, everyone was safe, everyone was respected, and everyone knew the path to success- Be Ready! This almost daily effort toward the next B.R. would pave the way for success later. She allowed one drop out of five which demonstrated her acceptance of our imperfections. One bad day on a B.R. did not knock you off your game.

She is THE reason I majored in Biology. It was the one subject where I felt a connection which would not have existed otherwise. It is not that I struggled in other subjects, or even that I didn't have talents toward other subjects. I just didn't have connection with any other subject. Teaching students a healthy dynamic with learning is where the master teacher makes an impact. In the safety of Mrs. Doran's room, I could try hard and not fear failure. I was respected for who I was, even though I felt so inadequate with life. Learning was my responsibility, and I had to earn my success. Underlying all of that, is her most compelling quality. Mrs. Doran had a way of making you want to step toward her, yet she was quick to meet you where you were. She was a person who made you want to be better, yet unconditionally loved and accepted you as you are. She was eager to get beside you on your journey as soon as you took the first step. And the journey with Mrs. Doran would continued well after senior biology. Following graduation, Mrs. Doran was there to offer wisdom during a difficult breakup, guide me toward summer employment, and meet us in Atlanta for a Jimmy Buffett concert. How cool is that?

It is impossible to exactly measure how well a life is lived. The total impact we may have on others will never be known. With Gayle Doran, while we cannot comprehend the totality of her impact, we do know that she made people better. She loved life in a grounded, balanced manner that inspires us and helps us keep things in perspective. I am grateful for knowing her and I pray for her impact to continue blessing Chris, Stacey, her grandchildren, and the thousands of DWS students so lucky to have had her.

Greg Griffeth
Class of 1988

Gregory F Griffeth - September 27, 2019 at 01:12 PM



“ My condolences to the family. I hope you know how much she was loved by the many students she taught throughout the years at Deerfield. I am from the class of '78 and I thought very highly of her. God bless you Mrs Doran. Thank you for sharing with us your wonderful gift as a teacher.

Marvin Peck - September 27, 2019 at 09:14 AM



“ Gayle Doran was an incredible teacher and friend. She was passionate about her profession and her students. Classroom time was serious, but she had a endearing sense of humor and never hesitated to use it in the perfect moment or to offer a smile or hug when one was needed. Gayle was a favorite of the Deerfield Class of 77, going on several trips with us. All of her students owe a great debt to her family for sharing her time with her with all of her students. Thank you! You must be so proud of your Mom knowing what a tremendous impact she had on the lives of so many young impressionable students.

Judge John M. Stephenson
Dougherty State Court

John M. Stephenson - September 27, 2019 at 06:59 AM



“ While I had many great teachers at Deerfield, Mrs. Doran was by far the most impactful to my life. In 10th grade biology class, she was out for a few days and came back to share with pure excitement about her trip to the "Body Farm" in TN. (Patricia Cornwell wrote a book about the place.) I remember vividly her talking about what they do there and how exciting it was from a scientific standpoint. It was in THAT class that things in my world finally made sense. I developed a passion for Forensic Science (before it became popular). I went to FSU and got a degree from one of the top 3 Criminology programs in the country. And for several years, I worked in a related field. Though I work in a different field today, I am still passionate about Forensics ... all because of my Amazing Biology teacher. I think of her often and have shared many times about that pivotal class that changed the course of my life. We will certainly miss you, Mrs. Doran! One of a kind!

Lindsey Hill c/o 2000 - September 26, 2019 at 08:39 PM



“ I am sorry to learn of the death of Mrs. Doran. Her study strategies helped our daughter. I am grateful for her teaching and her life. Elaine Gurley

elaine - September 26, 2019 at 05:49 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Gayle Jordan Doran.



September 26, 2019 at 03:34 PM



“ Donna Cook lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Gayle Jordan Doran



Donna Cook - September 26, 2019 at 10:04 AM



“ Thoughts and prayers go out to your family. I knew your mom but worked with your dad at The Hartford. We played a lot of tennis on Fridays. They were both wonderful people.

Randy Tucker - September 26, 2019 at 10:01 AM



“ Mrs. Doran was the best teacher at Deerfield! I took Sr. Biology from her in 1975. My lab partner and I somehow made her laugh every day. She will be missed. Sympathy and prayers to your family.
Dinah Pritchett Phillips

Dinah Phillips - September 26, 2019 at 08:26 AM



“ Chris, Stacy and family, Mrs . Doran was a wonderful teacher and she inspired me to want to take Senior Biology. The BR's taught me a lot about self-discipline. I have thought of her so often over the years. She made the classroom experience fun and I am so sad that I did not get to visit with her again. She will be remembered and missed! God bless your family during this sad time, Chip Gresham, Class of 1983

Chip Gresham - September 25, 2019 at 11:13 PM



“ Gayle was a wonderful teacher for my children, peer for me as a teacher, and employee for W. T. Above all that, she was a dear friend to all of us through the years. She will be missed!

Ruth Henry - September 26, 2019 at 10:07 AM



“ Gayle was one of those teachers that comes to mind when people ask you if you had a teacher that had a big effect on your life. Cause she did. On all of us. Unconventional, smart, funny with high expectations for every student, she was a life changer. The kind of person that opened up your world to a desire to learn. And she was also just plain fun to be around. My condolences to her family who were so lucky to have been part of such an amazing life. Robert Peacock '77

Robert K Peacock - September 27, 2019 at 10:41 PM



“ Chris, Stacy and Family, Mrs. Doran was a beloved educator who profoundly impacted untold numbers of students, me included. I have so many fond memories of her biology and senior biology classes, including many where I was not ready! Mrs. Doran set an stellar example for those of us who chose to go into education. I can only hope to leave a similar legacy with my students as she has done with all of us. Much love and continued prayers for you all.

Karen Whitfield Higgs, DWS c/o 1984

Karen Higgs - September 30, 2019 at 03:40 PM