



## Dr. Virginia Richardson Morgan Obituary

September 4, 1930 - March 18, 2014

Dr. Virginia Claire Morgan passed away on March 18, 2014, in Phoenix, Az.

Dr. Morgan was born in Albany on September 4, 1930, and was the only child of Elizabeth and Newt Richardson. She graduated from Albany High School in 1947. Four of her Albany High School classmates perished in the Weincoff Hotel fire in Atlanta the December prior to her graduation.

Dr. Morgan received her bachelor's degree from Wesleyan College in Macon. One of the highlights of her college career was working in theater production at Rabbit Run Theater in Ohio during the summer and getting to know Jessica Tandy and Hume Cronyn who were performing there. After graduation, she returned to Albany to begin her career with the Dougherty County School system. Her first assignment was teaching sixth grade at Broad Elementary. In 1959 she moved her family to a new subdivision near WALB-TV and started teaching sixth grade at Sherwood Elementary. She taught at Sherwood for five years, after which she was promoted to principal at Isabella Elementary in East Albany. She served in that position for three years and then was transferred to administration where she became the school system's first Title I director, a federal program that provides educational programs for socioeconomically disadvantaged children who need academic assistance. She served in that position until her retirement in 1995.

She left Georgia and moved to Florida and then to Arizona so she could be closer to her daughter, Claire, and her family. While working for the school system, she still managed to obtain a master's degree from Auburn University and a doctorate from Florida State University. She was the first employee of the Dougherty County School System to receive a doctorate. She published several articles and treatises describing methods to teach children how to read and comprehend. One of her coauthors was Sir E. R. Braithwaite, author of *To Sir With Love*. Her most recent publication was *The Educator* in 2012, which she co-authored with her son. A strong and independent woman, Dr. Morgan was known for her compassionate and generous spirit and selfless acts of helping others. She adored her family and showered them with love and kindness.

She is survived by her two children, Claire Jackoski, Phoenix, Az. and J. Tom Morgan, Decatur, Ga.; her son-in-law Keith and her daughter-in-law, Carol; and four grand-children: Matthew and Nickolaus Jackoski, and Caroline and John Morgan.

Dr. Morgan's ashes will be buried next to her parents in Riverside Cemetery in Albany. There will be a memorial service at 3:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Albany, May 24, 2014, to celebrate Dr. Morgan's life and her contributions to her community, her family, and the students she so passionately loved and cared for during her career as an educator in Albany.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Virginia Richardson Morgan Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 10:29 AM



“ *Dr. Virginia Richardson Morgan Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *Dr. Virginia Richardson Morgan Obituary*

December 24, 2022 at 02:54 AM



“ *Thoughts and prayers are with you and the family.*  
*Donald Parton*

**Donald Parton - Albany, GA - friend** - May 24, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear J. Tom and Claire,*  
*Your Mother was my 6th grade teacher at Sherwood. She was so kind and truly cared about each student. I did not like school and she helped me through some morning's when I would show up in tears.*  
*PrjDhPbayers and thoughts are with you and your families.*  
*Mildred Burruss*

**Mildred Crouch Burruss - GA** - May 23, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ She was a true "Southern Lady". We spent many hours visiting over the telephone. She a was loyal, consummate friend. I miss her so very much!

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**jeanette (leben) keller - tampa, FL - life-long friend** - April 26, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LN

“ Dear Claire and J Tom, We are so sorry to hear about your mother. We were your next-door neighbors on Pearl Avenue in Albany in the early 1970s. You were such good neighbors and we were very fond of all of you. We will be praying for you. I know you have good memories to comfort you. Love, Linda and Ernie

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**Linda and Ernie Culpepper - Cordele, GA - Former neighbor** - March 26, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Claire and J. Tom, So sorry to hear about your mother. She hired me as a Para in 1978 to work in a Title I Math Lab. She was a brilliant woman and I had the utmost respect for her! She was a tireless educator and wanted to see children achieve at every level. She made an impact on the lives she touched. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers. Debbie

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**Debbie TenHagen Sutton - Albany, GA - friend** - March 24, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ Mrs. Morgan was the best teacher I had throughout my school years. She taught sixth grade at Sherwood Elementary when I was her student. She was kind and compassionate. My condolences to the family.

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**Deborah Cothren - Bainbridge, GA** - March 23, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Dear Claire and J.Tom and families, I am so sorry to hear of your mother's death. She was truly the epitome of an excellent educator and a strong, independent woman. Although I know you will miss her terribly, I also know that you will be blessed with the wonderful memories. You are in my thoughts and prayers and hope that I can attend her memorial service in May. Much love, Joanne Stripling Smith

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**Joanne Stripling Smith - Chattanooga, TN - Friend of the family** - March 22, 2014  
at 12:00 AM