

About Jean Pettit Lentz



Born August 11, 1917 in Washington, D.C., she was mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, friend, teacher, musician and artist. She had lived in Willoughby for 62 years, before moving to Delaware, Ohio three years ago to be near her daughter's home.

Jean graduated from Cornell University in 1939 and received her master's degree at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. She also took courses at the University of Hawaii, attended the Le Cordon Bleu School of Cooking in Paris and the Culinary Institute of America.

Mrs. Lentz taught high school home economics and nutrition in the Willoughby-Eastlake School System for 29 years, retiring in 1978. She also counseled students and started a chef's club for boys.

Jean was a 65-year member of Willoughby United Methodist Church, where she was active in every aspect of the church family life, including as a choir member, soloist for 30 years, choir director, and children's choir director. Jean also served for more than seven years as the director of the adult and children's choirs at Mentor Plains United Methodist Church.

She loved her music, art, hooking rugs, crocheting, stained glass, oil painting, and she traveled extensively to Scandinavia, France, Italy, Israel, Australia, New Zealand and more.

Jean was a member and past-president of Delta Kappa Gamma honorary educational sorority and a member of the Kappa Alpha Theta Alumni Association. She volunteered with the Budget Counsel of Ohio Extension Service and as a grief counselor with Hospice of the Western Reserve, Inc. for several years. She was also a member and past-president of Willoughby Woman's Club, a member of Lake County Retired Teachers Association and Western Reserve Emmaus.

The LCRTA Active Teacher Grant has been created in her memory.