

Born in rural St. Tammany in 1928. (June 3)

Walked ^{about} 14 miles (round trip) daily to Pilgrim Rest School. for 3 years.

Pilgrim Rest School became consolidated and became the Lee Road Consolidated School. The Parish Line designated my having to go to the Old Covington Grammar School (Now the Central offices), in Grade 4. So from grades 4-7 I attended this school, graduating from the 7th grade. I travelled by bus to this school. There was only one bus picking up elementary and high school students.

This area of the parish was not very populated.

After 7th grade I attended Elmer E. Lyon High School. While in high school I was active in band, glee club, H-H and drama club. After high school I got a Legislative Scholarship and attended Southeastern College. I borrowed money from the St. Tammany School Board to help me get through college. The scholarship paid for textbooks only. I worked throughout college for deans and in the library. I started college majoring in music (The only piano teacher I could find to teach me when I was in high school was at St. Scholastica. I walked from Lyon High once a week to take the piano lesson, then would walk to Columbia - Lee Road and catch a ride to my home.) However, there was not many opportunities for music educators in the Parish. Therefore, after 3 years I decided to switch my

major to elementary education. Most of my hours could be used. I only had to go an extra semester to become a certified elementary teacher. I graduated in 1951 certified in grades K-6th grade.

While in college I served on the Student Government, was President of Future Teachers of America, active with Baptist Student ^{Union} (Center), serving on various committees, then was Louisiana State Editor for B. S. U. Was a member of Alpha Sigma Tau and Phi Kappa Alpha.

After graduating from Southeastern I taught at Pearl River Elementary and Lee Road Consolidated.

I decided to do graduate work and headed to the University of Vermont for a summer. Then back to Covington. I didn't see many challenges.

So, I headed west. Stopped in Denver, Colo. enroute in San Francisco. Did secretarial work for Dean of Law School at Denver University.

Met my future husband who was at D. U. completing his Master's Degree. # Returned to Covington in the fall. Wed in Jan 1953. Husband became a career naval officer. Through husband's various military assignments and moves - some 28 times, I was given a multitude of opportunities to become active in community activities, churches, and schools. This ^{gave} me a broad scope of all

parts of the United States, Far East, Europe, Canada, Australia and Mexico etc.

I helped with the Red Cross, Navy Relief, March of Dimes, Omeludeman, sponsored a "boat family" of 13 from Vietnam (while husband was Commanding Officer in the Bay area). Worked with abused family groups. Helped teach on Indian Reservations in Oregon and Washington State.

Substituted in public schools in Washington State, California, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Florida.

When there was a need, I directed choirs, led church groups of young people. Was in charge of Brownies, Boy Scout Club.

While husband was at Naval War College I taught Lanbarch method of learning English to foreign officers wives.

In my travels I visited public schools in Europe and Australia. I volunteered as a teacher in the National Schools of P.I.

I taught 3rd and 6th grades for the Department of Defense while in the Far East ^{where}.

Because of my husband's duties there was opportunities to ~~entertain~~ entertain senior military officers and their wives, local mayors

politicians, dignitaries from foreign countries and embassies.

While a naval officer's wife I taught full time in Penna. for 4 years. He had 2 different deployments in this state. I did graduate work at Shippensburg State College. I taught 4th, 5th and Kdg in Penna. In Florida I taught 1st - for the Department of Defense in the Far East I taught 3rd and 6th grades for 2 yrs. I took graduate courses from University of Maryland. I attended the University of California - Berkeley for 2 years doing graduate work.

Throughout our military life we were blessed to see great museums and explore many wonders of the world. With our 2 children we availed ourselves of the multitude of cultural ^{activities} / opportunities on whatever base or surrounding area ~~we~~ were stationed.

I returned to Connington in 1982. I became a kindergarten teacher at Lee Road Jr. High. Then I taught kdg. 1st and T-1 at Folsom Elementary.

It has been my ~~privilege~~ to work with the Folsom Community, Frankinton Heritage Manor, church & school. After Katrina I was gratefully given some 26 large trees to help replace many trees lost on our school grounds.

I write because God has so richly blessed me to have become a teacher, educator, wife, mother.

My first teaching job was as a 10 year old in a country church teaching beginners 4 + 5 year old. I discovered then that somehow I was able to get the subject matter across to little ones. I have, throughout my life, so it's been. Let the student know you really care for them and that they can understand and learn. If you were successful with that concept, you were most likely going to be successful with the students (class) and have high achievers. It worked.

My life has been an amazing one for me. I am so grateful for having the opportunity of being blessed by God with good health and the opportunity afforded me by the St. Tammany Parish Public Schools and Southeastern and my mother/teacher for laying such a foundation. For a supportive father.

My mother taught at Pilgrim's Rest School in 1920-1921.

I was nominated for teacher of the year for the States of Pennsylvania, Florida and Louisiana.

I ~~was~~ ^{was} a Master Teacher in Pennsylvania and Florida.