



Miss Mary Eileen Prichard

September 23, 1913 - July 7, 2011

Mary Eileen Prichard, a resident of Deerfield Episcopal Retirement Community, Asheville, N.C., died Thursday, July 7, 2011. A native of Aurora, Indiana, she was born September 23, 1913 to Clyde and Estelle Steuver Prichard. She went to live with her grandparents, Charles and Emma Steuver, in Rising Sun, Indiana when she was 9 years old.

She graduated from Rising Sun High School. The Deaconess Hospital School of Nursing and held advanced degrees from Our Lady of Cincinnati College and Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Some of the highlights of her long successful career include serving as Assistant Director of Nursing at Deaconess Hospital from 1941-1948. In 1948 she was appointed Chief, Nursing Service in the Veterans Administration where her assignments led her to Kansas, Kentucky, Georgia, Florida, Wisconsin, North Carolina and Tennessee. She assisted in opening new hospitals or re-activating older hospitals during her career with the VA. After retiring in 1976, she served several years as a nursing consultant at the VA Central Office, Washington, D.C.

Over the years she has been recognized several times for distinguished service. In 1975, she received The Chief Medical Director's Honor Award, presented by the VA Department of Medicine and Surgery. This award was

given in recognition of outstanding achievement as Chief, Nursing Service at Memphis, TN. "She demonstrated exceptional expertise in developing a progressive nursing service and establishing collaborative relationships between the professional and academic communities. Her direct involvement in developing key nursing personnel and her professional contributions to the total health care program have earned her both gratitude and respect from the Veterans Administration". She was also listed in Marquis 1985 edition of Who's Who of American Women and in the 1966 edition of Who's Who in the South and Southwest.

Since retiring to Asheville, she has done volunteer work for The American Cancer Society (receiving The Volunteer of the Year Award); served as Docent at the Smith-McDowell Museum; served on special committees at Groce United Methodist Church; and on various assignments at Deerfield.

Mary is survived by a cousin and many close friends. Those who loved Mary would like to acknowledge and thank the staff at Deerfield and her personal caregiver Michele Bodendorf for the wonderful care she received in her final years.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date. It was Mary's request that her remains be cremated and interred in St. Giles Memorial Garden at Deerfield.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to St. Giles Memorial Garden, Deerfield, 1617 Hendersonville Rd., Asheville, 28803.

Morris Funeral Home, 304 Merrimon Avenue is assisting the family.

Tribute Wall



“ *Miss Mary Eileen Prichard*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM