



## Dr. Mildred H. Wood

April 19, 1920 - July 6, 2014

Mildred Hope Fisher Wood, Ed.D.

Cedar Falls, Iowa

Mildred Hope Fisher Wood passed away peacefully on July 6, 2014.

Mildred was born April 19, 1920 in Alta, Iowa, to Jessie and Hazel David Fisher. She spent her childhood on a number of small farms along the Des Moines River. She recalled well the challenges of growing up during the Depression years.

After graduating from Humboldt High School in 1937 she attended Iowa State Teachers College where she met William O. Wood on the first day. They were married on June 23, 1940 in Renwick, Iowa.

She began her teaching career as a first and second grade teacher in the Rowley Consolidated School System in 1939/40.

Mildred pursued her education by earning a BA degree in 1956, a Masters in 1962, an Ed.S. degree in 1963 from State College of Iowa, did post graduate work at Syracuse University and the University of Oregon and obtained her Doctorate of Education from the University of Indiana in 1970.

She was a pioneer educator in the field of learning disabilities, an instructor of Special Education and Child Psychology at State College of Iowa, adjunct instructor in Learning Disabilities at University of Northern Iowa and Educational Consultant for Black Hawk County. She wrote a column for the Waterloo Courier entitled "Parents and Learning Disabilities." In addition, she was an artist, author and poet.

Her professional recognitions included: Appointment to the Governor's Task Force on Education; recipient of the highest honor bestowed by the Commission of Persons with Disabilities for significantly enhancing the empowerment and employment of individuals with disabilities; recipient of "The President's Award" from the Iowa Association for Children and Youth with Learning Disabilities; inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame in 2011; and the recipient of the 2012 UNI Outstanding Alumnus Award.

Mildred was preceded in death by her parents Jessie Fisher and Hazel Beatty, her sister Dorothy Mae Fisher and her husband of 42 years William O. Wood. Left behind to treasure the gift of her life are sons Larry A. (Paulette) Wood of Windsor Heights, Donald D. (Barbara) Wood of Cedar Falls, grandsons Ross A. Wood of Des Moines, Steven D. (Annette) Wood of Des Moines, grandson Ashton R. Bellah of Ames and a sister Donna Marilyn (J. Preston) Cole of Cedar Rapids.

Visitation will be from 10 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 9th at Cedar Heights Presbyterian Church (2015 Rainbow Drive, Cedar Falls) with the Memorial Service at 11 a.m. Graveside services will follow the funeral at the Greenwood Cemetery.

In Lieu of flowers, a memorial will be designed at a later date. Online condolences and photos may be expressed at [www.richardsonfuneralservice.com](http://www.richardsonfuneralservice.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Greenwood Cemetery

the end of College St, north of First Street  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 273-8628

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 9. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Cedar Heights Community Presbyterian Church  
2015 Rainbow Drive  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 268-0153  
<http://cedarheightspres.org>

## Funeral Service

JUL 9. 11:00 AM (CT)

Cedar Heights Community Presbyterian Church  
2015 Rainbow Drive  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
(319) 268-0153  
<http://cedarheightspres.org>

# Tribute Wall

VT

“ *Dr. Wood was a major contributor to education and was respected by all who knew her for her faith as well as her expertise. She will be missed by many but she has left a legacy! Blessings to the family through this sad and difficult time.*

*Vickie Trent, Ed. D.*

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**Vickie Trent** - July 11, 2014 at 04:49 PM

BC

“ *I've known Mildred for many years through First Baptist Church! Always a kind and loving woman! Rest in the peace of God's love!!!*

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**Barb (Janssen) Chapman** - July 09, 2014 at 09:47 PM

TW

“ *My mother, EllaMae Gogel, also a learning disability advocate, was so inspired by Mildred. I suffered from learning disabilities as a child and can remember walking from my home on Main Street to UNI for individual instruction in reading and spelling. Mildred was always so kind and always smiling. I am an Orthopedic Physician Assistant in practice for 28 years. I would hate to think of my prospects if programs had not been available for struggling students such as I! She will be missed!!!*

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**Tammy Gogel-Womack** - July 09, 2014 at 07:01 PM

AK

“ *We were blessed to know Mildred back in the days when Valley View was a part of our lives. What an amazing woman!!!*

*Tom and Adel Kessler*



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**Adel Kessler** - July 09, 2014 at 05:59 PM

 Dave  
Fish

“ Don,

*My condolences on your loss. Sorry I couldn't make it to the services today.*

*Dave Fish*

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**Dave Fish** - July 09, 2014 at 03:53 PM

DR

“ Don, Barb, Larry and family,  
*How I dearly loved your mother. She was my amazing teacher, mentor, and loving, beautiful friend. She saw in me, as a young college student, what I could not see in myself. She touched so many in so many different ways. If it hadn't been for her guidance, teaching, and mentoring, I would have never become a teacher of children with learning differences. I am deeply saddened to hear of her passing but also joyous that she had such a wonderful, rich life and that I was fortunate enough to have been a part of it. I would be there now if I lived closer, but i want you to know I'm there in spirit. I'm sending big hugs and much love your way. Diane Ransom*

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**Diane Ransom** - July 09, 2014 at 11:49 AM

LB

“ Dr. Wood was a gifted teacher who touched more lives than even she knew. She was my mother's neighbor at Windgrace and then again at Windhaven. I loved visiting with her; she was always so gracious and kind. She always spoke so highly of all her family, especially her granddaughters!

*Lisa Berg*

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**lisa berg** - July 09, 2014 at 09:17 AM

SS

“ i remember mrs wood, mildred from valley view Baptist church. I was a young adult with a attention deficit hyperactive attention daughter she bestowed her wisdom and guidance to me and help with some little gestures to help with her. She was a very delightful woman and will always be greatly appreciated and remembered for her kindness and wisdom. It is truly a loss to the community in her passing but now she is with her savior. RIP just RIP Sheila smith and children Courtney and Domunique we are the young family that lives near satori Prayers goes out to the family for peace and comfort. Many blessings your way

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**sheila smith** - July 09, 2014 at 08:15 AM

PY

“ The members of Iota Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, express our sympathy to the family of Mildred Wood. She was a faithful, valued member of our Society of Women Educators for many years. We send you our thoughts and prayers. Please inform us when the family has decided on a memorial. Sincerely, Pat Yates, president of Iota Chapter, DKG

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**Pat Yates** - July 08, 2014 at 08:51 PM

BL

“ Don and Barbe,  
Your mom was such an amazing, talented, and dear person. We are sorry for your loss.  
Charlie and Barb Kluck

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**Barb Lyman-Kluck** - July 08, 2014 at 11:59 AM

NF

“ I dont no you, but no som in family, so i would like to send all my thoughts too the family ! And May you rest in peace.

*Family Florager Danmark !*

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**Nicki florager** - July 08, 2014 at 11:22 AM



“ Mildred was so dear to my grandfather Raymond and our family. My prayers and sympathies are with you all at this time. We loved Mildred as a member of our own family and we will cherish her memory always. Sincerely, Michael Smith and family, Peoria, Illinois.

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**Michael Smith** - July 07, 2014 at 11:03 AM