



## Mary Stephanie Carr

June 19, 1921 - April 16, 2015

Mary Stephanie Killgore Carr, 93, a Christian, died April 16, 2015 in Searcy, Arkansas. She was born in Samson, Alabama, on June 19, 1921, to Phonso and Ruth Jordan Killgore. She was a resident of Searcy for more than four decades.

She graduated from Samson High School in 1938. She graduated from David Lipscomb College in 1940 and went on to attend Birmingham Southern College. World War II interrupted her studies in 1942 when she moved to Washington D.C. to work for the War Department supervising 50 clerks. She was among the first to work in the Pentagon when it was dedicated in 1943. After the war, she attended Peabody College of Education at Vanderbilt University, graduating in 1946 with a baccalaureate degree in English and receiving the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award as the outstanding graduate of her class. While attending Peabody she met James F. Carr Jr., and the couple was married in 1946.

The couple lived for 25 years in Tallahassee, Florida, where the State University System of Florida employed her husband. They raised three sons while living in Florida. She was an active participant in the PTA, a den mother for the Cub Scouts, and a Sunday school teacher for her church. In 1970 the family moved to Searcy when her husband became assistant to the president of Harding University.

During her years in Searcy she was the sponsor of the Ju Go Ju social club on the Harding campus, taught Sunday school classes at the College Church

of Christ, was an active member of the Associated Women for Harding, was a longtime volunteer at White County Memorial Hospital, and was a member of the President's Council at Harding University. She was a resident of Harding Place Retirement Center during her latter years.

Her parents; her husband of 63 years; and a sister, Sammie Killgore Burden, preceded her in death. She is survived by a sister, Jean Killgore Ross of Sparta, Tennessee; sons, James W. Carr and Thomas D. Carr — both of Searcy — and John T. Carr of Springhill, Tennessee; and grandchildren, John Taylor Carr Jr., Jesse Thomas Carr, Lauren Ashley Carr, Betsey Carr Ganus, Chelsea Carr Taylor, Lance Ryan Carr, James Dabney Carr, Mary Jordan Carr and Anna Ruth Carr.

Her five great-grandchildren also survive her: Lucia Carr, Alban Carr, Bridget Carr, Lucy Ganus and Grace Taylor.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, April 20, at the College Church of Christ in Searcy. Visitation with the family will immediately follow the memorial service. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to IHCF African Christian Hospitals, 102 N. Locust Street, Searcy or The Carr Nursing Scholarship Fund at Harding University in Searcy.

# Tribute Wall

SP

“ I have sweet memories of arranging a 'renewal of vows' ceremony for Stephanie and Jim Carr some years ago. A combined effort by the Counseling Center/Department of Marriage and Family/Wellness Committee was highlighting the sanctity of marriage. We wanted the students in chapel at the Benson to see a Christian couple who made a lifetime commitment to God and to each other in the covenant of marriage, and kept that commitment.

*I went with Miss Stephanie to pick out a wedding dress, veil, etc. to make this a memorable occasion. What fun it was to see her dress up for the occasion. I believe she told me that she did not have a white wedding dress originally.*

*The day arrived and it gave me shivers to see that sweet tiny white-haired couple in such a precious setting.*

*Students didn't know what was happening at first, but as the music began and it became obvious, they oohed and ahed, craned their necks to see, and even become teary eyed at the wonderful living example of faithfulness in reality. Many of them had never seen a long-lasting marriage and were afraid that a lasting marriage was an impossible dream.*

*Thank you Jim and Stephanie Carr for being a wonderful example.*

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**Sherry Pollard** - May 04, 2016 at 03:47 PM

PM

“ Please accept our sympathy and love!

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**Paul and Jan Morgan** - February 10, 2016 at 01:47 PM

SH

“ There was never an encounter with Mrs. Carr that I didn't feel like I was the most important person in the world at that moment. Her radiant smile welcomed me into her hug and she was always so glad to hear about my life. What a treasure to have memories back into my early teens of this sweet lady and her precious husband Jimmy.. of being in their home for meals, events, or just with mom picking up something Mrs. Carr would be sharing for an event; flowers, dishes, a special vase or table cloth.... And then there was the Easter Egg hunt in their back yard... ending with a raw egg toss. Tommy knows about that one. Seems that Mrs. Carr got to help me clean egg off my head before we went to "early service" that Sunday evening.

Since mom is no longer able to express this, I will for her... she loved Stephanie Carr! Precious friendship. Thank God for this amazing lady. She is sorely missed already. Praying for you all as you grieve... and rejoice in her welcome God's sweet embrace. She's traded in her lovely hats, for a shimmering crown!

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**Susan Pryor Hodges** - February 10, 2016 at 01:47 PM

DM

“ She was a great Christian lady and I just liked her. A warm smile and sincerity made her caring attitude obvious. Thousands of people will miss her.

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**D. Mark Moore** - February 10, 2016 at 01:47 PM

ST

“ Jim, John and Tommy, what a tribute you are to your mother, what an awesome legacy was given you by your mom! Dianna and I send our love -- May God abide with you through your sorrow.

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**Steve Teel** - February 10, 2016 at 01:47 PM

JR

“ Over the years, Mary and I were truly blessed to visit with both of the "senior" Carrs. That blessing would also extend to the families of John and Tommy and their children.

*Although we're saddened by Mary's passing, we rejoice with her heavenly arrival and reunion with her husband, Lisa and the other earthly family already in God's presence.*

*Please know we've added your family to our prayers...*

*...John and Mary Raymond*

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**John and Mary Raymond** - February 10, 2016 at 01:47 PM

RG

*I have very fond memories of Dr. & Mrs. Carr while I was a student at Harding University. They would save me a seat with them every Sunday and were like my family away from home. I miss and love Dr. & Mrs. Carr so much. Till we meet again....*

*Love you,  
Ruthann Gardner*

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**Ruthann Gardner** - October 22, 2018 at 07:40 PM

MH

“ *Stephanie was a lovely, Christian woman--inside and out. I am grateful to have known her. She did us special honor when she hosted my bridal shower years ago in her home. We are thankful for her life and work, Ron & Marty Highfield*

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**Martha "Marty" Highfield** - February 10, 2016 at 01:47 PM

BE

“ Jimmy and Stephanie were (both) a huge inspiration to us and our family! When we lived in Searcy, we could not have done without them...they welcomed us with open arms and became our best friends during our stay. What a class act! and they will be greatly missed. Looking forward to the day when we will be reunited again~ Love & miss you so much- Bob & Marsena Eacret

Bob and Marsena Eacret - February 10, 2016 at 01:47 PM

RW

“ While I did not know Mary Carr, I think I know what kind of woman she was by the product of her mothering skills. Her son Jim has been a friend for decades through my work at Florida College, and I've always found him to be exemplary in manners, in kindness, in wit and insights and in his definition of success. My thoughts are with all the family as I have no doubt you have lost a huge part of your hearts. May God comfort you with rich memories and abiding love.

Ralph Walker - February 10, 2016 at 01:47 PM

HJ

“ While I did not know Mary personally, I feel as if I knew her through her son Jim. He has been a dear friend and colleague for many years. He has been a help and an encouragement to me personally and to Florida College through the years. My wife Marilyn and I send our condolences to the family in your great loss. I am sorry that we had not seen the announcement before today.

H.E. "Buddy" Payne, Jr. - February 10, 2016 at 01:47 PM

JH

“ We will always remember Stephanie as a very gracious, Godly Christian lady. You family is in our prayers.

*Jim and Lois Howard*

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**Jim and Lois Howard** - April 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM