

## Adelyn Portis Stegall Stevenson

Adelyn Portis Stegall Stevenson of Atlanta, GA died on March 10, 2017. For the last six years, she and her husband, James "Jim" Rufus Stevenson, have resided at Lenbrook in Atlanta.

Adelyn was born May 30, 1921 in Rockvale, TN to Nannie May Love and Benjamin Duggan Stegall. She had three older siblings: May Love Stegall Gale, Whitney Stegall, and Goodwin Fountain Stegall. Adelyn's upbringing was marked by her family's faith in God, integrity, unwavering love for each other, high value on education, and desire to help others. She attended grammar and high school in Rockvale and State Tennessee College, now MTSU, in Murfreesboro before transferring to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville where she received her B.S. in Home Economics in 1943.



Adelyn began her career as a home economist and dietician in 1943. She was first employed by the Food Distribution Administration, completed a dietetic internship in Ohio in 1945, taught nutrition in Bowling Green, KY, became a dietician at Vanderbilt University in 1947, and then worked as a GE Home Economist. She hosted a cooking show on WSM-TV in Nashville called "Cooking Can Be Fun" under her pseudonym Lynn Porter. In 1953 she became the Personnel Manager in Food Services and Residence Halls at the University of Missouri, in Columbia; while there, Adelyn met her husband-to-be.

Jim and Adelyn married in Nashville, TN in 1955 and soon settled in Atlanta where Jim became a physics professor at Georgia Tech (GT). He later served as Director of the School of Physics and Executive Assistant to the GT President. Adelyn poured her heart and energy into their family as they raised three daughters. In later years Adelyn became an accomplished genealogist; she left a treasure trove of documented research and writings for her family. She was an active member of St. Mark United Methodist Church, the GT Faculty Women's Club, and the Joseph Habersham Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She received an Honorary Alumna award from GT in 1998.

In her memoirs Adelyn wrote, "The activities throughout the years have been beyond my wildest dreams." She particularly enjoyed all the friends, opportunities, and extensive travels that she shared with Jim. Adelyn's family gives thanks to God for her full and healthy life. The Silver Jackets recognize Adelyn's many generous contributions to the Georgia Tech community.

Adelyn is survived by her husband, James Rufus Stevenson of Atlanta, GA; daughter Alicia Love Stevenson Steele and her husband Rob Steele (Stow, MA); daughter Maryhelen Stevenson and her husband Lloyd Waugh (Fredericton, NB); daughter Jana Lyn Stevenson-Waln and her husband David Waln (Atlanta, GA); grandchildren Corre Steele, Emma Steele, Hannah Steele, Jamie Waugh, Charles Waugh, Carson Waln and Davis Waln; nieces and nephew Dale Stegall, Linda Stegall Weigel Norfleet, Janice Stegall Seibert, Amy Stegall Swartz; and many cousins all of whom she dearly loved. She was predeceased by her siblings and nephew Whit Stegall.

A memorial service will be held in Rockvale, TN on June 10.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorial gifts be made to the GT Foundation, Inc. and designated as scholarship support for women seeking GT degrees. Address: GT Foundation, 760 Spring Street, NW,

Suite 400, Atlanta, GA 30308.

The Silver Jackets extend their condolences to Jim and Adelyn's family.

Some further details have been [published in \*The Daily News Journal\*](#).