IN MEMORIAM
PEGGY CAIN
1925 - 2015

Margaret “Peggy” Cain, PhD, age 89, passed away on January 02, 2015.

Dr. Cain was a former Director of the South Carolina Junior Academy of Science, a former SCAS Council member, and served in leadership roles of many professional organizations including the American Association of Physics Teachers, and as board member of the South Carolina Science Council.

Peggy was born on September 7, 1925 in South Bend, Indiana. She and her family moved many times due to her father’s employment at Studebaker. They moved to Florida, Brussels, Detroit and finally Los Angeles, California where she attended junior high school and high school. She met her late husband, Francis “Frank” Marion Cain, Jr. when her mother invited him and another WWII soldier into their home for Sunday dinner. After marriage, she lived at home with her mother while Frank was away fighting in WWII. She worked in the fabric department of one the largest department stores of that time.

She and Frank returned to South Carolina after the war, settling in Frank’s hometown of Sumter, SC. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science from the University of South Carolina in 1949. Peggy started her science teaching career in 1963 at Mayewood High School and taught there until June 1970. For the next 8 ½ years she taught science at Sumter High School. Peggy received her Master’s Degree in Education from Clemson University in 1970. She was selected to serve as the South Carolina State Science Consultant in 1979. During this time, she authored two textbooks and co-authored two others on science teaching. In 1988, while working at the State Department, she received her doctorate degree from the University of South Carolina. Peggy served as an adjutant professor of Geology for Clemson University where she developed the acclaimed multi-disciplined SC Maps and Aerial Photographic Systems (SC MAPS) curriculum for teaching middle school. Her other professional accomplishments include: Developing the Elementary Science Leadership Program; Coordinator for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching; Chairing the Textbook Evaluation Committee; Coordinating with the Governor on Science Camp awards; and Organizing the SC Science Supervisors Association.

In 1977 Dr. Cain was selected as the Cryovac Award for the South Carolina Science Teacher of the Year. She received the Helms Citation of Excellence Award in 1988. In 1998 she received the Charles H. Townes Award by the Governor’s School for Science and Mathematics for her long-standing service to science education in South Carolina.

Memorials may be made in memory of Peggy to Trinity United Methodist Church, 226 W. Liberty St., Sumter, SC 29150 or Delta Kappa Gamma-Alpha Kappa Chapter Educational Scholarship, c/o Margaret Hutchins, 2315 Primrose Ct., Sumter, SC 29150.