

Virginia Martin Named as Woman of Achievement

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Virginia Martin of Cambridge City lives a quiet life with her dog Trixie. but it will never be called dull. She is active in so many things and the mark she has left on the community and its residents will long be remembered.

Virginia grew up on a farm and has always enjoyed the rural life. She learned to drive a tractor before she learned to drive a car.

In 1927, after graduating from Cambridge City's High School she entered college at Earlham and earned her teaching degree. Upon completion she taught English but that wasn't right away as she graduated during the depression and jobs were few and far between. She first worked as an assistant librarian when the Cambridge City library was located in a building where the Bank One is today. It was a one room operation at that time. It was during her time there that a man left some money for a new library and folks worked to raise enough money to build our current library in 1936. She helped move it from the old to the new building.

She began teaching English in 1935 and taught for 41 years. She also taught Spanish, was the school librarian, and after getting her master's degree in counseling, was the girls high school counselor for approximately 20 years.

Virginia says that when she returned for her master's degree she took English classes, but as counseling was

the coming thing decided to take a class in it. She was intrigued by it and changed to counseling for her master's degree.

She remembers the fire at the high school and says that they held classes in the cafeteria with dividers sitting between the classes and you could hear the class on the other side of the divider.

After retiring Miss. Martin remained active in the community serving in many different ways. She delivers Meals on Wheels is active in the Helen Hunt Club, Bible Study, working in the Cambridge City Library History Room, and is still active in the First United Methodist Church and the Mary Martha Circle. She has taught Sunday School and been a member of the Administrative Board.

She is very proud of the fact that she has worked on the committees for all three of our Cambridge City celebrations – 100 year anniversary, as well as the 125th and 150th. Her walls proudly hold tiles which are representative of those celebrations with pictures of the old Central School (3 story), the Huddleston House, the Vinton Hotel, and other landmarks.

The Woman of Achievement award is presented each year by the Psi Iota Pi, Beta Pi chapter of Cambridge City and is given to a person who has been a "behind the scenes" worker. Five of her students in the class of '61 nominated her for the honor this year.

Virginia has seen many in Cambridge City, and has helped shape the lives of many students. Our congratulations for you being "Woman of Achievement 1993". It is a well-deserved award.

Recipients of this award are given a plaque and \$100 to be donated to a favorite charity to be given in the recipient's name. Miss. Martin chose to give hers to the Golay Community Center.

Thanks Miss. Martin for being a vital and guiding force in our community!

Virginia Martin

Cambridge City - Virginia Martin, 91, died Friday, August 10, 2001, at Reid Hospital & Health Care Services in Richmond.

She was born March 21, 1910, in Wayne County, the daughter of William F. and Hazel V. Eliason Martin. She lived in Cambridge City since 1916, before moving to Friends Fellowship Community in Richmond, nine years ago.

She was a 1927 graduate of Cambridge City High School, and was a graduate of Earlham College in Richmond. She began teaching English in 1935, in the Western Wayne School system in Cambridge City and taught for 41 years: She also taught Spanish, was the school librarian, and after getting her master's degree in counseling, was the girls high school counselor for approximately 20 years.

After retiring in 1976, she remained active in the Cambridge City community serving in many different ways. She delivered Meals on Wheels, was a member of the Helen Hunt Club, Bible Study, worked in the

Cambridge City Library History Room and was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Cambridge City where she had been a member of the Mary Martha Circle, taught Sunday school and had been a member of the Administrative Board. She was also a member of the Psi Iota Xi Sorority, Beta Pi Chapter in Cambridge City where she was named -- "Woman of Achievement" in 1993.

Survivors include a first cousin, Flossie Cordes of Richmond; and other cousins.

Funeral services were Monday, August 13, at the First United Methodist Church in Cambridge City with Rev. Judi Marshall and Dr. Jon Morgan officiating. Burial was in Earlham Cemetery.

Waskom Capitol Hill Chapel, Cambridge City, was in charge of arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Cambridge City Public Library or the First United Methodist Church in Cambridge City.



Photo is from the 1961 Yearbook