

Obituary

Dr. Cornelia Van Deusen Lawson, age 87, of Tallahassee, FL passed away Monday, January 16, 2012. A Celebration of Life service will be held at Lafayette Presbyterian Church, 4220 Mahan Drive, Tallahassee, FL, on Saturday, January 21, 2012 at two o'clock p.m. with Reverend Dr. John Lown officiating. The family will receive friends at Cherry Laurel Retirement Residence, 1009 Concord Road, Tallahassee, FL on Saturday, January 21, 2012 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Dr. Lawson was born on April 24, 1924 in Canandaigua, New York. She was the daughter of the late Judge Leon W. and Cornelia B. Van Deusen. She was married to the late Dr. Lynn Bacon Fake, DVM, and the late Thomas Gordon Elz. She received her Bachelor of Science in Education from Florida State University in 1958 and was the Librarian at Cobb Junior High School in Tallahassee until 1967. In 1968, she was a member of the Teacher Corps, based at the State College of Arkansas, Conway, AK. She received her Master's degree in Education from The University of Southern Mississippi in 1969 where she served as a Team Leader in the Choctaw Indian Intern Program. She received her Doctor of Education degree from the University of Arkansas in 1972. She was a member of the faculty of Armstrong State College in Savannah, GA where she taught Children's Literature and Human Development until her retirement as a full Professor in 1988. She was named Professor of Education Emerita at Armstrong State College in 1989. She retired to Crystal River, FL where she served as President for two terms of the Crystal River Pilot Club. After several years living at the North Florida Retirement Village in Gainesville, FL, she returned to Tallahassee, residing at the Cherry Laurel Retirement Residence until her demise.

Dr. Lawson was preceded in death by her sister, Jane Van Deusen Mason, and by her brother, Dr. Hiram Barringer Van Deusen, and is survived by three siblings, Leon W. Van Deusen, Jr. of High Springs, FL, Dr. John Pietersen Van Deusen of Port Orange, FL, and Susan Van Deusen Ross of Elk Grove, CA; three children, Diana Elz Swegman of Tallahassee FL, Barent Lansing Fake (Elizabeth) of Fairfax Station, VA, and Lynne Fake Schafer (Michael) of Yreka, CA; three grand children, Colleen Elizabeth Schafer of Guanajuato, Mexico, Andrew Barringer Fake and Helen Elizabeth Lansing Fake of Fairfax Station, VA; and one great grand child, Karen Valeria Schafer of Guanajuato, Mexico.

Funeral arrangements by Brown Funeral Home, Crystal River, FL.