

Maurine Forbus, PHS Math teacher

KERRVILLE - Maurine Boswell Forbus, 80, formerly of Borger died Saturday, March 22, 2003.

Mrs. Forbus was born in Plainview on March 21, 1923, to Thelma Reeves Boswell and Cole Boswell. Mr. Boswell had been a lieutenant in World War I, remaining in Paris after the war ended to study at the Sorbonne, founded in 1253. After living in Lubbock for a number of years, the Boswells moved to Turkey where Thelma, a Baylor graduate, was a teacher and Cole had an insurance agency in addition to a CPA practice. In 1957, they died tragically in an automobile accident near Groom.

Maurine attended Texas Tech and West Texas State Colleges, where she was a member of Kappa Mu Epsilon fraternity, a mathematics honor organization, and Alpha Chi, a national honor society. In 1943, Maurine and Joed Forbus were married in Lubbock. They resided in Panhandle until 1992, when they moved to Kerrville. In the Methodist Church, Maurine taught the college Sunday school class for a number of years. She was active in the UMW and was given a life membership pin. Maurine's teaching career at Phillips High School spanned 33 years as a mathematics teacher. She always felt that it was a privilege to teach there, as it was more like a private school than a public one.

Many parents working for Phillips Petroleum Co. were college-educated, which ensured their children had aptitude and a desire to learn.

For most of her career teaching math, she had junior and senior students, and she took great interest in each one. Many former students were highly successful in their careers. One example was Jimmy Tabor, who, while working at NASA was instrumental in designing the space suit that Neil Armstrong wore on his moon landing. Jimmy's parents insisted that "Mrs. Forbus helped put the first man on the moon."

Maurine was a life member of TSTA, was active in Hutchinson County Teachers group and later belonged to Texas Retired Teachers Association. She belonged to the Gamma Theta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma.

In 1966, Maurine and Joed bought property near Red River, N.M., and in subsequent summers they constructed a log cabin and a Jeep garage on it. Every summer from then on they spent some time at the "Forbus Aerie." The Forbuses also enjoyed overseas trips where they visited countries on five continents.

Survivors include her husband; a daughter, Mary Cole Kerlick and husband, Steve, of Houston; two grandsons, Joe Peden, 2001 Texas A&M graduate working in Houston and on temporary assignment in Scotland, and Zachary Peden, a junior at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.; two stepgrandchildren, Erin Kerlick, a senior at Texas Tech, and Will Kerlick, a high school sophomore in Houston; a sister, Mildred Twilla of Lubbock; three nieces; a nephew; and many cousins.

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