Memorial Resolution
Kathleen Grace Amershek

Be it resolved that on February 2, 2007, the faculty and staff of the College of Education at the University of Maryland honor the life and professional career and acknowledge the death of Dr. Kathleen Grace Amershek, former associate professor emerita in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction.

Kathleen Amershek died at the age of 77 on December 3, 2006, at Arbutus Manor in her hometown of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. She is survived by her husband of 33 years, Eugene P. McLoone, her siblings Richard Amershek in Elysburg and Rosemarie in Gettysburg, her aunt Christina Amershek, sisters-in-law, Mary and Pat Moran, and many other cherished relatives and friends.

After graduating in 1951 with a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from then Indiana State Teachers College, Kathleen taught elementary grades at Westmont-Upper Yoder School in Johnstown. She decided to expand her horizons into education psychology and went on to earn master’s (Pennsylvania State University, 1957) and doctoral degrees (University of Minnesota, 1966) in the field.

Kathleen was an instructor at University of Minnesota and a faculty member of State University of New York at Brockport and Buffalo prior to joining the University of Maryland in 1966. Colleagues described her as a warm, caring and lovely person, who was very friendly with an infectious sense of humor. Devoted to the education of early childhood majors, Kathleen was instrumental in stiffening the licensing requirements for pre-school environments, establishing the Center for Young Children at its new site, and organizing the annual Early Childhood Conference held on campus annually. She was also beloved across the state and it seemed like everyone took a class from her.

Kathleen spent her final year at Maryland working on special assignment with teachers in Prince George’s County for the Challenger Project. In her words, “it was especially good to end 44 years of work in education at its most important site—in the school with children.” Upon her retirement in 1995, Dean Hawley stated Kathleen’s “legacy to the field of early childhood education is a legion to teachers with exceptional capabilities and commitment to children.”

The College of Education is grateful for the services rendered by Dr. Kathleen Amershek and extends its heartfelt condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues.

February 2, 2007