

## Alice Parsons



Born in Goldsboro and raised in High Point, Alice Marie Parsons passed away on November 13, 2024, at the age of 83. A beloved resident of Fearington Village since 2006, Alice brought a spirit of exuberance to her community.

Alice spent her professional career in student affairs at the University of California, Irvine, where she was a powerful organizer of programs and graduations. After retiring, she and her husband, George Parsons, returned to North Carolina.

In Fearington Village, Alice found a home among cherished friends and neighbors. She was an energetic participant in the local choir and bridge groups, and enjoyed cheering for Duke Basketball. She spent time

volunteering with Shared Learning and attending regional theater. A faithful member of Christ United Methodist Church, Alice contributed her beautiful voice and positive spirit to the choir.

Alice is survived by her sisters, Eileen Koerner, Joyce Avent, and Sarah Bostick; her cousin and friend, Mary Catherine Mowery; her daughter, Rachel Marie Klemek; and her four grandchildren, Peter, Sage, Levi, and Deirdre Klemek.

A celebration of Alice's life will be held at Christ United Methodist Church in Chapel Hill on Sunday Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Music-Designated Fund at Christ United Methodist Church.

*For the family  
Rachel Marie Klemek*

We are saddened by the unexpected passing of Alice Parsons, the longest-serving president in Shared Learning's 45-year history. She first served from 2010 to 2020 and took on an additional term from 2022 to 2023. The fact that she was chosen every year to continue in her leadership role says something about the reverence that the organization had for her. Alice had the kind of quiet

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perseverance that excellent leaders have. People knew that if something needed to be done but no one volunteered to do it, she would just plow ahead and get it done herself.

Alice did so many things for Shared Learning that it is hard to recall them all. What most members remember about Alice is that for many years, both during her presidency and beyond, Alice served as Hospitality Chair, sometimes performing all the duties of that committee herself.

Alice was instrumental in orchestrating two major venue changes for our organization. The first time was in 2010 when we needed to move from our long-time location at the Church of Reconciliation (to which, ironically, we returned in 2020). She was among the people who found a new home for us at the Celebration Assembly of God (later rechristened Expand Church). Then, in 2019, when we needed to find a replacement venue, she found us a home at the Christ United Methodist Church, where she was a member herself. It was a perfect fit for us at the time. Alice had a great rapport with our church landlords, greatly facilitating harmonious relationships.

Harmony is, in fact, the word that best describes her personality: Whenever there was the least amount of controversy, she was there to tone down and actually remove any antagonisms that may have arisen. She was a remarkable individual, and we will greatly miss her presence.

*For Shared Learning  
Hank Becker*

