



Wilma Jean Porter PhD

May 30, 1931 - June 28, 2017

A funeral mass for Wilma Jean Butcher Porter, 86, will be held at 12 p.m. on Wednesday, July 5, 2017, at St. Benedict's Catholic Church, 471 Main Street, Grambling, LA. Mourners may view the body at the church from 10 a.m. until the funeral service begins at noon.

Born in Sylacauga, Alabama, on May 30, 1931, to Blanche Leonard and Harrison Samuel Butcher, Jean earned a bachelor's degree from Tuskegee University in Alabama, a master's from Michigan State University, and a PhD in Institution Management from Iowa State University. Her extraordinary academic career included faculty positions at Grambling State University and Howard University in Washington, DC; vice president of Institutional Advancement at Fort Valley State University in Georgia; and chairman of the Department of Human Ecology at Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville. She also served as Peace Corps Country Director for the island nation of Tonga, in the South Pacific, and as a consultant with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in West Africa. She served as the state coordinator in Georgia and Tennessee for the U.S. State Department's National Issues Forums and as well as a consultant for the State Department's Russian-US forum.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Douglas Porter of Grambling; her daughters Daria Porter of Baltimore, MD, and Blanche Evette Porter of New York City; her son Douglas and daughter-in-law Pamela of Corning, NY; and her four grandchildren Daevon, Alexis, Gabrielle and Douglas; along with

extended family and friends.

A remembrance celebration will be held at Roe Hall, adjacent to St. Benedict's church, on Tuesday, July 4, 2017, from 6-8 p.m. Former students, friends, and family will share their memories of this incredibly accomplished scholar, teacher, activist, loving wife and mother.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you make a donation in her name to the Alzheimer Association at act.alz.org, or to the scholarship being established in her honor at Grambling State University.

Services entrusted to Miller Family Mortuary, Ruston, LA

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Previous Events

Funeral Mass

JUL 5. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Benedict Catholic Church
471 Main Street
Grambline, LA 71245

Tribute Wall



“ *Wilma Jean Porter PhD*

January 30, 2023 at 03:35 AM



“ *Wilma Jean Porter PhD*

January 30, 2023 at 02:22 AM



“ *To the Porter Family, My career path crossed Dr. Porter's at Tennessee Technological University. I remember being in awe of her writing skills and how she never let an opportunity pass her by! She indeed had a varied and an interesting life...such stories she would share with faculty and staff!*
With love, Sue Bailey

Sue Bailey - September 01, 2017 at 05:16 PM



“ *Coach Porter, you and your family has our deepest sympathy in this time of sorrow. May God continue to bless each of you with peace and comfort. What a beautiful life she lived.*

*Planning and Zoning Committee
City of Grambling*

Mary Gipson - July 05, 2017 at 10:27 AM



BC

“ *Coach Porter, May God bless you and your family, and give you peace! Birdex & Lolita Copeland*



Birdex Copeland - July 04, 2017 at 09:00 PM

JE

“ *To God be the glory for a beautiful life.*



Joyce B. Evans - July 04, 2017 at 10:25 AM

RF

“ *Porter Family, I read of your loss and wanted to add my condolence to all of you. May your many family memories bring you comfort beyond measure during this special time to share with each other. (Second Corinthians Chapter One, Verses Three and Four)*

R. Faust - July 03, 2017 at 04:26 AM