



Epsilon Sigma Phi

2014 EPAF Memorial Service



"When angels visit us, we do not hear the rustle of wings, nor feel the feathery touch of the breast of a dove; but we know their presence by the love they create in our hearts."

Mary Baker Eddy

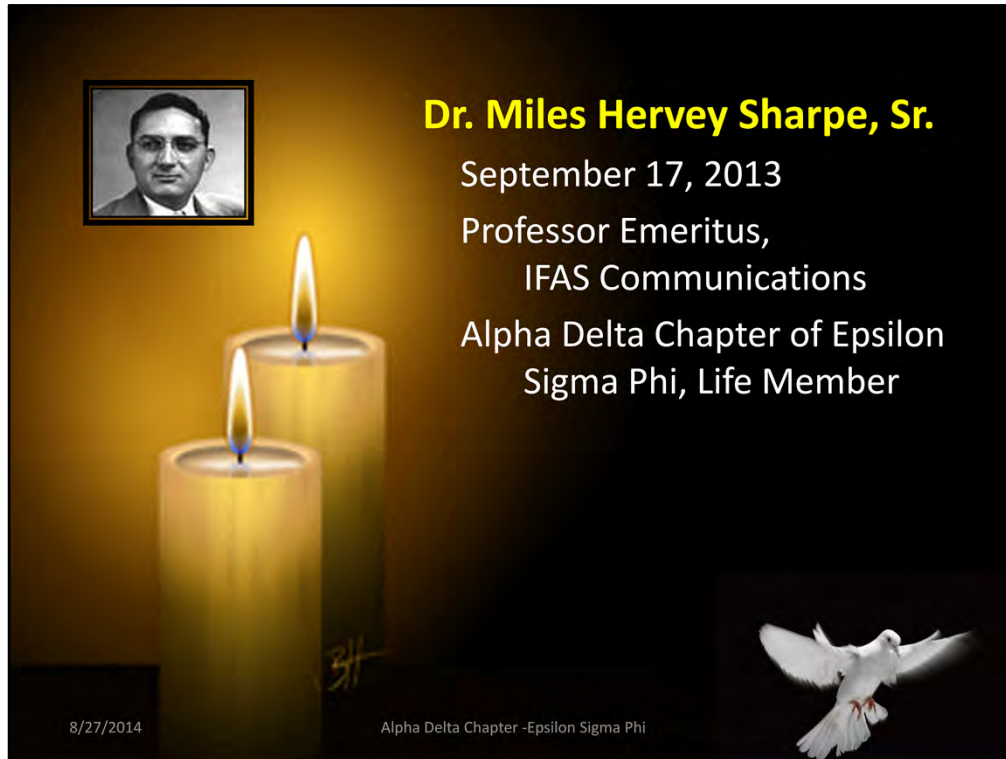


8/27/2014

Alpha Delta Chapter -Epsilon Sigma Phi



This year's EPAF memorial was prepared by ESP Chaplin Dr. Alex Bolques.

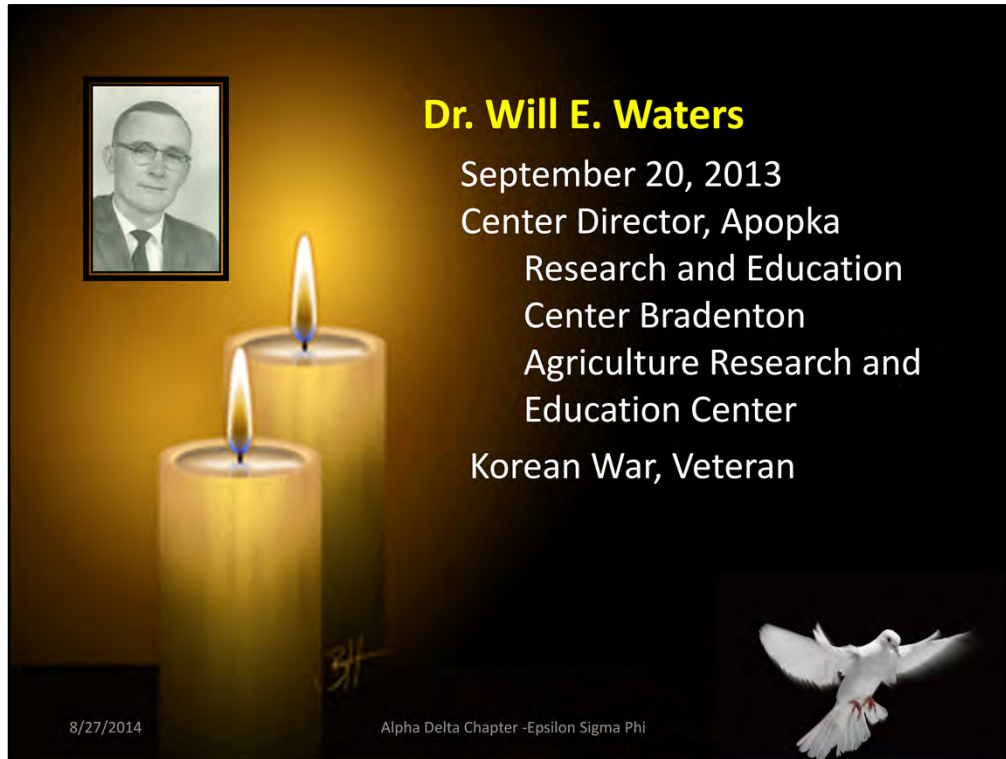


Dr. Miles Hervey Sharpe, Sr.* passed away on September 17, 2013.

Hervey was a native of Bushnell, Florida. After receiving his Bachelor's and Masters Degrees from the University of Florida, he taught vocational agriculture in Hendry and Glades counties. After earning a PhD at Pennsylvania State University, he returned to Florida where, from 1955 until his retirement in 1977, he was UF/IFAS Editor for Agricultural Experiment Stations as a Communication Specialist and Chairman of the Department of Agricultural Communications for the Florida Extension Service.

Dr. Sharpe was a member of the University Kiwanis Club and the University of Florida Athenaeum Club. He was active in Phi Delta Kappa, Kappa Delta Phi, and Sigma Delta Fraternities.

After retirement UF honored him with Professor Emeritus title. He was a Life member of Alpha Delta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi.



Dr. Will Waters passed away on September 30, 2013.

He was born September 19, 1931 in Smithtown, KY. Dr. Waters graduated from University of Kentucky with his Bachelors in Agriculture in 1954. Waters was employed as a county agent in Hazard KY until he was drafted during the Korean conflict, serving stateside as an army medic until 1956. Dr. Waters returned to college and earned his Masters in Agriculture in 1958, from UK, and his Doctoral Degree from the University of Florida in 1960.

He was a University of Florida IFAS faculty member for 8 years at the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center in Bradenton, before moving to Apopka to build and serve as director of the a new IFAS research center. In 1970 Dr. Waters returned to Bradenton to serve as the GREC director until he retired in 1998. In 1973, he was commissioned an Honorary Kentucky Colonel by Governor Ford. During his 40 years with the University of Florida Dr. Waters authored hundreds of publications on his horticultural research. During his time as Center director his Biological Scientist, Terry Howe, assisted him with the research he loved.

He was named Professor Emeritus of Horticulture. Dr. Waters received many honors and accolades from the University of Florida, the Vegetable, Fruit and Horticulture Societies and industry leaders recognizing the impact of his leadership in Florida Agriculture for four decades.

He also was a prominent figure at Palma Sola Botanical Park, serving on the board as an active fundraiser, sharing his knowledge and a wealth of technical information

Obituary online at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/gainesville/obituary.aspx?pid=167313179>



Dr. Joe Neil Busby* passed away on Saturday, September 28, 2013.

He was born in Hart County, Georgia, April 9, 1921. He was a 4-H member in Lake County Florida. He proudly served in the United States Army Air Corp during WWII. He returned to UF and earned his BS in 1947. Busby worked as a Manatee County 4-H Agent and helped build Camp Cloverleaf. He was recalled to Korea, flew fifty bombing missions during that war and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. He was promoted to Lt. Colonel.

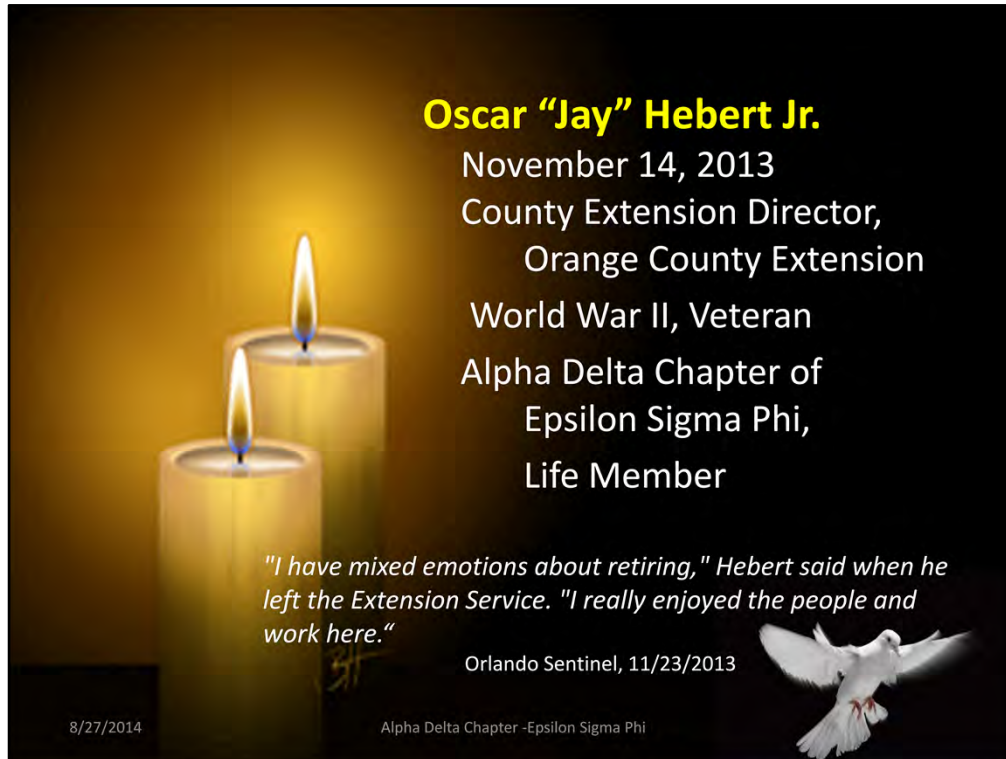
After WWII he was employed with Florida State Plant Board and was the first to inventory every citrus tree in the state of Florida. He was instrumental in setting up the Florida 4-H Foundation, brought the Sea Grant program to Florida and sat on the USDA ECOP board.

He served as the sixth Director of the Cooperative Extension Service 1970-1976, and retired as Dean Emeritus. After retirement he was appointed Chief of Party for U.S.A.I.D. and UF to develop a land grant University for Cameroon, Africa.

He was a Life member of the Alpha Delta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi. He was enrolled in the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame in 2002 (see: <http://florida4h.org/foundation1/FL4H/BusbyJ.htm>)

Obituary on-line at:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/gainesville/obituary.aspx?pid=167284816>



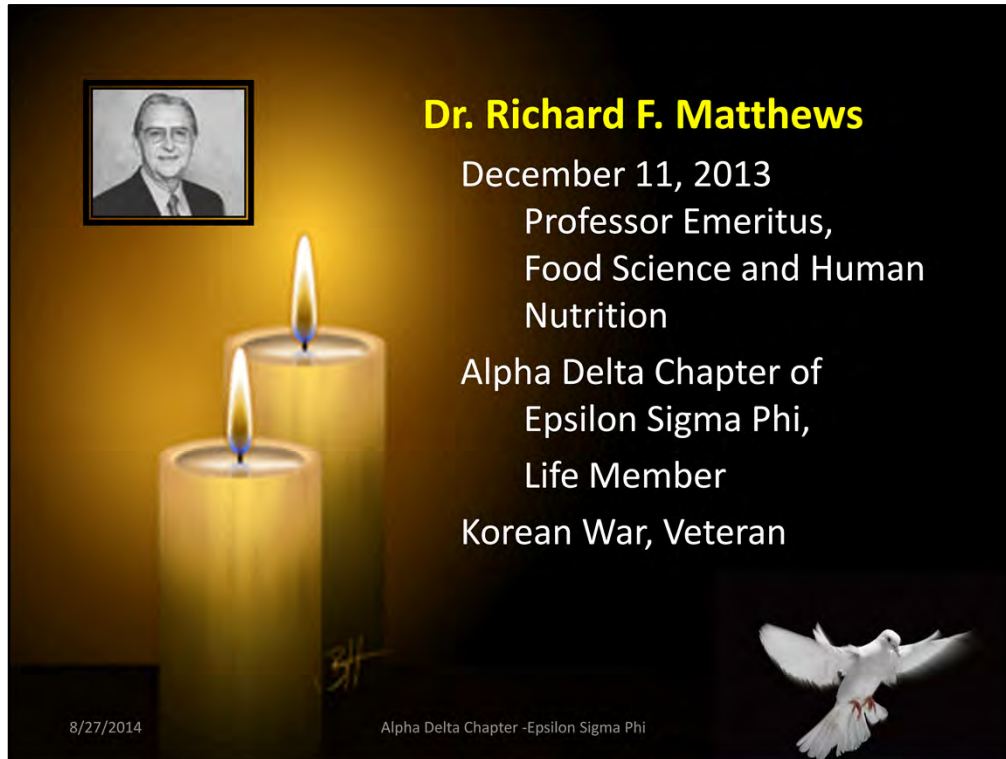
Oscar "Jay" Hebert Jr.* passed away on November 14, 2013.

Born in Louisiana, he graduated from Louisiana State University. While there, he earned a master's in animal science and played defensive back for the football team. He served in the Air Force during World War II and moved to Florida in the early 1960s.

He retired as Orange County Extension director in 1995. An article in the Orlando Sentinel states that he rose to the top of the agriculture community while working for University of Florida's Cooperative Extension Service. He was a top adviser to Orange County's ranchers and farmers for nearly three decades. Hebert was a cattle expert, and also witnessed the emergence of the foliage, vegetable and other horticulture industries, all as Orange County moved from an agrarian community to an international tourist destination.

Hebert was active in Rotary Club, Knights of Columbus, American Legion and the Florida Cattlemen's Association. In 1976, the YMCA named him "Man of the Year." He was a Life member of the Alpha Delta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi.

Obituary online at: <http://www.hiers-baxley.com/obituaries/Oscar-Hebert/#!/Obituary>
Memorial article: http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/2013-11-22/news/os-obit-hebert-20131122_1_extension-service-cattle-business-michigan-street



Richard was born in Alabama on June 1, 1929 and grew up in Rockledge, FL. He graduated from University of Florida with an MBA degree. He then joined the US Army as a 1st Lieutenant and served in Korea.

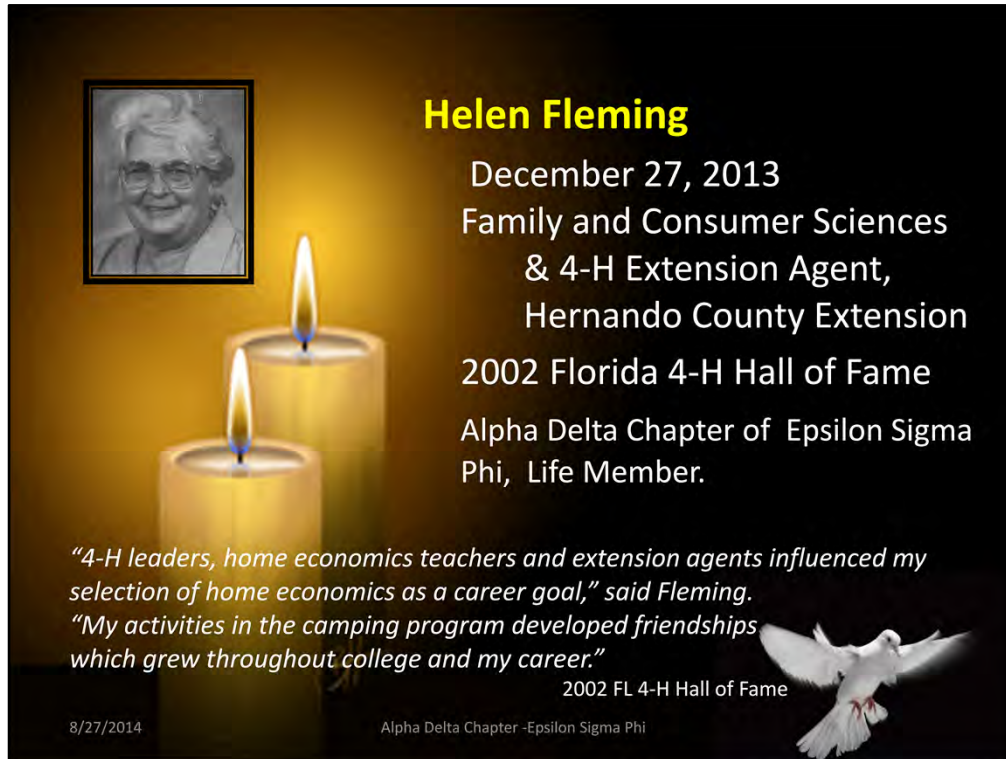
After being discharged, he continued his education and earned his PhD at Cornell University as a food scientist. He worked in the tea industry for 10 years, then became a professor at UF where he retired after 29 years.

Richard Matthews was a great colleague to those of us working for the Cooperative Extension Service--IFAS. He was always willing to assist with difficult questions we received in the counties. He also realized there was an inequity in the retirement for some faculty and led a group to lobby for an annuity from the State.

He was a Life member of the Alpha Delta Chapter of ESP.

Obituary online at:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/gainesville/obituary.aspx?pid=168530468>

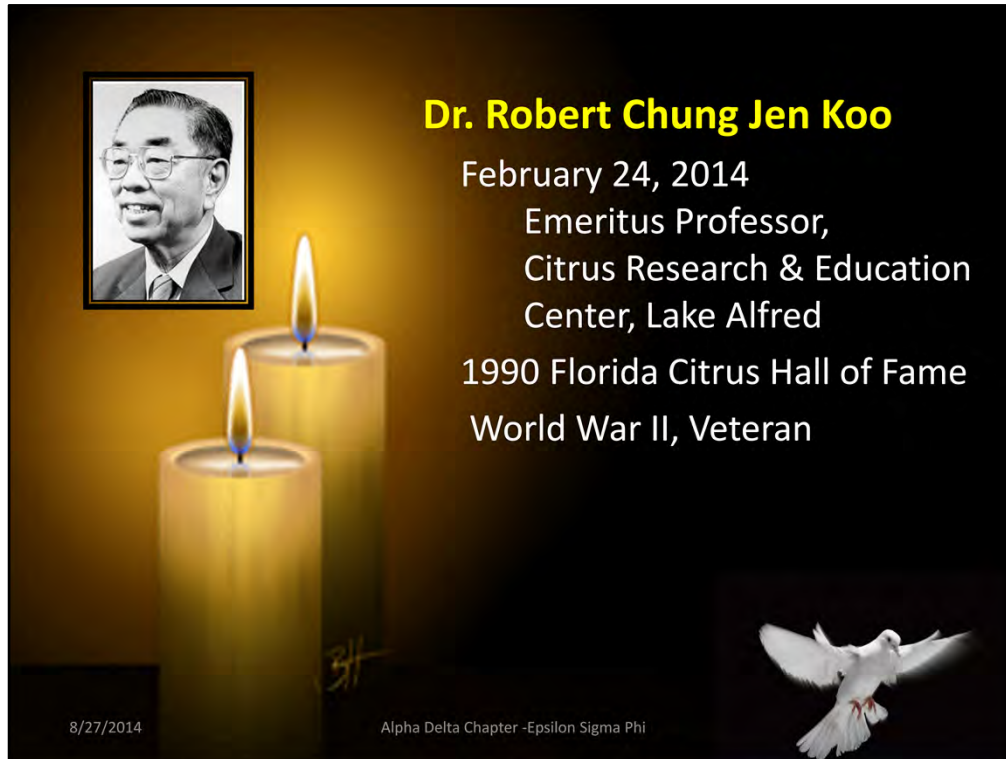


Helen Fleming* passed away on December 27, 2013.

A native of West Virginia, she began her Extension career in Taylor County West Virginia. She was also the former FCS/4-H Extension Agent, Hernando County, Florida.

After retirement she became a 4-H volunteer. She was named Citizen of the Year in 2001 by the Hernando County Chamber of Commerce. She was a Life Member of the Alpha Delta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi.

Fleming was inducted into the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame in 2002. Her citation can be seen at: <http://florida4h.org/foundation1/FL4H/FlemingH.htm>



Dr. Robert Chung Jen Koo passed away on February 24, 2014. Dr. Koo was an Emeritus Professor, Citrus Research & Education Center, Lake Alfred.

Born in Shanghai, Robert came to the US in 1940 and graduated from Cornell University in 1944 with a degree in pomology. In 1945 he served as a specialist in the US Marine Corp 6th and 1st Division and the 1st Air Wing Division.

In 1950 and 1953 he received his Master of Science and PhD respectively from the University of Florida. Robert dedicated the next 37 years researching and pioneering citrus irrigation and fertilization techniques while employed by UF Citrus Research and Education Center, Lake Alfred FL. As a citrus expert with The World Bank he traveled to many developing countries helping advance citrus production.

He retired in 1990 and was inducted into the Florida Citrus Hall of Fame in that year (see citation at: http://floridacitrushalloffame.com/index.php/inductees/inductee-name/?ref_cID=89&bid=0&dd_asId=651).

Obituary on-line at:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/theledger/obituary.aspx?n=ROBERT-KOO&pid=170118031>



Larry Loadholtz passed away on February 25, 2014. He was a former County Extension Director and Horticulture Extension Agent IV in Volusia County, Central District.

Loadholtz was born June 6, 1932 in Seville, Florida. He attended the University of Florida and earned a B.A. degree in agriculture in 1954 and his Masters from UF as well. He became the first Vocational Agriculture teacher at Pierson High School, then entered into service in the Air Force.

He was named a 4-H Agent in Volusia County in 1961, an agricultural agent in 1967, was named CED, and became a multi-county cut-foliage agent in 1989. He organized well know local Farm-City tours. He was a NACAA DSA winner, and he retired June 30, 1990 after 29 years of service to UF IFAS Extension. He remained active as a Farm Bureaus Director, was on the Volusia County Fair Board, and helped set up the Volusia County Fern Growers Coop.

Obituary online at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/news-journalonline/obituary.aspx?pid=169916693>



Dr. John Mortensen passed away on June 16, 2014. He was an Emeritus Professor, Central Florida Research and Education Center. His genetic research resulted in the development of grape varieties for Florida's climate.

Mortensen was born May 11, 1929 in San Antonio, Texas and began his early agricultural career in Texas at an experiment station that his father managed. Later, he entered Texas A&M where he earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in horticulture. During the Korean War, John was a First Lieutenant. Following his Army discharge, he spent two years in Jordan, visiting his parents, and also taught English to Jordan's military personnel. In 1952, he entered Cornell University and earned his PhD in plant breeding.

Mortensen came to UF in 1960 to run the state grape-breeding program. One of Mortensen's biggest successes was crossing the native wild muscadine grapes with the Thompson seedless grape to create a grape resistant to Pierce's Disease; Blanc du Bois was the most notable of those varieties.

In 1993, he was inducted into the Florida Agriculture Hall of Fame (Citation on-line at: <http://floridaaghalloffame.org/1993/10/john-mortensen/>)

Obituary on-line at: http://www.dailycommercial.com/obituaries/article_cc26b299-abaa-5a36-92df-0bfb0a4cbcad.html

Memorial news story on-line at:
<http://www.gainesville.com/article/20140626/articles/140629727>



Dorothy Y. Gifford* passed away on July 15, 2014. She was a graduate of Syracuse University with a B.S. degree in Human Development, class of 1949. After graduation she was employed by USDA / Cornell University as Home Economics Agent for Chenango County, Norwich, NY. In 1962 she began as Home Economics Agent-Program Leader, in Broward County (Ft. Lauderdale).

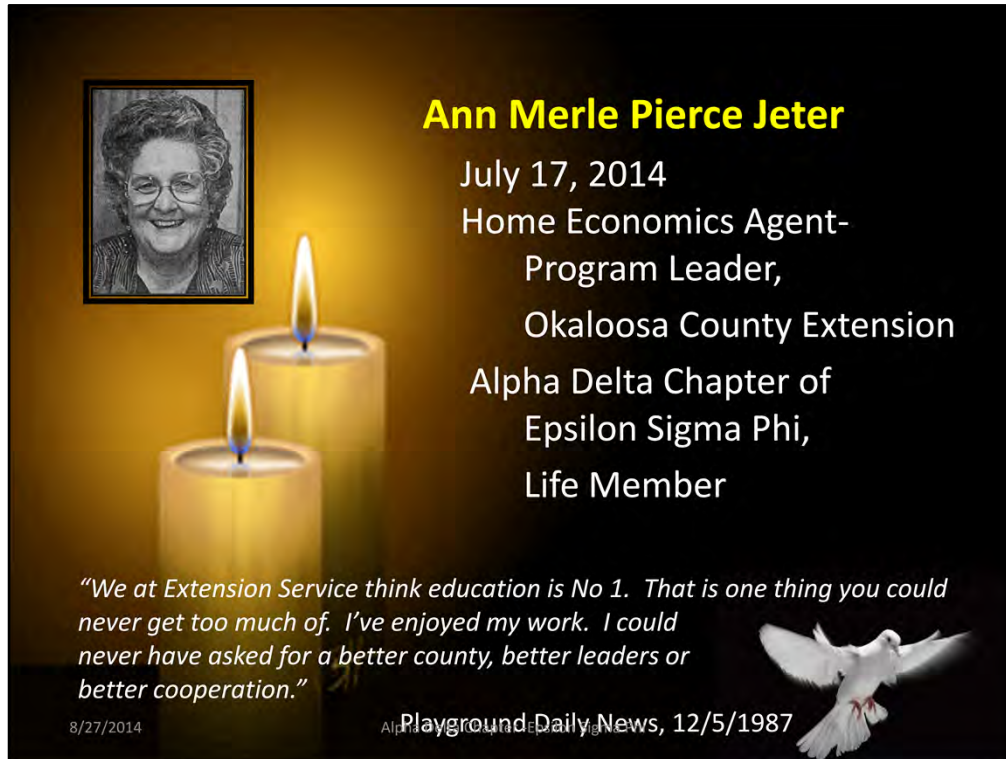
Dorothy was an active member of the Florida Association of Extension Home Economists serving as Secretary, President-Elect and President. She belonged to the National Association of Extension Home Economists and was awarded the National Distinguished Service Award in 1974.

She was a member of the American Home Economics Association and a Certified Home Economist. Dorothy was a member of the Florida International University College of Education, Division of Education Policy and Human Resource Development. She was honored for her service to Vocational Home Economics Educational Programs.

She was a Life member of the Florida Alpha Delta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi and was honored for Meritorious Service in 1984.

She retired in 1988 and moved to Venice, FL. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the National Association of Retired Federal Employees and the Venice Area Garden Club, serving as president of the Garden Club from 1997 to 1999.

Obituary online at: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/heraldtribune/obituary.aspx?n=dorothy-y-gifford&pid=171758602&fhid=9074>



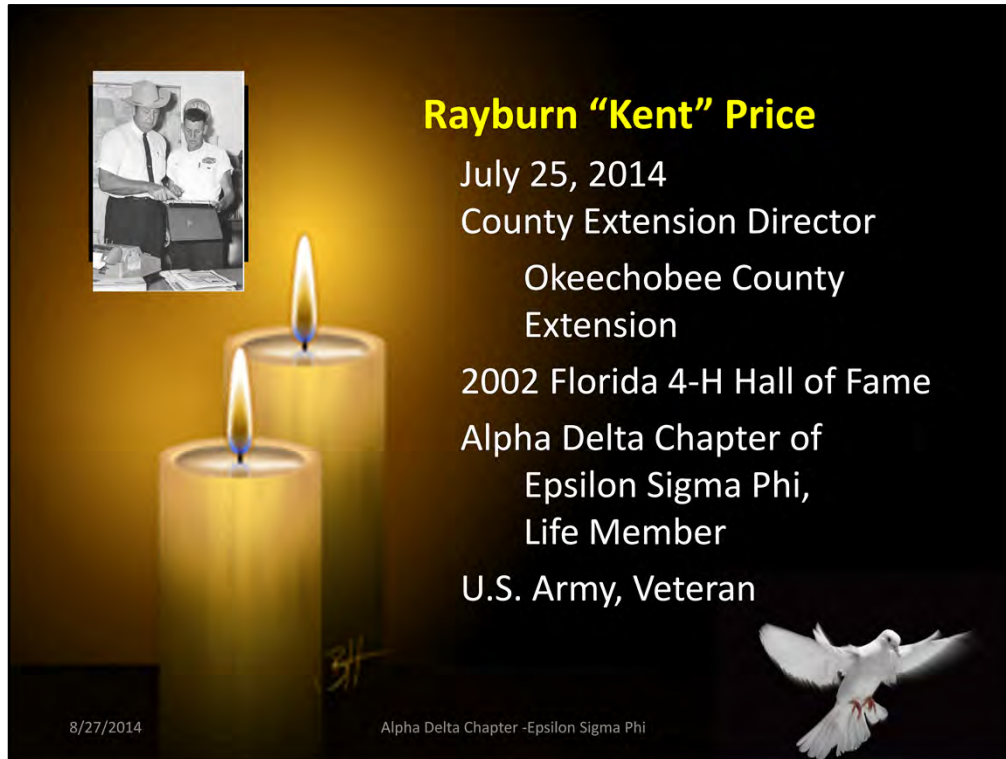
Ann Merle Pierce Jeter* passed away on July 17, 2014 in Point Orange, FL.

Ann was originally from Coffee County, Alabama and lived most of her life in Crestview, FL. She graduated from Auburn University and received her Master's from Florida State University. She was with the Extension Service for over thirty years and served as the state president of the Extension Home Economics Association. She was a former Program leader and Home Economics Agent, Okaloosa County Extension, retiring in 1987.

She was a Life Member of the Alpha Delta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi, and recipient of the State Distinguished Service Award.

Obituary is online at:

<http://www.whitehurstpowellfuneralhome.com/obits/obituary.php?id=485215>



Rayburn "Kent" Price* passed away on July 25, 2014.

Mr. Price was born Dec. 30, 1924 in Reform, Ala. He started his Extension career in Miami in 1951, and moved with the dairy industry to Palm Beach from 1955-71, when he moved to Okeechobee.

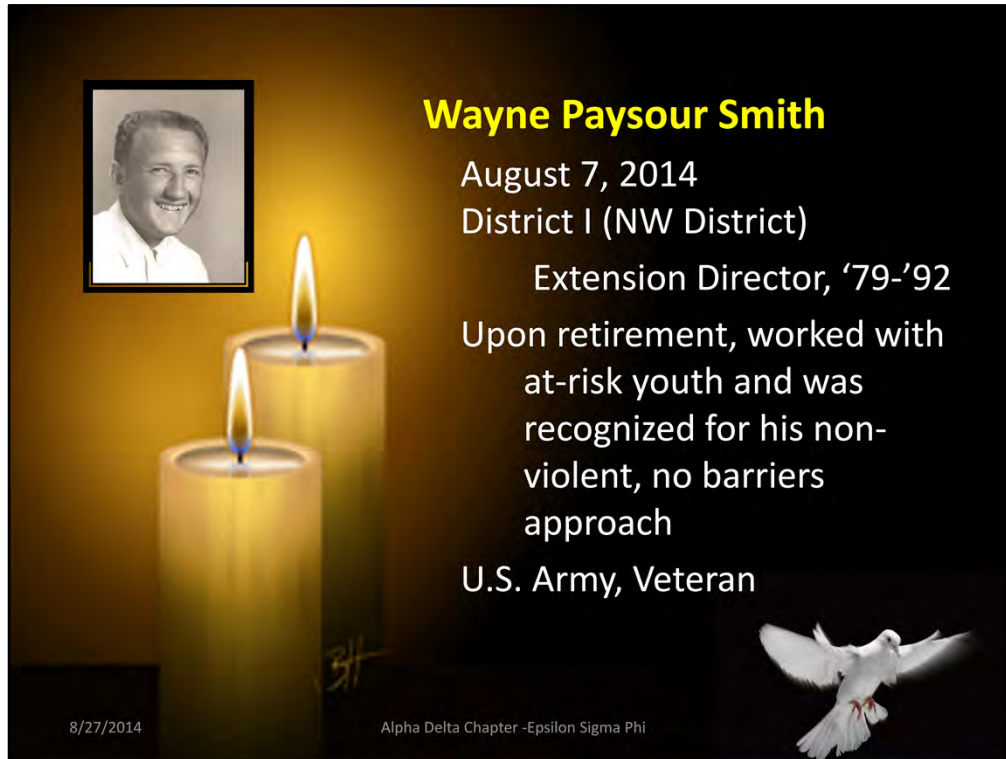
Throughout his career he organized cattle judging teams in Miami-Dade, Palm Beach and Okeechobee counties. One of his first winning teams included Bob Graham, former Governor of Florida. He was an integral part of the dairy industry in south Florida. instrumental in the success of the industry by organize a marketing cooperative that stabilized the milk market in Southeast Florida. He organized the first 4-H horse club in the state. His leadership in 4-H showed that one-half of the eligible youth in Okeechobee were enrolled in 4-H programs. Mr. Price was awarded the DSA award by NACAA in 1974.

Although he retired from the Florida Cooperative Extension Service in 1984, Price continued to support the program by organizing 4-H clubs, mentoring youth, encouraging parents to get involved and gives extension agents a helping hand. He was inducted into the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame in 2002 – view a summary at this address: <http://florida4h.org/foundation1/FL4H/PriceR.htm>

He was a former County Extension Director, Okeechobee County Extension. Kent was a Life member of the Alpha Delta Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi.

Obituary online at:

http://www.skeltonfuneralhome.com/fh/obituaries/obituary.cfm?o_id=2617504&fh_id=14053




Wayne Paysour Smith passed away Thursday, August 7, 2014. He graduated from North Carolina State University in 1957. He joined the United States Army from 1957 - 1959 as part of the CIA in Germany. After returning, he was employed with Iredell County Schools as a Vocational Agriculture teacher.

He started his Extension career as the Rowan County 4-H agent. He returned to NCSU and earned a Master's Degree in Adult Education in 1967. Wayne received a Kellogg's Scholarship and worked part time as a 4-H Specialist. In 1972, he obtained a Doctorate Degree in Adult Education. Wayne accepted a position with VPI as Director of Extension Service in Fairfax, VA. In 1979, Wayne joined the University of Florida as District Director of Extension Services, with a home in Tallahassee, FL, and retiring 1992.


Upon his retirement from UF, Wayne began writing grants for Juvenile Justice Programs, volunteering, planning and implementing educational, social and job opportunities for at-risk youth and was recognized for his non-violent, no barriers approach.

Obituary online at

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/Tallahassee/obituary.aspx?pid=172031153>



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In the end,

*it's not the years
in your life that count.
It's the life in your years.*

- Abraham Lincoln



Alpha Delta Chapter -Epsilon Sigma Phi

Please send any updates to the current Chaplin of Florida's chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi.