

S. Carolyn Marsh

S. Carolyn Marsh, age 90, died at her home, 1129 Trumansburg Road, Ithaca on August 14, 1994. She was born in Westfield, PA, the daughter of Winifred and Vermiyea Marsh.

She began musical studies at age 5, playing with area groups and appearing as violin soloist throughout her school years. After two summers studying with master teacher W. Grant Egbert of the Ithaca Conservatory of Music, she entered as a sophomore in 1921. After graduating s President of the Class of 1924, she taught violin at the Conservatory for a year, followed by a Lyceum tour as violin and guitar soloist. Later she earned a bachelor degree in music.

A further tour was in preparation when, in 1926, she joined Bernice H. Finch in Ithaca Schools as teacher of stringed instruments and director of the Ithaca High School Orchestra.

This position she held with distinction for 34 years maintaining the reputation of the orchestra program as one of the best in the nation.

Among Carolyn's hobbies were growing roses and writing 125 editorials for her father's biweekly newspaper, The Westfield (PA) Free Press-Courier. Other writings in journal form include "Fragments" and "Small Philosophies". She wrote "A woman's place in the world is where she is most useful." Her life was a testament to this thought.

She traveled extensively in this country, Canada and Europe. She retired in 1961.

She is survived by a nephew, Howard Marsh of Ossineke, Michigan, his wife Donna, Two great nephews, a great niece and their five children. She also leaves her steadfast friend and care-giver, Jane L. Riggs.

A memorial service will be held at Herson Funeral Home on Wednesday, August 17, 1994 at 5:00 p.m. with Rev. John A. Taylor officiating. Interment will be in the family plot Wellsboro, PA.

Memorial donations may be made to the S. Carolyn Marsh Scholarship, Ithaca H.S. Music Department or the charity of choice.