

Death claims Susan Parker Kerr, major benefactor

Made largest single commitment in the history of the college through a bequest in her will

Susan Parker Kerr, one of Chowan College's major benefactors and a former resident of Murfreesboro, died Friday, June 2, after being in declining health for a number years. At the time of her death she was a resident of Palm Garden Nursing Home in Winter Park, Florida.

Mrs. Kerr, daughter of the late Elwood W. and Elizabeth Sewell Parker, made the largest individual commitment in the history of Chowan College in the late 1980s through a bequest in her will.

"Susan Kerr was, indeed, a good friend of Chowan College," said Dr. Jerry F. Jackson, president of the college.

"The commitment she made to her alma mater will benefit future students for many, many years and will also serve as an inspiration to others who seek to make this college a stronger institution of Christian higher education."

Mrs. Kerr is survived by one son, Elwood

Parker Bennett of Indian Lake Estates, Florida.

Funeral services were held Thursday, June 8, at Cedar Grove Friends Meeting House in Woodland with entombment at Riverside Cemetery in Murfreesboro.

Memorial services were held in Harden Chapel on Tuesday, June 20.

The "Susan Parker Kerr Gazebo," in the center of Chowan's alumni green, was named in her honor during Founder's Day ceremonies in October, 1990.

Dr. Bruce E. Whitaker, president emeritus, said "Mrs. Kerr is a Chowan College alumna in whom a love for the college was instilled by her grandparents and her parents, long before her own educational experience as a Chowanian. She then became a strong supporter in her own right by a most significant contribution to strengthen the life and progress of the college."

The Parker family had strong ties to Chowan. Mrs. Kerr's mother graduated with the Class of

1929. Her father, the late Elwood W. Parker, supported the college over his lifetime.

Parker Hall, Chowan's eight-story residence hall, is named in honor of Mrs. Kerr's father. Co-owner of Riverside Manufacturing Company which later merged with Georgia-Pacific Corporation, her was instrumental in the reopening of Chowan College following World War II.

Susan Parker Kerr was one of the first area students to benefit from Chowan's re-opening. She was a student under two presidents, Dr. B. D. Bunn, who served from 1949 to 1951, and Dr. F. O. Mixon, president until his death in 1956.

J. Guy Revelle, Jr., of Revelle, Burleson, Lee and Revelle, Attorneys, said that "Chowan College is truly fortunate to have such a distinguished alumna so willing to invest significant resources in the lives and careers of young people."

Evans named vice president; admissions staff re-organized

Former admissions counselors will head four new divisions

Austine Evans has been named Vice President for Student Management at Chowan College and is guiding the re-organization of the Department of Student Enrollment. Mrs. Evans has filled the position of acting vice president for student enrollment for the past eleven months.

Prior to assuming responsibilities in student recruitment, Evans was Director of Academic Advisement and Student Retention. She also coordinated the "Freshman Year Experience" program.

In the re-organization of the department, four divisions have been created in the admissions office with former admissions counselors being named to head each division.

Stephanie Harrell has been appointed Director of Admissions and will have primary responsibilities of new student enrollment.

Todd Sellars will serve as Director of Transfer Enrollment to coordinate the admission of students transferring from other institutions as well as those who will be resuming their college education.

As a vital part of the re-structuring, the college will place greater emphasis on the continued enrollment of students. Brandon

Diehm, who has served as an admissions counselor for the past several years, accepted an appointment as Director of Retention but will continue to be involved in recruiting new students.

Angie Deacon, who was received her undergraduate degree with the historic Class of 1994 when Chowan awarded baccalaureate degrees for the first time in 57 years, has been named Director of International Students.

Deacon will work with foreign embassies and other agencies to recruit students from other countries. She will also coordinate orientation activities for them to help ease their transition to this country.

In addition to the division directors, the Office of Admissions will employ three interns during the fall months to assist the recruiting efforts and visit high schools throughout the eastern seaboard. The interns are often Chowan graduates who are knowledgeable of all programs and services the college offers.

The Department of Academic Support and Dr. B. Franklin Lowe, vice president for academic affairs, will supervise the academic advisement of students.

Mrs. Evans said college personnel partici-

pated in 188 college day fairs at high schools during the fall semester, and made more than 300 visits to private high schools.

"Our professional admissions staff and enrollment interns do an outstanding job at these high school college fairs," Mrs. Evans said, "and the success of our admissions program is largely due to their efforts."

In addition to the fall visits, student enrollment representatives of Chowan attend approximately 40 college day fairs during the spring term and make hundreds of telephone calls to prospective students.

Whitehead Foundation grant to provide scholarship funds

Chowan College has received a grant of \$44,000 from the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation, Inc., to provide scholarship funds to needy and qualified female students.

The grant will be used exclusively to assist in the education of "deserving Christian girls" who are residents of one of the nine southern states.

E. Vincent Tilson, vice president for development, said Chowan is "indebted to the Lettie Pate White Foundation for their continuing concern for the education of young people and for their significant contributions to provide financial assistance to qualified students."

The Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation is a charitable private foundation with executive offices in Atlanta, GA, and is dedicated to providing scholarships and grants to a number of institutions serving female students and elderly women.

Lettie Pate Whitehead was a native of Bedford County, VA. Her first husband, Joseph B. Whitehead, an attorney, and one of his associates formed the Atlanta Coca-Cola Bottling Co., to become the first to bottle the popular fountain soft drink.

Upon her husband's death in 1906, Mrs. Whitehead assumed active leadership in the family's business affairs and not only expanded the existing companies, but developed and promoted real estate investments.

In 1913, she married Col. Arthur Kelly Evans, a retired Canadian army officer, and the couple made their home in Hot Springs, VA.

Leaders of Class of '95

The officers of the Class of 1995 posed for a photograph immediately prior to a rehearsal for annual commencement exercises in Helms Center. Pictured are, left to right: Douglas Scott Claude of Drewryville, VA, vice president; Cynthia Drake Belch of Conway, president; Linda Mills of Portsmouth, VA, treasurer; and Shannon Dell Mandeville of Loganville, GA, secretary.

