

Carol Jean (Herman) Mathews was born October 13, 1943 in Bowdle, SD to Reinhold "Reinie" and Laura (Nelson) Herman. Her sister and brother are Patty and Kenneth Herman.

Carol attended school in Bowdle, graduating high school in 1961. She continued her education at South Dakota State University earning a bachelor's degree in Nursing in 1965. Carol also earned a Master of Arts degree in Health Service Administration from the George Washington University in Washington, DC.

Carol's first job was as a summer camp nurse in Fishkill, New York through the New York Herald Tribune Fresh Air Fund. After visiting the World Fair in New York City, she helped run an infirmary for children from Harlem. Her next job took her to Gary, Indiana as a school nurse. While in Gary, she also served as a nursing instructor of a high school program along with founding and directing the first Diabetes Education program through the Department of Health Education at Methodist Hospital.

In April 12th, 1969, Carol was united in marriage to Clyde Mathews. They moved to Derwood, Maryland, a Washington DC suburb, where she began working as a community health and school nurse for the Montgomery County, MD Division of School Health Services. She held various positions including supervisor of community health services, Section Chief in the Division of School Health Services, and the Director of the Division of School Health Services for Montgomery County, MD. She was also an active member in the Maryland State Nurses Association serving as President, Treasurer and chairing several committees. Carol was the recipient of the Maryland State Leadership Award for her work in the school health arena. She divorced in 1980 and retired from the Montgomery County, MD government in 1985.

Carol stayed in Derwood, MD with her son Timothy Nelson Mathews and received her Real Estate license and sold residential homes for a short time. In 1986, Carol took a position with Montgomery County Public Schools as a Management and Budget Specialist and worked for ten years before retiring for the second time in 1996.

Other career highlights include serving as an adjunct professor at Georgetown, Catholic and Maryland University Schools of Nursing. Carol was always politically involved, championing efforts for pay equality for nurses while working with national leaders. One of her passions included support for the '69 cent win!' campaign for increasing the pay for women equal to every dollar a man would earn.

Carol sold her Derwood, MD home and moved back to South Dakota in 2012 to live near her sister, niece and nephews and her hometown. She completed her Nursing Refresher course and worked for one semester as a clinical instructor at Presentation College Nursing School in Aberdeen, SD. Carol's greatest joy during retirement was traveling back to Maryland and spending time with her grandchildren.

Carol's life will be treasured by her son Timothy Nelson Mathews of Cresbard, SD; grandchildren: Timothy Nelson Mathews Jr. and Madison Mathews of Olney, Maryland; her sister Patty Nipp and niece Marilora Nipp of Cresbard; and nephews: Monte Nipp of Langford and Marlin Nipp of Pierre.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Kenneth.

In Loving Memory



Carol J. Mathews
1943 - 2015