



## Esther Davey Keirs

December 23, 1913 - August 9, 2011

Esther Davey Keirs was born in Chicago, Illinois. She was one of five children. The family moved to Harvey, Illinois, where she grew up. She was educated at the University of Illinois where she received a Master's Degree in Education. She taught Physical Education at Wood River, Illinois, and later at Oak Park High.

On June 7, 1941, she was married to Russell John Keirs. Shortly after Pearl Harbor, Russ was called up for active service, and for the next four years Esther and Russ traveled all over the United States, wherever the U.S. Army sent him.

After the war, they lived briefly in Buffalo, New York, and at Champaign-Urbana in Illinois. In 1950 they moved to Tallahassee where Russ taught Chemistry at Florida State while Esther was active in the college's organization. She was President of the Newcomer's Club and Vice President of the Women's Club. She was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church where she served as President of the Episcopal Church Women, taught Sunday school, and was a Lay Eucharistic Minister.

For 16 years Esther was active in the Tallahassee Little Theatre where she won the Best Actor Award for her role as Opal in "Everybody Loves Opal." Esther did volunteer work at the Raney School, and in the Head Start

Program at Leonard Wesson. She also taught adults to read through the Laubach program.

For several years she taught beginning bridge at the Lafayette Community Center where she was also a member of the Writer's Group.

She is survived by her son, Christopher of Houston, Texas, and two nieces, three nephews and several grand nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: St. John's Church, Tallahassee, or to the Church of the Good Shepherd in Cashiers, N.C.

# Previous Events

## Service

AUG 15. 2:00 PM (ET)

Westminster Oaks Chapel  
4449 Meandering Way  
Tallahassee, FL 32308