

In Memoriam

Surrounded by her Louisville family of children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, Virginia Peterson, wife of the Rev. Mainert Peterson, passed away in her room at the Episcopal Church Home on Nov. 2. She was 93.

A Washington, D. C., native, she was a graduate of Trenton State Teachers College in New Jersey, now the New Jersey State College, where she received a bachelor of science degree in music and English. While her college sweetheart, Mainert J. Peterson, was studying to become a priest of the Episcopal Church at General Theological Seminary in New York City, she earned her Master of Arts degree in religious studies at Columbia University. They were married the day after his ordination on Sept. 11, 1943 at Trinity Cathedral, Trenton, NJ.

The couple spent many years serving congregations in New Jersey and the Republic of Panama. While Mainert was serving at Christ Church By-the-Sea in Colon, Panama, and Christ Church Academy, Virginia taught at the academy, preparing for its re-building in 1952.

While serving in Panama, she was president of the Episcopal Church Women, during which time she traveled to the Republic of Columbia in South America, strengthening the work among the women of the church, and accompanied her husband in missions in Western Panama, Costa Rica and Nicaragua..

In 1969, they were called to St. Mark's Church in Louisville, where her husband served as rector for 13 years until he retired in 1982. Among her service in the diocese, she was a spiritual leader in the Cursillo movement in the diocese, and was known for her Bible classes at the Episcopal Church Home and St. Mark's Church.

They have four children: Mainert, Jr., Virginia, Charles, and Christina.