

In remembrance

Georgia Housewright Greer



We have lost one of our own in the archives with the passing of volunteer Georgia Greer on Sunday, March 27th, 2022. A kind soul with a generous spirit, Georgia will be missed. She was a friend to any who ever knew her.

Born Georgia Housewright in Church Hill, Tennessee, she grew up and attended school there. She was always proud of her heritage. Later, she researched and co-authored a history of her family and helped host an annual family reunion for many years. She graduated from Hiwassee College and East Tennessee State University

Georgia married a former high school classmate, Andrew (Andy) Greer. Andy was a Methodist minister, and Georgia enjoyed the life of a minister's wife. She was active in the various churches they served in southwest Virginia and East Tennessee, moving every few years as Methodist preachers do in the Holston Conference. In 1988, she became department secretary for the Archives of Appalachia at her alma mater, ETSU. She continued to work there until her retirement in 2013.

I first met Georgia in February 1994, when I began work as an archivist at the Archives of Appalachia. There Georgia and I became co-workers, friends, and for many years also neighbors in Jonesborough. Following her retirement, she began volunteering with the Washington County Archives when we first began using volunteers in 2016. Most every Tuesday and Thursday from the fall of that year until the fall of 2020, she worked faithfully in the archives. Georgia loved to type, and she spent her time with us typing the many (often lengthy) written guides to the various collections as these were processed. Her guides now posted online on the department's website are a lasting monument to the lady and benefit all future researchers.

Declining health finally forced her to stop volunteering, but she and we always held out the hope that one day she would come back to work. She comes back now in our memories of her instead. She is survived by her children, Dawn and Jeff.

-Ned Irwin, County Archivist