

SHERMAN CENTRAL SCHOOL

Wall of Fame

VIRGINIA MARGUERITE TENHAGEN

Inducted 2015



Virginia was born August 15, 1931 in Sherman, New York, daughter of William J. and Marguerite Doncavage Warnshuis. A graduate of Sherman Central School and Alfred State University her career began as executive secretary to the Statler Hilton Hotel manager in Buffalo. She eventually found herself back in her beloved Sherman where she was employed by W.L. Nuttall & Son Ford dealership for 40 years. Ginny completed the circle ending her career back at Sherman Central School, as the Principal's secretary for 15 years from June 1989 until her death in December of 2004.

Mrs. TenHagen was more than a secretary behind a desk. She regarded each person, including students, as worthy individuals and taught respect for others by teaching self-respect. She was a welcoming smile, a word of encouragement and a living example of the Golden Rule. She was truly a gift to Sherman Central School and to the community at large. A member of the Sherman Community Church and former Sunday school superintendent, serving on the board of deacons, sanctuary remodeling committee, pastoral relations committee and holiday festival chair for several years, receiving the Sherman Community Church outstanding service award in 2000. She was also a member of Beta Sigma Phi and Theta Theta Chi International Sororities, Woman of the Year Business & Professional Women's Association, a French Creek Yorker sponsor for 17 years and served as the Sherman Sesquicentennial co-chair. Mrs. TenHagen was instrumental in the establishment of the North Haven Senior Citizen Apartments and was the first woman to be "First Lady of Sherman" during the annual Sherman Day Celebration.

Virginia was a beloved wife to her husband Winslow whom she married in 1953 and a proud Mother to Spencer (Jane). A few of her outstanding traits include leading by example, her sense of humor, civic mindedness, passion for life and adventure; but perhaps most importantly, her love of family, co-workers and "Her Kids" at SCS. She wiped away many tears, but never caused any... in the end there is no goodbye, only love.