

Mary Maxine Williams

Maxine Williams was born October 14, 1912 near Plattsburg, Missouri, the second child of Bruce and Emma (Ward) Williams. When she was eight the family moved to Egeland, North Dakota, where her father pastored a Church of the Brethren and taught in the local school system. She completed her elementary and high school education in Egeland.

In 1934 Maxine graduated from Northwestern Bible and Missionary Training School in Minneapolis, Minnesota and, with an associate, pastored a church in Gheen, Minnesota affiliated with the Gospel Missionary Union. She spent three years traveling throughout North Dakota as a Sunday School representative for the Assemblies of God and, with her brother Ward, spent a year in mission work in Tokio, North Dakota. Her overseas ministry included seven summers in Central America and one in Cuba. She taught in Spanish in Bible Institutes in Nicaragua and Costa Rica. She visited the Holy Land three times as part of her teaching preparation.

Maxine was a gifted teacher. She taught one year in a rural public school near Cando, North Dakota, four years at North Central Bible Institute in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and thirty-two years at Northwest College in Kirkland, Washington. Williams Hall, at Northwest College, is named in her honor.

Maxine did her undergraduate work at several colleges: Minot North Dakota State Teachers' College, Valley City North Dakota State Teachers' College, Southwest Missouri State College, and the University of Minnesota. She earned her Master's degree at the University of Washington and was given an honorary doctorate by Northwest College in recognition of her superior abilities.

She retired from teaching in 1982. Almost immediately she was diagnosed as having rheumatoid arthritis, but managed to maintain her home in Kirkland, Washington and continued to be independent. She taught Bible studies in numerous churches in the Seattle area and read, on tape, nearly five hundred books to be distributed to the blind through a Christian library. In 1991 she suffered a severe stroke, and in 1992 she entered Maranatha Village nursing facility in Springfield, Missouri, where she could be near more of her family. She passed away September 21 at Maranatha Village.

Survivors include **one brother** and his wife, Ward and Leora Williams of Lakeland, Florida, **three sisters** and their husbands: Harriet and Sydney Bryant of Springfield, Missouri, Katherine and Elmer Trygg of Hillsboro, Oregon, Marian and Robert Brandt of Billings, Montana; **also a sister**, Dorris Kingsriter and a sister-in-law, Macey Williams, both of Springfield, Missouri, and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one brother, Morris Williams, and a brother-in-law, Harland Kingsriter.