



Jeanne Cunningham Augustine

July 12, 2020

Jeanne Marie Cunningham Augustine was born on June 5, 1930 to parents Edna "Ruby" Francis and Joseph H. Cunningham. She grew up in New Orleans, where she attended James Lewis Elementary School, J.W Hoffman Junior High, and graduated from McDonough No. 35 Senior High School in 1946. She finished in the top 20% of her class, while serving as a member of the French Club, Science Club, and Office Club.

Jeanne Cunningham entered Dillard University in the fall of 1946, where she majored in Secondary Education with a concentration in Social Studies and English. She graduated from Dillard in May 1950 at nineteen years old. Because of her age, Jeanne was considered too young to be hired for a secondary teaching position in New Orleans. She therefore began her teaching career, in the fall of 1950, at Carver High School in Breaux Bridge, Louisiana. She later returned to New Orleans and taught English and Social Studies at the then-newly opened Carter G. Woodson School in uptown New Orleans. In the fall of 1961, she was assigned to her alma mater, McDonough No. 35, where she taught Social Studies and English for over 35-years. Affectionately known as "Mrs. Aug," she served on several school committees, including Senior Chapel, Last Class, and Cultural Arts. It was also during her tenure as an educator that she was initiated into the New Orleans Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

Mrs. Aug retired in 1995, after having taught multiple generations. For more than 60-years, she was also a very active member of Pilgrim's Rest Baptist Church #2, where she ably assisted with multiple ministries. Mrs. Aug's lifetime of service, especially in the field of education, continues to inspire her children, grandchildren, and others. To help preserve her legacy and make higher education possible for others, to honor the 70th anniversary of her college graduation, her family established the Jeanne Cunningham Augustine Endowed Scholarship at Dillard University.

Jeanne Cunningham Augustine was preceded in death by her loving husband, Henry Louis Augustine, Sr.; parents, Edna "Ruby" Francis and Joseph H. Cunningham; stepfather, Webster Francis, Sr. "Daddy"; one sister, Beatrice Cunningham Johnson; and one brother, Webster Francis, Jr.

She leaves to cherish her loving memory her daughter, Deborah Augustine Elam; son, the Reverend Dr. Jonathan Cunningham Augustine (Michelle); stepson, Dr. Henry Louis Augustine, Jr.; granddaughters, Katherine Marie Elam, Alexandra Jeanne Elam, Jillian Claire Augustine; step granddaughters, Yolanda Rene Augustine, Kimberly Louise Augustine, Angelina Maria Augustine; sisters, Mary Francis Byrd, Ethel "Mildred" Francis Dinnwiddie (Julius), and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family, former students and friends.

The family will celebrate the life of Mrs. Jeanne Cunningham Augustine at Dillard University Lawless Memorial Chapel on Friday, July 17, 2020. Please join by live stream at 11:00am CST. <https://vimeo.com/event/168234>. In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions to the Jeanne Cunningham Augustine scholarship fund. <https://dillarduniversity.networkforgood.com/projects/95035-jeanne-augustine-endowed-scholarship-fund>. Visitation will be held at Dillard University Lawless Memorial Chapel from 9:30 am - 10:50 am. Due to COVID-19, we ask those who are attending to wear a mask at all times.

Interment: Providence Memorial Park Cemetery. Please visit www.rhodesfuneral.com to sign the online guestbook, share memories and condolences for the family.

Cemetery Details

Providence Park Cemetery

8200 Airline Dr.
Metairie, LA 70003

Tribute Wall

CE

“ Mrs.A was the epitome of God's love and kindness. She was my teacher and my friend. She taught me about my studies and life. She will always have a special place in my heart. To know her was to love her. I hope and pray that God's peace and strength will help all of us during this excruciatingly painful time.



Carolyn Gifford Earl - July 18, 2020 at 06:28 AM

SJ

“ Hi, Deb and Jay, it was a beautiful and fitting service for your mom. I wore my Hat for my hat loving Auntie. Brian and I watched together, our prayers are with you all.

Love Sylvia

Sylvia A. Johnson - July 17, 2020 at 01:47 PM

CB

“ As a child growing up I had fond memories of Mrs Augustine. I always thought of her as the pretty lady who lived next door. Always so warm and friendly. Deborah and I were childhood friends who played together and attended dancing school together. I was so happy to reconnect with her and ask how her Mom was. 90 years , what a blessing. God bless her and rest in peace Mrs Augustine. You will surely be missed 🙏



Claudia Gaines Butler - July 17, 2020 at 12:57 PM

EF

“ Mrs. Aug was not only my co-worker at MCDonogh 35 for almost 25 years, but she was also my advisor, surrogate mother and friend. She had so much wisdom to share on so many subjects and I appreciated her honesty and integrity. She made one feel loved and special whenever you were in her presence as if you were the only one that matter in that moment. Her beautiful smile and generous spirit were invaluable. Debra and Jonathan, please know that my thoughts, prayers and love as you say goodbye to your mom. You really never say goodbye because her spirit lives on in both of of you. The testament of her motherliness and character is reflected in both of you. She will forever be an indelible spirit to us. Continue to let the love that your beloved mother instilled in you be a beacon of light, hope and love. Eve Francois

Eve Francois - July 16, 2020 at 02:32 PM

EC

“ May the Comforter give you peace during this time of bereavement. Please know that we are praying for you and your family! Blessings, Ernest and Ingrid Casterlow

Ernest and Ingrid Casterlow - July 16, 2020 at 12:29 PM

CH

“ Mrs. Augustine was like a second mom to me. She always looked out for me. She will be truly missed

Charles Hightower



Charles Hightower - July 15, 2020 at 11:10 PM

SH

“ To Deborah and family,

Your mother was a beautiful and caring woman. My fondest memories of her were during our elementary school days at Dunbar. She touched so many lives in the way only true educators do. Hats off to a life well lived.

Respectfully,

Sultana Hasan

Sultana Hasan - July 15, 2020 at 04:14 PM

A7

“ *Mrs. Augustine was a wonderful instructor and will always be remembered for her human interest stories and life lessons that she shared. I am so grateful to have benefited from her teachings and wisdom. Prayers for your strength.*



Alisha J. Brown - McD35 - c/o 78 - July 15, 2020 at 02:27 PM

BH

“ *Beverly D Hester-Stephens lit a candle in memory of Jeanne Cunningham Augustine*



Beverly D Hester-Stephens - July 15, 2020 at 12:46 PM

JS

“ Joel C. Smith lit a candle in memory of
Jeanne Cunningham Augustine



Joel C. Smith - July 15, 2020 at 11:38 AM

AS

“ Ardetha Smith lit a candle in memory of
Jeanne Cunningham Augustine



Ardetha Smith - July 15, 2020 at 11:36 AM

MH

“ To the Augustine Family: We the Harrell Family extend our
condolences to you during this season of bereavement. Know that
we share your grief and that you are in our hearts, thoughts and
prayers. Much love, Pastor Kenneth J. Harrell, Rev. Karen Harrell,
Mother Mary Harrell & Family

Mary Harrell - July 15, 2020 at 10:38 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of
Jeanne Cunningham Augustine.



July 15, 2020 at 09:39 AM

GB

“ My Heartfelt condolences to the family. My fondest memories are during my school age years when Deborah and I were good friends. She was my surrogate mother in every way. She showed me the same Love she gave to her daughter. I remember a few of our conversations that were very humorous. She always had a very witty sense of humor. I remember Deborah and I having to come up with a good argument in order to justify going to an event or party without supervision. It is clear how she regarded us as precious cargo. Now that I am a parent I respect every minute of the drilling she gave us before permission. Someone said “we may not remember exactly what someone said to you but you will always remember how they made you feel.” She always made me feel that she genuinely cared and she showed me love in many ways. Rest on , you earned your wings.

Gaynell Bellizan - July 15, 2020 at 08:37 AM

WK

“ I will truly miss you Mrs. Augustine, you were one of my favorite teachers at McDonogh #35 and you were like a mother as well as a teacher.

William King
Class of 1968



William King - July 15, 2020 at 08:30 AM

JJ

“ You have our sincere condolences. Jarrett Johnson and Family

jarrett johnson - July 15, 2020 at 07:33 AM

CE

“ I am praying that God who does all things perfect will comfort and keep you in perfect peace. I encourage you to let the memories of your loved one give you joy and the assurance of God's love to give you peace and strength.

I pray knowing that her last breath on earth was followed by her first breath in the arms of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will give you solace.

In His grace,
Carolyn



Carolyn Gifford Earl - July 14, 2020 at 09:46 PM

KN

“ My condolences to the family on the passing of my beloved teacher, Mrs Aug. I was in her class at McD 35. Mrs Aug was always so prim and proper to me. She was a true lady and held us to the same standards. I'll always remember her for that. She didnt take any mess. She made us be our best selves. 90 years is a blessing. Rest well my sweet, beautiful teacher.

KAREN Jenkins Newkirk - July 14, 2020 at 05:25 PM