Dorlesa Barmettler-Ewing, Professor Emerita of the Department of Educational Psychology, passed away February 13, 2009, according to her son James Ewing.

Dorlesa was born in Switzerland, and was a resident of San Leandro for nearly 50 years. She grew up in Napa, and graduated, with honors, from the University of California Berkeley, first with a B.A. degree in 1950 and a Ph.D. in 1970. She obtained her M.S. degree from California State College, Hayward in 1966.

She began substitute teaching and then became a full-time instructor and counselor at Tennyson High School. In 1965 Dorlesa was hired as an instructor at Cal State Hayward and in 1976 became a full professor, all while maintaining a private practice. During the late 1980’s, she was Chair of the Department of Educational Psychology.

Her son says, “My mother was one of six siblings. In her family, three of her siblings also went on to teach, two at the university level. Two of her siblings are published authors. Even her parents, in spite of being German speaking immigrants, and hard working ranch owners, took the time to complete college degrees of their own.”

Dr. Barmettler-Ewing retired from CSUEB in 1991 and was awarded emeritus status.

Preceded in death by husband Stephen, and son Steve, Dorlesa is survived by her son, James, his wife Nancy; two granddaughters, Elizabeth Gray and Jennifer Ewing; three great-grandchildren, Alexandria, Joshua, and Kara Gray; a brother, Robert; and two sisters, Johanna Black and Hildagard Graves. An accomplished artist, avid reader, traveler, and lover of animals, she will be missed.