Professor Emerita Evelyn Belgum Passes Away at 84

A memorial service will be held Saturday, June 28, for Evelyn Belgum, a professor in the Teacher Education Department of Cal State East Bay between 1965 and 1986. The service for Belgum, who passed away on Monday morning (June 23) at the age of 84, will be held at 10 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley, 2407 Dana St. “Evelyn was very popular with her students, sending many of them into the teaching profession,” said her friend and former colleague Vicky Mui, who served on the teacher education faculty with Belgum and first knew her when they were students at the University of California, Berkeley. “She used a number of her sabbatical leaves to serve on many medical and educational missionary trips to Afghanistan and other countries in the Middle East, helping the people there.” Belgum joined the Faculty Early Retirement Program in 1986 and continued teaching part-time until 1995. While a student, preparing to become a teacher, Belgum was honored as both a Fulbright scholar and Danforth fellow, the latter in recognition for her service to students. She earned a bachelor’s degree in 1948 and doctorate in 1967 from UC Berkeley and a master’s in 1959 from San Francisco State. Mui said she and Belgum shared an office when Belgum served as a multiple subject team leader for the CSUEB teacher education faculty. Belgum is survived by three sisters—Loretta Belgum, Eleanor Belgum and Gwen Smith—and two brothers, Richard Belgum and Keith Belgum. Evelyn Belgum, who had been in failing health for a number of years, was living with Gwen Smith in Roseville when she died. She never married.

Loretta Belgum said that friends and former colleagues who wish to make a donation in Evelyn’s memory may do so to the First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley. Condolences may be sent to the family c/o Loretta Belgum, 3375 Tice Creek Dr., #2, Walnut Creek, CA 94595.

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