

Mrs. Joyce Bridges Jones



Mrs. Joyce Bridges Jones was born in Marion County, Georgia in 1936 to Morris and Irva Bridges. She moved to Perry, Georgia with her family in 1948 and graduated from Perry High School in 1954.

She married James (Jimmy) Wallace Jones on June 23, 1956, and graduated from Shorter College in 1958 with her bachelor's degree. Later she graduated from Mercer University with a master's degree in English.

Mrs. Jones and her husband Jimmy bought 40 acres of land in Fort Valley which they turned into a "mini Callaway Gardens." They had two daughters, Felicia and Valerie. Mrs. Jones began teaching at Perry High in 1965 and watched both her daughters graduate while she was teaching. She retired in 1991 after teaching 28 years in Houston County with more than 31 years total classroom experience.

A Master Gardner, Mrs. Jones is a member of the Fort Valley Town and Country Garden Club, the Perry Muses Book Club and Red Cross Disaster Club. She is also a member of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Perry. Sadly, Jimmy passed away on March 6, 2010. Joyce's daughter Felicia is retired from Norfolk Southern and lives in Jacksonville, Florida. Valerie is retired from her dance school and lives in Mexico with her husband.

"I would say that she is the 'Living Legend' from Perry High School." ~ Ray Horne, fellow teacher

"She had the incredible gift of really connecting with teens and given the chance, I'm sure thousands of former students could fill reams of paper with stories of how this well-respected, much-loved woman played an unforgettable role in each of their lives. One doesn't forget Ms. Jones. All that she gives becomes part of you forever. It's part of who you are. She's always was with me in that way." ~ Susan Marchman, former student

