

## Margaret McElveen Greer

Long-time Island resident Margaret M. Greer passed away on Friday, February 3, 2017. Born in Columbia, SC, on September 5, 1924, she graduated with top honors from Spartanburg High School and was offered a full scholarship to study French literature at Limestone College. Instead, she opted for practicality and pursued a Business degree at Anderson College.

In 1947 Margaret married Larry Orr of Anderson, SC. They had two children, Jane and Jim. While Larry worked in the textile industry in Spartanburg and Charlotte, Margaret studied voice, sang in the church choir, acted in Little Theater productions, and raised funds for the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra. In 1960 they bought a beachfront lot in newly opened Sea Pines Plantation, intending to build a vacation home in which to thaw out from life in Massachusetts, where Larry had just accepted a job. Instead, captivated by the beauty of Hilton Head, they chose to join the coterie of adventurers planning Sea Pines and moved permanently into the beach house designed by brilliant architect John Wade. Thus began Margaret's lifetime of combining artistic vision with practicality.

After Margaret and Larry Orr divorced, she married island painter Walter Greer. For the next fifty years she threw herself not only into promoting his career but also into establishing and participating in many theater and musical arts organizations on Hilton Head. She authored books on local history, was a Trust officer at the Bank of

Béaufort, and played a mean game of tennis up into her seventies. Her favorite charities were the Humane Association and the Deep Well Project.

Margaret is survived by two children, Jane Orr of South Berwick, Maine, and James L. Orr of Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts; stepchildren Walter Greer, Jr., of Bokeelia, Florida, John H. Greer of Vancouver, Washington, and Suzannah Gale of Lubec, Maine; and granddaughters Josephine Orr and Elle Crigler; as well as many close friends who remained by her side throughout her struggle with Parkinson's Disease.

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, February 13, at St. Luke's Church, 50 Pope Avenue, Hilton Head. Memorials may be sent to Deep Well Project, PO Box 5543, Hilton Head, SC 29938.

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