

[Knight, Mary G.]

Mary Knight Dies at 85; Ex-Teacher in Webster

A woman who had played a part in the education of more than 1,000 residents of the Town of Webster died yesterday (Sept. 22, 1953) in Highland Hospital.

She was Miss Mary G. Knight, for 35 years a member of the faculty of Webster High School and previously a teacher in Webster district one-room schools. Her last illness had prevented her from attending graduation ceremonies at the Central school last June—the first Webster commencement she had missed since 1904. She was 85 years old.

Miss Knight was a member of one of Webster's pioneer families. Graduating in 1886 from Geneseo Normal School, she attended Albany State Teachers College and taught in Pittsburgh, Pa., and Johnstown, N.Y.

In 35 years at Webster High School she served under six principals. She was treasurer of the student association from 1917 until she retired in 1939. She was faculty advisor for the school year book, "The Reveille," from its start in 1918, was senior preceptress from 1922, and was president of the faculty club when she retired. She directed junior and senior plays and kept the school attendance records. She saw enrollment grow from 447 students in 1918 to 1,002 in 1938.

The 20th publication of the school annual, which she had helped found, was dedicated to her. It noted her "kind understanding and companionship." Even after her retirement, former students continued to seek her advice on many matters.

She lived at 57 Lapham Pk., Webster, with a cousin, Mrs. Dorothy Robb.

Originally a member of the old Universalist Church in Webster [disbanded probably in 1930 or earlier], she later affiliated with Webster Presbyterian Church. She was active in the Webster Grange, Webster Order of the Eastern Star, and Women's Christian Temperance Union.

She is survived by two nieces and Mrs. Robb. Funeral services will be held Friday at 3:30 p.m. at the home. Burial will be in Webster Rural Cemetery.

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