

## OBITUARIES

# Rites held for Lory Fetzer, 55, longtime kindergarten teacher

A memorial service for longtime Dallas kindergarten teacher Lorelei "Lory" Fetzer was Friday.

Dr. Fetzer, 55, died Monday of a stroke at Baylor University Medical Center in Irving.

She taught school for 32 years. In 1974, she was named Teacher of the Year in Jacksonville, Fla., a recognition she repeated in Dallas in 1991 at the Gabe Allen School. She taught English as a Second Language classes.

"It made no difference to her who the children were, she was their guardian angel," said Dr. O.D. Vega, principal at Gabe Allen. "She always cared for them, nurtured them and always encouraged them to believe in themselves."

Dr. Vega said Dr. Fetzer's more than three decades of teaching kindergarten speaks highly of her special talents.

"Not everybody can be a kindergarten teacher," Dr. Vega said.

Dr. Fetzer became interested in teaching when she took a course in caring for young children as a home-economics major at Texas

Tech University, said her mother, Phyllis Fetzer of Carrollton.

"She fell in love with those children," Ms. Fetzer said.

In 1965, she earned her bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University. She began teaching kindergarten in Florida in 1966. She earned her master's degree from the University of Florida in 1974 and her doctorate in education from East Texas State University in 1994.

Dr. Fetzer had been an active Girl Scout leader for 20 years. She enjoyed attending Dallas Symphony Orchestra concerts and Broadway show musicals. She was also president of the Coventry Village Homeowners Association.

"She loved life," her mother said.

In addition to her mother, Dr. Fetzer is survived by her brother, Alan Fetzer of San Antonio; two sisters, Eileen-Hutchinson of Friendswood, Texas, and Julie Thomas of San Antonio.

Memorials may be made to the Dallas County Adult Literacy Council, 2902 Floyd St., Dallas, Texas 75204.