



Linda Hughes Hardie

Class of 1962

Educator, Humanitarian, and Community Volunteer

Linda Hughes attended Coal Mountain and Cumming Elementary Schools. She earned her BS in Education from North Georgia College and completed student teaching with Mary Rucker at Cumming Elementary. She taught briefly at Big Creek School, then worked in an early childhood research program (Project Follow Through) in Pickens County. She earned Masters and Education Specialist degrees from the University of Georgia.

Linda joined the Georgia Department of Education in 1978. She worked statewide in early childhood curriculum development, spending a semester in India as a Fulbright Scholar.

In 1983 she married Eben Hardie, Jr. of New Orleans, where the couple were active in community and educational activities. Linda was professor of early childhood education at Delgado Community College, was named teacher of the year, and was active in early childhood professional organizations at the local, state and national levels. She retired after 20 years at Delgado.

Linda and her family moved back to Cumming in 2006. Before Eben died in 2010, they traveled to six continents. Linda continues to be involved in church and community organizations, including the North Georgia Community Foundation, CASA Forsyth, the Cumming Garden Club, FC Master Gardeners, and Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church.

Her daughter, Jill Pruitt Denlea, is from her first marriage to Ledford Pruitt (who died in 1985). Linda has five Hardie step-children and 12 step-grandchildren.

FCHS is proud to induct Linda Hughes Hardie into the 2021 Class of the Hall of Fame.