



## Susan Marcelle Prazak

January 13, 1934 - July 31, 2020

Woodruff, SC – Susan Marcelle Klein Prazak was born on January 13, 1934 in Vienna, Austria. She came to New York in 1940.

She earned a Bachelors Degree Cum Laude from NYU and a Masters Degree from Hunter College.

She taught mathematics in New York City Schools for 2 years and for 30 years in the College of Charleston where she received several teaching awards.

She was a member of SC CMT, Phi Beta Kappa and the Unitarian Church in Charleston.

She died on July 31, 2020 and is survived by her sons Steven and Scott and grandchildren Abigail, Madelyne and Logan.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Unitarian Universalist Church, 4 Archdale Street, Charleston, SC 29401.

# Tribute Wall

KH

“ It is with a sad heart to learn about the loss of Mrs. Prazak. I am a former student of hers from the College of Charleston and must say that she was the best math instructor that I EVER had. She worked in the math lab helping those who took Calculus understand concepts that felt like eating an elephant in one bite. A fellow student and I lived in the math lab for our freshman year where we grew to love Mrs. Prazak and her explanations that gave us confidence to tackle the rest of our assignments. Truly the best class I had was her Calculus 3 class where I earned an A and spent many hours in her office where she drew figures in 3 dimensions as expertly as Leonardo DaVinci. She truly inspired me to major in math and continue for my master's degree. Skip ahead 25 years when my son was taking Calculus in high school, and I pulled my textbook from the attic and used it to help him as Mrs. Prazak had helped me. Then a year later he was buried in a college Calculus 3 class and I tried to draw the figures she drew for me during all of those office visits. I have told both of my children stories about 'the best math teacher ever' as they grumbled through calculus classes. I had the pleasure to run into her here in Charleston several years ago at the grocery store where I reintroduced myself and told her how I had told my children all about her and her expert instruction. Please let the College of Charleston know of her passing if you have not already. On another note, I did not meet Mr. Prazak but as I found his obituary on this site, please accept my condolences as well. I also started my career at Westvaco but in a different division and am still employed there through the multiple owners after 31 years so while I did not know him, I feel a connection as we were both former Westvaco employees.  
Kelly Hiott, former CofC math student

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**Kelly Hiott** - August 11, 2020 at 05:31 PM

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*It is with a very sad and heavy heart that I hear of the passing of Mrs. Sue Prazak. She is, was, and always will be on of the most cherished Math Professors from the College of Charleston. Not just a gem, but a bright and shining diamond in the field of Mathematics. She had a gift and an art for making even the most obtuse Math Problem into a solvable equation. No matter the 'Math Mountain', you knew you could climb it with Mrs. Prazak!!!! Those of us who knew her and were helped by her were certainly all the better for her kind influence and knowledgeable expertise to explain and demonstrate even the most complicated Calculus Problems. My friend Kelly and I would go to the Math Lab to do our homework, and time our arrivals to coincide with the dates and times that Mrs. Prazak would be there. For me, I was 3.5 years between taking Calculus II and Calculus III. Before taking the Calculus III class I talked it over with Mrs. Prazak to make sure I could take Calculus III successfully -- and she totally encouraged me to take the class AND of course, when I saw that she was teaching it that semester, I immediately signed up for her class. She helped me immensely! I majored in Computer Science, and Mrs Prazak helped me complete my Minor in Math, and that in turned helped me to go on and get my Master's Degree in Computer Science. She was a masterful instructor! Always focused on explaining concepts and problems so her students could master the material. For Her, it was not just about teaching, it was about enlightening and empowering others to tackle, understand, and solve higher math problems. She truly taught us "How to Think". Not just to mechanically solve math problems, but how to THINK and apply our knowledge to the problem. She will be greatly missed. And I am sure, Heaven has a new awakening in the area of Calculus!! Keep on Integrating and Differentiating in Three Dimensions - Mrs. Prazak!!!*

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**Chuck Spell** - August 13, 2020 at 01:10 PM