

Helen Jordan

July 19, 1926 – December 31, 2023

Helen Jordan, 97, was born on July 19, 1926, to Oliver and Iva Rebecca Jordan in Rockingham County, VA, and passed away in Staunton, VA, on December 31, 2023. She completed her undergraduate degree from Bridgewater College. In 1948, she completed training to be a medical technologist at Cornell University. Later, while working toward a master's degree at Virginia Tech, she had the opportunity to enroll in the veterinary program at the University of Georgia. In 1955, she earned both her master's degree at Virginia Tech and her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at the University of Georgia. She made history by being one of the first women veterinarians in the US. She subsequently earned a Ph.D. in Zoology at the University of Georgia and Oklahoma State University where she joined the faculty as a full-time professor, retiring in 1993. Helen lived life to its fullest. She is survived by her sister, June Jordan; brother, John Jordan (Kay); sister-in-law, Linda Jordan, and three generations of beloved nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; her partner, Dr. Julia McHale; sister Doady Didawick (Guy); brother Oliver Jordan, Jr; and sister-in-law, Ruth Jordan.