
Virginia Whitehead

Virginia Farquhar Whitehead, 87, of Merritt Island, passed away May 13, 2011.

Virginia was a pioneer in the aerospace industry since beginning her career in 1945. She started the data reduction group at White Sands Proving Ground in 1948, and retired from [NASA](#) in 2008 as a Launch Site Support Manager. She received numerous accolades throughout her career, including a Kennedy Space Center Lifetime Achievement award.

Virginia was passionate about helping people and animals. She especially enjoyed unscrambling the red tape of bureaucracy when it got in the way of progress.

Virginia is survived by Richard Whitehead, her husband of 60 years; her daughters, Peggy and Catherine; her sons, Michael and James; daughters-in-law, Solange and Elana; Ashley, a granddaughter whom she raised; grandchildren, William, Joseph, Lynelle, Derek, Noah, Bethany, Adam and Anna; brother, James Farquhar; and sisters, Gloria Caddell, Mildred Naylor and Anna Hansen.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday, May 18th at 10:30 a.m. at Our Saviour's Church in Cocoa Beach.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Florida Wildlife Hospital.

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