## **Shirley Case**

Elementary teacher, Elementary Principal, Director of Curriculum-Shirley Case spent a total of forty-six years as a teacher and administrator during her career; thirty-three of those years were spent with Wright City.

She was born and raised in Hannibal, Mo. and began teaching in 1955 at the Ralls County R 2 School District, where she first taught in a one room schoolhouse- teaching grades 1-5. She stayed at this school district through the 1968 school year.

In the summer of 1968, she was hired by Elloise Hasekamp, elementary principal, where she began teaching the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class during the 1968/1969 school year. Through Mrs. Case's longevity she witnessed many changes in the teaching environment, but she kept pace by continuing her education and enhancing her vision as an educator. She eventually gained a graduate degree in education and Administration, allowing her to advance to other endeavors throughout her career within the school district.

She taught elementary classes (including being part of the gifted program) until 1989. In 1990 she was promoted to elementary principal for the school district, and later she took more responsibility as Director of Curriculum. This position gave her the responsibility over the school's course components and teaching policies in which she prepared and reported to the superintendent and school board for the school's needs.

In 2015, Wright City School District built a new Early Childhood Center. During the ribbon cutting, Shirley Case was recognized as being the first educator in Wright City to bring Early Child education to the district. She hired Diane Dreyer as the first teacher to the program in 1990-1991 when the program was at West Elementary.

Mrs. Case graduated with a BS in education at Kirksville Teacher's College (now Truman University), she also gained her master's degree in education and administration from Truman; in addition, she took many courses at University of Missouri/St. Louis. Mrs. Case retired after the 2001 school year reaching a total of six decades in her career, five of those in the Wright City school district.