

**Jill Dumeresque McArthur '58** of Foley died Jan. 31, 2005. She worked as a commercial photographer in London in the '50s. Following marriage and a move to Alabama, she worked on several local and national political campaigns, including speechwriting for the presidential campaigns of Presidents Reagan and Bush. After moving to Foley in 1992, she was active in preserving native plants and illustrated a book entitled *Where the Wild Illycium Grows*. She also was co-owner of Sew Special, an heirloom sewing shop. Survivors include daughter **Janie Shelswell-White '87**.

**O. Ruth Alverson McNutt '58** of Birmingham died Jan. 23, 2005. She served for many years as a teacher in Alabama and Florida, including service at Glen Iris Elementary and Crestline Elementary. She retired as assistant principal of Seminole Middle School in Seminole, Fla, in 1985. Survivors include grandson **Josh Payne '03**.

**Louise Pope '59** of Birmingham died Dec. 13, 2004. She held a master's degree in education from BSC. She served for 51 years as a teacher and principal in the Tarrant school system.

**Avis Pace McLendon '60** of Gardendale died Dec. 1, 2004. With a master's degree from the University of Alabama, she served for many years as a teacher in Georgia and Alabama.

**John S. Thornton Jr. '60** of Redington Beach, Fla., died Jan. 22, 2002. Survivors include wife Dorothy Thornton.

**Elizabeth Lowrey Creed '61** of Charlottesville, Va., died Jan. 1, 2005. She held a master's degree from Birmingham-Southern and taught English for 20 years at Brooke-Hill School before it became part of the Altamont School. After retirement from teaching, she worked in the president's office at Birmingham-Southern. Her husband was **Howard Hall Creed**, longtime English professor at BSC. Survivors include daughter **Hild Creed '70**.

**Dr. Jack G. Barefield '62** of San Diego died March 12, 2005. The former radio and television writer, who once administered NBC's Syndicated Programs Division and worked in publicity and advertising for Murray Martin Public Relations and McCann-Erickson in New York, spent his retirement years in playwriting and in theatre, particularly working with young people.

**Sister Maria Mundi '63** of Leeds died Dec. 5, 2004. She was a retired teacher, with service at John Carroll High School.

**Thomas Edward Skinner '68** of Homewood died March 21, 2005. With a master's degree in library science from the University of Alabama, he served at Samford University Library for 32 years.

**Dorothy L. Kifer '69** of Gadsden died Oct. 11, 2004.

**Alan Curtis Kranz '69** of New Orleans, La., died April 2, 2005. Survivors include brother **Mark Steven Kranz Sr. '75**, sister-in-law **Elizabeth Harper Kranz '75**, and nephew **Mark Steven Kranz Jr. '04**.

**Kenneth E. McNees '75** of Jackson, Miss., died Feb. 20, 2005. He was a Juice Plus distributor and a criminal defense attorney with Vick and Associates.

**Mark Christopher Johnson '81** of Birmingham died March 3, 2005. He was a teacher, with 16 years of service at Forest Hills Middle School and a more recent position at Moody Junior High School. A musician, he performed in the Birmingham music scene for 25 years. At one time he was the Banjo Champion of Northeast Alabama and Southern Tennessee, and was well known for his banjo, guitar, and fiddle playing at music festivals throughout the Southeast. Survivors include his parents, **Dr. James C. Johnson '52** and **Sally Wood Johnson '53**, and sister **Susan Johnson Lawrence '79**. *Contributions to the Mark C. Johnson Scholarship Fund may be directed to Birmingham-Southern College, 900 Arkadelphia Road, Box 549003, Birmingham, AL 35254.*

**Sammie Lee Speigner III '89** of Birmingham died Feb. 17, 2005. He was adjunct professor of sociology at Birmingham-Southern. From January 1997 to August 2003, he served as assistant professor of sociology and was visiting assistant professor of sociology from September to December 2004.

## Friends

**David W. Hamilton** of Birmingham, a member of the Endowment Builders Society at BSC, died March 7, 2005. Survivors include wife **Edith Plosser Hamilton '44**.

**Ora Lee Hill** of Mountain Brook died Feb. 7, 2005. She was a generous supporter of various community organizations, including Birmingham-Southern, where she in 1997, established The Ora Lee Hill and J. Ernest Hill Scholarship. Survivors include husband James Ernest Hill. *Contributions in her memory may be made to Birmingham-Southern College, 900 Arkadelphia Road, Box 549003, Birmingham, AL 35254.*

**Albert Moore "Bert" McNeel** of Birmingham died March 22, 2005. After retirement from White Dairy and Barber Pure Milk Co., he served as supervisor in the Striplin Fitness Center of Birmingham-Southern for 18 years. Survivors include wife Terry Kendrick McNeel.

**Nell Rankin** of New York City died Jan. 13, 2005. She was a leading mezzo-soprano of the Metropolitan Opera from 1951-76. A student of voice at the Birmingham-Southern Conservatory, her photograph is displayed in the college's Hill Recital Hall.