



Alumni Spotlight

Evelyn Schreiber '47



Evelyn (Fletcher) Schreiber, an alumna from the **Class of 1947** of Millersville State Teachers College, is celebrating the 75th year anniversary of her graduation this year. Through talking with Evelyn, we learned about her experience at Millersville and how different it was from the present-day student experience at Millersville University.

While a student at Millersville State Teachers College, Evelyn majored in secondary social studies. When Evelyn was attending Millersville, there were notably more female students on campus in comparison to male students. This was primarily due to World War II, in which many male students were serving in the military during the war. Evelyn describes her social life at Millersville as consisting of a “small, tight-knit group.” Many differences in Millersville campus life can be discerned between then and now. For example, all meals were served by staff, and there was no cafeteria. Additionally, there was a relatively formal implied dress code. “You didn’t wear slacks back then,”

Evelyn comments. She still remembers her first semester bill costing 94 dollars at the time, during the mid-1940s.

Evelyn met her future husband, Russell Schreiber '47, while attending college at Millersville, and she recalls the time she first met him in 1946. There was a porch in front of the Industrial Arts building where many male students would hang out, and Russell just so happened to notice Evelyn one day and invited her to the “Bunny Bounce Dance.” After graduating from Millersville in 1947, Evelyn’s first teaching job was in a school district in Lebanon County, teaching junior high social studies for a year. Evelyn and Russell married and moved to Collegeville, where Russell was teaching, and where she taught for two years in Montgomery County before leaving public school teaching to start a family.

After Evelyn and Russell raised their two children, Evelyn again turned to teaching, and recognized the need for a community nursery school in her hometown of Lititz, Pennsylvania. She started and directed the St. Paul Lutheran Church Community Nursery School in the early 1970s and returned to Millersville to take classes in early childhood education to stay “on top of her game.” Evelyn taught nursery school for over 25 years and extended her love of teaching and children in her church, where she taught third-grade Sunday School for 30 years.

Even after many years have passed, some things on campus still remain the same – like the iconic campus pond and the resident swans. Evelyn shared a story about a campus tradition in the 1940s and mentioned that the swans were there when she attended college at Millersville. There used to be a tradition that the first IA (Industrial Arts) student to get a job after graduation would be thrown into the pond. Consequently, Russell happened to be that lucky student while he and Evelyn were students at Millersville State Teachers College.

Evelyn has many treasured memories of her time at Millersville, and she still remembers the words and tune to sing the Millersville alma mater. When asked what advice Evelyn would give to current freshmen, she says to enjoy your time here at college. You’ll always remember it. She definitely has!

EVELYN B. FLETCHER
English and Social Studies

In spite of everything, Evelyn is an ardent Normalite whose service to the college and her training school classes is well-known. Serious "Fletch" could usually be seen hitting the books or fulfilling her duties as vice-president of the dormitory. If you need encouragement, see Evelyn for advice. "Fletch" provided the orchestra with the touch of sweet harmony from her saxophone.



Above: The Millersville State Teachers College yearbook listing for Evelyn, from 75 years ago.



Above: A photo of the porch of the Industrial Arts building from 1946, where Evelyn and Russell met as Millersville students.