

## Mary Weller Rideout

Founding Headmistress of Westgate Christian Academy

Mary W. Rideout of Wellesley died October 15, 2006 at home after a three year bout with cancer. She was 59.

Born in Oak Park, Illinois on June 22, 1947, she was the daughter of the late Dr. John M. and Virginia B. Weller of Ann Arbor, Michigan, where her father taught in the Medical School of the University of Michigan. Mary attended Colby College, Waterville, ME and is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a BS in mathematics. Mary received an MS in special education from Framingham State College.

Mrs. Rideout became a Christian at the Billy Graham Pavilion at the New York World Fair in 1964, after personally studying the Bible for over a year with classmates from Ann Arbor High School.

Mrs. Rideout married George M. Rideout, Jr. in 1968. Together they did a year of Biblical studies at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and were accepted for missionary service with SIM, International. The Rideouts served as missionary high school teachers in Nigeria from 1970 to 1987. All four of their children were born in Nigeria.

Upon returning to the USA, Mrs. Rideout did a year of special education tutoring at Lexington Christian Academy and then taught at Walnut Hill School for the Performing Arts and Elliott Montessori School. Mrs. Rideout founded Westgate Christian Academy in 1995 and was headmistress for eight years.

Besides her husband George, she is survived by her daughter Amy E. Horrocks of Ellicott City, MD; three sons, Dr. Drew A. Rideout of Tampa, FL, Ian J. Rideout and Kevin G. Rideout both of Niger, W. Africa; 14 grandchildren; two sisters, Wendy Woods of Dallas, OR and Anna Marie Weller of Chelsea, MI; and stepmother Aldewisa L. Agas Weller of Ann Arbor, MI.

A memorial service of worship and celebration of her life will be held at the Celebration International Church, 6 Loker St, Wayland, MA, at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 21, 2006 and burial will be private in Woodlawn Cemetery, Wellesley. Arrangements by J. S. Waterman & Sons Funeral Home, 592 Washington St., Wellesley, MA 02482. Visiting hours will be on Thursday, October 19, 2006 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Memorial donations may be made to SIM USA, P.O. Box 7900, Charlotte, N.C. 28241, for the mission diesel-engine plane project in Niger number NE97740.