

Passing of Jane A. Miller

Jane A. Miller, professor emerita of chemistry at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, died Wednesday, March 17. She was 93.

Miller was the first woman hired in UMSL's Department of Chemistry in 1965, two years after the university's official opening. She later became the first woman in the department granted tenure.

Her academic interests were in the history of chemistry and chemical education, and she inspired a number of female students to pursue careers teaching chemistry, as highlighted in a [2017 UMSL Daily story](#).

"Jane's former students and mentees were very loyal and supportive of her though the years," longtime colleague Professor Emeritus Lawrence Barton said. "She was known for her annual Mardi Gras parties at her home: "Let the Good times Roll," which were attended by former students, faculty colleagues and friends."

During her career, Miller wrote extensively on women in science, the history of chemistry and also wrote a history of the St. Louis Section of the American Chemical Society.

She retired from UMSL in 1992 and [received an UMSL Trailblazer Award in 2013](#).

Miller grew up in Louisiana and attended the all-women's Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia, where she earned her bachelor's degree in chemistry in 1948. The college awarded her an Outstanding Alumnae Award in 2016.

She went on to receive both her master's and doctoral degrees in chemistry from Tulane University in New Orleans, and she relocated to St. Louis, where she first worked as a researcher at the Washington University School of Medicine before moving to UMSL.

She was a longtime resident of University City, where she was a longtime trustee and former president of the University City Public Library Board of Trustees as well as a former traffic commissioner.

She is survived by her son, Bill Miller.

Memorial contributions can be made to the [University City Public Library](#).