



**ATTN: NEWS EDITOR
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

MAY 24, 2016

**ALZHEIMER'S ALLIANCE MOURNS
DEATH OF PAST BOARD MEMBER**

TYLER – The Alzheimer's Alliance of Smith County is saddened by the death of former board member Dorothy "June" Walling Murphy, 94. Since its founding in 1982, Ms. Murphy was a devoted champion of the Alliance and for supporting those affected by Alzheimer's disease.

A native Texan, Ms. Murphy graduated from Texas Eastern School of Nursing. She later completed graduate degrees at East Texas State University and Texas Christian University. Her dedication to improving access to health services extended beyond her tenure on Alliance board of directors; Ms. Murphy was also volunteer nurse with St. Paul United Methodist Church and traveled three times to Africa, where she helped establish a medical clinic and assisted in surgeries. In the late 1970s, Ms. Murphy was appointed by Governor Dolph Briscoe to the board of directors for the Texas Board of Nursing, which oversees nursing practices, education, and credentials across the state.

"June was a tireless advocate for teaching caregivers how to manage the challenges inherent in caring for someone with dementia," said Tom Holmes, president of the Alliance's board of directors. "She and I taught courses on dementia caregiving throughout East Texas, and she always brought enthusiasm and a love of teaching to the workshops. June was able to speak from experience as she cared for her husband who had Parkinson's Disease and with authority based upon her nursing knowledge. June was a persistent advocate for the Alzheimer's Alliance, and we are grateful for her leadership."

She is preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, Earl Murphy, with whom she shared three daughters, eight grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren, and six great-great grandchildren.

The Alzheimer's Alliance of Smith County offers sincere condolences to her family and our continuing admiration for Ms. Murphy's service to our community.

About the Alzheimer's Alliance of Smith County

Founded in 1982, the Alzheimer's Alliance of Smith County is a local nonprofit organization committed to walking alongside all of those affected by Alzheimer's disease



and related dementias. Our services include personal consultations, education and awareness, caregiver support and resources, and brain health advocacy in Smith County.

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