

Woman was former teacher

Memorial services for Manuela Williams Crosno will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Mesilla Valley Christian Church in Las Cruces with the Rev. Lynn Ditto officiating.

Crosno died Thursday at the White Acres Good Samaritan Nursing Center in El Paso.

She was born in Albia, Iowa, in 1905 to Edward J. Williams and Blanche Sylvester Williams. In 1934, she moved to New Mexico and married Dr. C. Donald Crosno, who died in 1987.

She is survived by a son, Steve, of El Paso; two daughters, Susan Wayland of Denver, and Linda Falen of El Paso; three grandchildren and two great-granddaughters.

She earned two degrees from New Mexico State University, a bachelor's degree in elementary education in 1952 and a master's degree in education and psychology in 1963.

She taught elementary and junior high schools in Las Cruces for 17 years. In 1988, she was named outstanding alumni by New Mexico State University.

Crosno loved to write and was the author of several short stories published by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich and World and by Random House.

After her husband's death of Alzheimer's disease, she published a book of poetry, "The Other Side of Nowhere," outlining the progress of Alzheimer's and her experiences as a caretaker.

She also has published a collection of short stories, "Distant Echoes," about people of New Mexico. She was an accomplished artist, working in oil paints, water colors and yarns. She illustrated both of her published books and designed and made several latch-hook rugs.

The family suggests that donations be made to the National Audobon Society, 700 Broadway, New York City, N.Y., 10003, or for Alzheimer's research to AARDA, 70 Blake Street, Chicago, Ill., 60601.

Arrangements were by Graham Mortuary.