

OFHS



WALL OF FAME

Inducted September 22, 2018



NATHALIE KAMKE GEHRKE

Earl and Betty Kamke raised their three daughters – Diane, Nathalie, and Juell – on a dairy farm north of Oconto Falls. The Kamkes made sure that their daughters could and would do well in school and go to college. They also saw that they had music lessons, traveled, and were active in 4-H, church, and school extracurricular activities.

An honor roll student for all four years of high school, Nathalie also participated in cheerleading, choir, forensics, theater productions, and intramural sports. Her senior year she became Student Council Secretary and Yearbook Business Manager.

Following graduation from Oconto Falls High School in 1963, Nathalie completed a Bachelor's degree at the University of Wisconsin (1967) and married Edward Gehrke (deceased 1995). From 1967 to 1970, she taught high school Speech and English in Naperville, Illinois and in 1971, earned a Master's degree in Speech Education at Northwestern University. In 1976, Nathalie completed a Ph.D. in Education at Arizona State University and later began work as a Research Associate at that university's Bureau of Educational Research & Services. She was hired as an Assistant Professor of Education at the University of Washington in Seattle in 1979 and spent the next 31 years there (1979 – 2010), engaged in teaching, research, and service focused on teacher development across the career span. Professor Gehrke's many student advisees have become successful school and college educators and administrators across the country. Her writings have appeared in noted research and practice journals, books and book chapters, and funded project reports.

Nathalie served as the University of Washington Director of Teacher Education, Founding Director of the Puget Sound Professional Development Center, and on various national Education advisory and editorial Boards. Following retirement in 2010, Professor Gehrke worked as a Visiting Scientist to strengthen research capabilities of young Education professors at a university in southeastern Turkey (2011). She has developed a collection of recorded oral histories of teachers for the University library. In addition, she has engaged in multiple efforts to address homelessness in Seattle and in other community development work.

Nathalie has one son, Adam Gehrke, who works in radio/TV in Seattle, Washington.