If you ever walked the halls in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at Texas State University, Education, you would have had the pleasure of seeing Dr. Kathy Fite. A warm and engaging presence through Friday, rain or shine. Kathy greeted everyone with an enthusiastic comment like “Your assignment was excellent” or “One of the best ideas I have ever heard.” She was the sunshine in our dark hallways! She always took the time to stop and chat with us, to remind ourselves and reminded you that you are making a difference in the lives of young learners in your classroom in your work in the world. And even though Dr. Fite retired from her role as a faculty member with 47 years at Texas State, her over 60 years of service to education, and the university will live on in the lives of the teachers and leaders who have had an opportunity to experience childhood in an authentic, innovative, and transformational way.

Since the early days of her career, Dr. Fite worked in public and private schools. As a professor at the university and in national, and international projects, frequently going to Washington, D.C. between 2007 and 2010, she served as a visiting professor in the Department of Education. She worked with the University of the South and research projects, and was a co-author of the Negotiated Experiences in Curriculum and Instruction. She has received numerous recognitions, and her work has contributed significantly to the field of education.

Dr. Fite received the Excellence in Service, Alumni Association Teaching Award of Honor, and the national Distinguished Teacher Award. She is a recipient of the Texas Education Agency’s Teaching Award, National Achievement School Instructional Award, and the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals’ Award for Excellence in Education, and the Council for Exceptional Children’s Award for Excellence in Service, the至Alumni Association Teaching Award of Honor, the National Distinguished Teacher Award, and the Texas Education Agency’s Teaching Award. She is a recipient of the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals’ Award for Excellence in Service, the Council for Exceptional Children’s Award for Excellence in Service, the Texas Education Agency’s Teaching Award, and the National Distinguished Teacher Award. She is a recipient of the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals’ Award for Excellence in Service, the Council for Exceptional Children’s Award for Excellence in Service, the Texas Education Agency’s Teaching Award, and the National Distinguished Teacher Award. She is a recipient of the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals’ Award for Excellence in Service, the Council for Exceptional Children’s Award for Excellence in Service, the Texas Education Agency’s Teaching Award, and the National Distinguished Teacher Award. She is a recipient of the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals’ Award for Excellence in Service, the Council for Exceptional Children’s Award for Excellence in Service, the Texas Education Agency’s Teaching Award, and the National Distinguished Teacher Award. She is a recipient of the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals’ Award for Excellence in Service, the Council for Exceptional Children’s Award for Excellence in Service, the Texas Education Agency’s Teaching Award, and the National Distinguished Teacher Award. She is a recipient of the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals’ Award for Excellence in Service, the Council for Exceptional Children’s Award for Excellence in Service, the Texas Education Agency’s Teaching Award, and the National Distinguished Teacher Award. She is a recipient of the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals’ Award for Excellence in Service, the Council for Exceptional Children’s Award for Excellence in Service, the Texas Education Agency’s Teaching Award, and the National Distinguished Teacher Award. She is a recipient of the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals’ Award for Excellence in Service, the Council for Exceptional Children’s Award for Excellence in Service, the Texas Education Agency’s Teaching Award, and the National Distinguished Teacher Award. She is a recipient of the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals’ Award for Excellence in Service, the Council for Exceptional Children’s Award for Excellence in Service, the Texas Education Agency’s Teaching Award, and the National Distinguished Teacher Award.

In addition to serving in numerous leadership positions at Texas State and in the field of education, Dr. Fite is a noted author. She has published books and articles in her field, and her work has been published in professional journals and at conferences. She also has served as a reviewer for several professional journals and has been involved in the development of textbooks and websites. She is a much sought-after speaker and workshop leader, and her presentations have been well-received at conferences and professional development events.

Dr. Kathy Fite’s life work as an educator and researcher will forever be remembered in the lives and careers of the people who have had the privilege to learn from her and be part of her legacy. Her dedication to her students, her work, and her passion for education will continue to inspire and influence generations to come.