

Jean Stewart, Ed. D.

Jean Elizabeth Walker Stewart was born in Enid, Oklahoma in 1949 to Ralph and Mary Walker and has one older sister, Susan, and a younger brother, Doug. Dr. Stewart's father was in the Air Force through most of her childhood, so her family moved several times for varying assignments. She attended five schools in kindergarten through eighth grade in Nebraska and Oklahoma and attended high school in Oklahoma prior to moving to Texas her senior year. The love and encouragement from her parents set the foundation for Dr. Stewart's own values and her belief in the importance of education.

Dr. Stewart married her husband, Jimmy Stewart, after her graduation from the University of Tulsa in June 1971. They moved to Conroe, Texas thinking this would be a temporary stay while Jimmy completed his degree at Sam Houston State University. However, they soon made the decision that Conroe would be their permanent home. Jean began working for Conroe ISD as a special education teacher and Jimmy became a partner in a local CPA firm. They raised two daughters, Amanda and Allison, who both graduated from Conroe High School. Jimmy passed away in September 2007, leaving his family a lifetime of wonderful memories. Amanda and Allison are now living in Austin and are married to Jason Black and Tim Neil, respectively. Amanda and Jason have two sons, Owen and Sam, who bring joy to everyone.

Dr. Stewart holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Tulsa, a Master of Education degree from Sam Houston State University, and a Doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction from Baylor University. She also holds Texas certifications for Special Education Teacher, Elementary Teacher, Educational Diagnostician, Supervisor, and Mid-Management.

Dr. Stewart began her career in education in the Fall 1971 teaching special education at Travis Junior High School. She then moved to the Resource and Development Center in 1977 and became a District-Wide Educational Diagnostician. In 1983 she advanced to Compliance Specialist, and in 1985 became Special Education Supervisor. She moved to B. B. Rice Elementary School as the Assistant Principal in 1987 and in 1990 was promoted to Principal, serving there until 1997. She then worked as Principal for Giesinger Elementary in 1997-1998. In the Fall of 1998, Dr. Stewart moved to central administration as the Director of Elementary Education, was promoted to Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education in 1999, and in 2003 became Deputy Superintendent of Schools. As Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Stewart's responsibilities included supervision of the Departments of Human Resources, Technology, Communications, Curriculum and Instruction, Elementary Education and Secondary Education. Dr. Stewart participated in the development of multi-million dollar bond referendums and oversaw the re-zoning associated with thirteen new schools and numerous campus improvements. Dr. Stewart received several honors and awards during her career, many a result of the outstanding efforts of the staff and students with whom she worked. Her recognitions include the Governors' Educational Excellence Award, Title I Distinguished School Award, Elementary Principal Innovation Award, Humanitarian of the Year, and Project Hope Woman of the Year. When Dr. Stewart began teaching in 1971, CISD had only 9 schools. Throughout her career in the District, CISD grew to 54 campuses, with over 6,000 employees and 51,160 students. Dr. Stewart served as Deputy Superintendent until her retirement in 2011, following 40 years of service in CISD.

In addition to her work with CISD, Dr. Stewart has actively served in her community. She is a member of the First United Methodist Church of Conroe and has served on the Executive Board for the Conroe YMCA, the Montgomery County United Way, Montgomery County's Promise, and the National Association of Year-Round Education Texas Chapter. She has also worked as a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity and served on the Montgomery County Community Foundation Distribution Committee, the United Way Investment Committee, Chair of the Education Division for the United Way Campaign, Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee for the United Way, and CISD's Employee Campaign Coordinator for the United Way.

Theodore Roosevelt once said "Far and away the best prize in life is to work hard at work worth doing". Dr. Stewart has been blessed that her life's work has been with the children and people she loves, in the District and community she loves serving.