



## CELEBRATING WOMEN IN MATHEMATICS

### CAROL RUTH KARP

1926-1972, USA - Karp attended Manchester College in Indiana, receiving her BA there in 1948 and her Master's Degree two years later from Michigan State University where spent the summer as an instructor. For a period, Karp traveled around the United States as a violinist in an all-woman orchestra. She then continued her studies at the University of Southern California, working for a doctorate.



Her doctoral thesis was on mathematical logic. The thesis, *Languages with expressions of infinite length*, was supervised by Leon Henkin and submitted to the University of Southern California in 1959. However Karp taught several years before the award of her Ph.D., having accepted a position as instructor at New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts in 1953. In 1960 the name of the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts was changed to its present name of New Mexico State University. Karp spent a year at the College in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

In 1953 Henkin moved to Berkeley and Karp was appointed as a teaching assistant there from 1954 to 1956 while she worked on her doctoral thesis.

Soon after the award of her doctorate, Karp was appointed, in 1960, as an assistant professor at the University of Maryland, and then promoted to associate professor in 1963 and full professor in 1966. She remained at the University of Maryland until her early death from cancer in 1972.

In 1973, the Association of Symbolic Logic (ASL) established the Carol Karp Prize in memory of Carol, which is awarded for an outstanding paper or book in the field of symbolic logic.

*Biography courtesy of The MacTutor History of Mathematics archive*