Mildred Trussell McGehee graduated from Louisiana Polytechnic Institute in 1945 with a bachelor’s degree in Home Economics. Following graduation, she worked as a teacher until her marriage to Lucius D. McGehee in June 1949. Mildred and Lu McGehee remained married for 61 years, until his death in 2010. To the marriage, six children were born: Patricia, Don, Deborah, David, Dell, and Lucius Jr., all graduates of Louisiana Tech. Throughout their marriage, she and her husband served their church, their community, and their university with vision, passion, and generosity. Mrs. McGehee served as the former Director of the College of Home Economics Foundation and the Louisiana Tech University Foundation. In 1997, Lu and Mildred McGehee received the Robert E. Russ Award, Lincoln Parish’s highest distinction. In 2012, Mr. and Mrs. McGehee were inducted into Louisiana Tech’s Hall of Distinguished Alumni. Mrs. McGehee resides in Ruston where she enjoys spending time with her family and faithfully serving her church, Grace United Methodist Church. All six of the McGehee children reside in Ruston, including Patricia McGehee Flournoy and husband Bob, Don McGehee and wife Carolyn, Deborah McGehee Lynch and husband Wes, David McGehee and wife Michele, Dell McGehee Jones and husband Tom, and Lucius McGehee and wife Leigh. The McGehees have 20 grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. To honor Mrs. McGehee as the Alumna of the Year and her life-long commitment to family and its importance as the foundation of a strong society, the School of Human Ecology has established an annual award: The Mildred Trussell McGehee Spirit of Family Award.