



Association of Adventist Women

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# Effie Jean Potts Ketting

## — Woman of the Year —

### Lifetime Achievement

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# 2000

Dr. Sam Ketting, husband, said of Effie Jean: “Long ago, Effie Jean determined that God had given her gifts so that she could serve Him without reservation.”

Effie Jean Ketting began her education by preparing for a career as a concert pianist. However, while she was earning a bachelor's degree in music, she decided she wanted to do “something more practical”—and so she became a missionary physician to hospitals in Thailand and Malaysia.

One of only three women in her class, Ketting completed residencies in both pathology and obstetrics/gynecology and then began her mission work. During most of her 20 years of mission service, she was

the only pathologist within a 350-mile radius, typically doing pathology on 1,500 surgical specimens each year. And that was in addition to her OB/GYN practice.

However, it is for her work with women and babies that Ketting is best remembered and loved. She brought more than 16,000 babies into the world, and one record-breaking day she did eighteen deliveries, including two C-sections!

Ketting had planned to take a leave of absence when her children were small. However, because no one arrived to take her place, she offered her children up to God and went to work as both mother and physician. Ginger (now a college professor) and Case



(now a radiation oncologist) played alongside her in a “Kiddy Koop” and reveled in the care of doting office staff when Mom was called to delivery.

Now retired, Ketting still does relief mission work, serves as a church musician, looks in on ailing members, maintains her garden, and mothers her children with e-mails, phone calls, and visits. Effie Jean Ketting has indeed used her many gifts to serve God without reservation.

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