

Active Over 100

Ruth Colvin, 101

Inspiring Adult Literacy Legend



Ruth Colvin and Larry Hayes, A050 CEO/
Publisher



Career Highlights

- Over 45 years teaching millions of adults to read and write. Launched Literacy Volunteers of America in 1962. Merged with Laubach Literacy in 2002 to form ProLiteracy.
- Author of nine books; taught literacy training in 26 developing countries; received the President's Volunteer Action Award from President Ronald Reagan in 1987; the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President George W. Bush in 2006; and inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1991.

- At 101, Ruth continues to work with students as a tutor at Literacy NYC and serves on the board of ProLiteracy, the largest adult literacy nonprofit in the U.S. 2018 commencement speaker at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, NY.
- Stays active and fit exercising 3-5 times a week. Her motto: "If I don't do something, who will?" Working on a new book in her spare time. To learn more about amazing Ruth and adult literacy education, visit proliteracy.org and visionliteracy.org.

Editor's Note: I had the honor of interviewing Ruth at the Santa Clara City Library hosted by Read Santa Clara and Vision Literacy—two outstanding nonprofits providing adult literacy programs in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Full of life, fun and high energy—Ruth was truly impressive and inspiring.

During my lifetime, I've met and known only three truly outstanding individuals making a difference in this world—Dr. Frank C. Laubach, Dr. Walter M. Bortz, II and now Ruth Colvin. To read my full interview with Ruth, read my blog at www.activeover50.com.