

## **Wechter, Nell Carolyn Wise** <sup>[1]</sup>

### **Wechter, Nell Carolyn Wise**

by William S. Powell, 1996

**6 Aug. 1913–20 June 1989**



Nell Wechter.

Image  
courtesy of

UNC Press. <sup>[2]</sup>Nell Carolyn Wise Wechter, teacher and writer, was born at Stumpy Point,[Dare County](#) <sup>[3]</sup>, the daughter of Enoch Raymond, a fisherman, and Edith Casey Best Wise. She was graduated from East Carolina College in 1951 and received a master's degree from both her alma mater and the [University of North Carolina at Greensboro](#) <sup>[4]</sup>. From 1933 until her retirement in 1964 she taught in the public schools of the state.

A free-lance feature writer for North Carolina newspapers between 1943 and 1968, she also was associate editor of the [Hyde County Herald](#) <sup>[5]</sup> at Swan Quarter during the period 1948–50. In 1972 she taught creative writing and English at the [College of the Albemarle](#) <sup>[6]</sup> in Elizabeth City. Her first novel, *The Romance of Juniper River*, appeared in 1937. She wrote for young people as well as adults, notably *Taffy of Torpedo Junction* <sup>[7]</sup> (1957), *Betsy Dowdy's Ride* <sup>[8]</sup> (1960), and *The Mighty Midgetts of Chicamcomico* <sup>[9]</sup> (1974). Mrs. Wechter won numerous awards for her books, including those offered by the [American Association of University Women](#) <sup>[10]</sup> and the Catholic Children's Book Club of America.

In 1943 she married Robert William Wechter, of Madison, Wis., a naval officer stationed on North Carolina's Outer Banks. They were the parents of a daughter, Marcia. Mrs. Wechter was a member of the Methodist church.

#### **References:**

*Contemporary Authors*, vol. 57–60 (1976).

*Greensboro News and Record*, 22 June 1989.

William S. Powell, ed., *North Carolina Lives* (1962).

*Raleigh News and Observer*, 21, 27 June 1989.

#### **Additional Resources:**

Nell Wise Wechter Papers (Manuscript Collection #177). East Carolina University:  
<http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/special/ead/findingaids/0177/> <sup>[11]</sup>

Nell Carolyn Wise Wechter in the NC Literary Map:<http://library.uncg.edu/dp/nclitmap/details.aspx?typ=auth&id=1501> <sup>[12]</sup>

Nell Carolyn Wise Wechter in WorldCat: [https://www.worldcat.org/search?q=au%3AWechter%2C+Nell+Wise.&qt=hot\\_author](https://www.worldcat.org/search?q=au%3AWechter%2C+Nell+Wise.&qt=hot_author) <sup>[13]</sup>

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#### **Subjects:**

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[Women](#) <sup>[16]</sup>

[Writers, journalists, and editors](#) <sup>[17]</sup>

#### **Authors:**

[Powell, William S.](#) <sup>[18]</sup>

**Origin - location:**

Dare County <sup>[19]</sup>

**From:**

Dictionary of North Carolina Biography, University of North Carolina Press,<sup>[20]</sup>

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