

Mrs. Florence Easter Jones Green



1925 - 1987

KNOXVILLE EDUCATOR

MRS. GREEN'S LIFE

Mrs. Florence Easter Jones Green was born on April 10, 1925, in Knox County, Tennessee, to James A. and Rosanna Kennon Jones. The family included her older brother, Charles Jones, Sr.

Mrs. Green lived in the Fountain City Community where she had two devoted grandparents, Callie and Florena Kennon.

She completed Oakland Elementary School and Austin High School, where she graduated in 1942.

She was united in marriage to, George Edward Green, who preceded her in death. From that union, four children were born, Rose Etta, Dianne Elizabeth, Georgia Mae and Deborah Kennon. After the dissolution of that marriage, she rear her four children and pursued further academic training.

She acquired an Executive Secretarial Diploma in 1958 from Cooper Institute, a Bachelor of Science in Education from Knoxville College in 1966 and a Master of Science in Business Education from the University of Tennessee in 1976.

In 1957, she was employed at Knoxville College as a Secretary until 1969. From the fall of 1969 until April 1976, she was a faculty member of Cooper Institute School of Business.

She returned to Knoxville College as a Office Manager in the offices of Development and Alumni Affairs, along with a part-time instructor position in the Business Department.

In 1984, Mrs. Green was appointed an Associate Professor in the Department of Business at Knoxville College, where she was committed to her students.

Despite her secular achievements, she always proclaimed that her relationship with Christ was all that mattered in life.

She was an active member of Foster Chapel Baptist Church, until her illness limited her attendance. She was a Teacher to the Maggie Matthews, Sunday School Class, Church Historian, Senior Choir Member, Scholarship Committee Member and Women's Day Speaker on several occasions.

The following excerpt was given by Dr. Evelyn Hallman, Academic Dean, Knoxville College, Knoxville, Tennessee, as a tribute to Mrs. Green during her funeral services on June 10, 1987. Permission was given by Dr. Hallman to use the following for this Black History Celebration.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. FLORENCE JONES GREEN

When I first met Mrs. Green, she was employed as secretary to the Superintendent of the Physical Plant at Knoxville College. I was so impressed with her professionalism that I frequently cited her as a role model for business students. Even then, she was pursuing an Associate of Arts degree at Cooper Institute, working full time, and rearing four daughters.

After earning her degree from Knoxville College in 1966, Mrs. Green taught at Cooper Institute. She returned to Knoxville College in 1976 to serve as administrative assistant in the Office of Development and, because of her competence in teaching, taught part time as a business instructor. She later became office manager in the Office of Alumni Affairs. While secretary of the National Alumni Association from 1975-1979, she introduced the idea of a newsletter to be sent to KC alumni.

In a letter written in 1975 when she was serving as a class agent, Mrs. Green reflected her enthusiasm for her alma mater when she wrote to a number of alumni the following: "Make a contribution and keep the 'best' educational enlightenment available for future KC students."

Mrs. Green was employed as Assistant Professor of Business at KC in 1984 and served as Acting Director of the Division of Business for two years. For this and the many other contributions she made, we at Knoxville College are thankful.

And so, from the Knoxville College Family, to the family and friends of the late Mrs. Florence J. Green, or as her colleagues and friends in Young Memorial Hall affectionately called her, "Flo Baby," we offer these words whose ideas came from one of her favorite books, A SPARK FOR MY PEOPLE, by Ella Earls Cotton.

She was a mother of four daughters; so she knew what affection was. She had the respect of her friends; so she knew what affection was. She had the respect of her friends; so she knew what appreciation was. She shared her personal experiences with her students; so she knew what success was. She worked while earning several degrees; so she knew the value and rewards of hard work. She challenged people to focus on their own goals and careers but also took the time to listen to problems of both student and colleagues; so she knew about friendship and caring. Because she was all these things, she knew what wealth was.

Let her life on this earth be a living treasure in our hearts and her memories an inspiration to each of us.

From the Knoxville College Family

June 10, 1987