A Homegoing Celebration In Lobing Memory of Mrs. Ione Elston Iones



SUNRISE June 15, 1909

SUNSET June 1, 1998

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Saturday, June 6, 1998 1:00 P.M. Memorial Presbyterian Church 2600 Beatties Ford Road Charlotte, North Carolina

DR. EDWARD B. NEWBERRY, OFFICIATING

OBITUARY

Mrs. Ione Gwendolyn Elston - Jones was born on June 15, 1909 in Anderson, Alabama, to Charles and Eva Elston; she was the youngest of the four children, Zaidee, Rethie, and Millard Elston.

Mrs. Jones grew up in an atmosphere of the glory of God and in a home that valued the love of learning and a formal education. That love of education would be central in her long and distinguished life. She graduated from South Highland High School in Anderson, Alabama, and Suma Cum Laude at Barber Scotia College in Concord, North Carolina. She continued her post graduation education at Johnson C. Smith University, Howard University and received a Master's Degree in English from the University of Wisconsin.

Mrs. Jones taught school for most of her adult life, including Finley High School in Chester, South Carolina, Elementary School in a one room school house in Lauris, South Carolina, and Second Ward High in Charlotte, North Carolina. Her greatest joy was teaching in the English Department at Johnson C. Smith University for more than fifteen years. There, she delighted her students by assisting them in publishing a monthly creative poetry magazine entitled "The Treewell".

Due to the long and distinguished teaching career of Mrs. Jones, thousands of her students are now engaged in noteworthy careers. It must be noted that after a long day of teaching, Mrs. Jones would gather neighborhood children two or three times a week at her church, Memorial Presbyterian Church. There, she engaged them in the principles of Christianity and encouraged them to use their talents to enlighten themselves and others. As a result, a youth choir was organized. She challenged her own initiative by driving four young men to Lincoln University in Pennsylvania so that they may participate in a National Youth Festival.

During the rough days of the Social Revolution in the sixties, Mrs. Jones stood behind her son, Charles, and others who courageously demanded equal rights as citizens of the United States, which resulted in accommodations at lunch counters and other areas in Charlotte, North Carolina, being open to all. In creative poetry, she leaves us legacy of that period. We hope those chronicles can be published so that thereby we can get a glimpse of this lady's ability.

Mrs. Jones was the wife of the late Reverend Joseph Thomas Jones, an outstanding minister and music artist in the National Presbyterian Church. To this union were born three children and their offsprings who will always cherish her precious memory. They are Mrs. Eva Marilyn Anderson (Husband - Buddy) of Columbia, Maryland, her sons - Hyde, Joseph and David and a great-granddaughter, Eva. Her second daughter is Mrs. JoAnne Jones, whose children are Eva Morehead who resides with her in Allentown, Pennsylvania and Mario Morehead of New York City. Mrs. Jones' oldest son is Joseph Charles Jones (Wife - Jackie), and his children are Michael Scott Jones of New York City, Ireti and Charles Jones, Jr. of Bethesda, Maryland. A niece is Zaidee Morris of Columbia, South Carolina. Additional relatives are a nephew, Fred Reasoner of Columbia, South Carolina, and a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Family of Mrs. Ione Jones would like to thank everyone for the profound outpouring of love and appreciation. Thank you. May God bless each of you.