



Florida Jackson Yeldell

May 25, 2006

Florida Jackson Yeldell died peacefully at home at the Lakes at Litchfield on May 25, 2006. She was born in 1915, in Georgetown, SC, to Janie Elizabeth Anderson Jackson, and Robert Jackson, one of the first African-American letter-carriers in Georgetown. She is survived by son Robert and his wife, Demetria, of Atlanta, GA; one sister, Zelda Woodson; 5 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; and many friends and students. Florida graduated Morris College in Sumter, SC, and completed her Master's Degree in History at Howard University in 1941. In the early 1970's, Florida earned a second Master's Degree in Geography at California State at Chico. She was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters by Coastal Carolina University in 2004, honoring her lifelong contributions as an educator. Florida spent her life in education, teaching in elementary and high schools in SC and later in higher education in Texas. She also taught part-time for Howard University and worked at New York University. During the years of World War II, she worked for the War Department, first in Washington and later in Newark, NJ. Florida retired in 1979, teaching as an adjunct professor in Houston Community College. In 1988 she returned home to South Carolina, choosing to live first in Murrells Inlet and then at the Lakes at Litchfield. She immediately became actively involved in the community, and at Coastal Carolina University, where she helped in founding the Third Quarter program, now the Lifelong Learning Society. She served as a mentor in several CCU programs, including the NSF "Jump for the Sun" grant to encourage girls and

women in Math and Science, and in Coastal's national pilot site for the Courage to Teach program. She was also very involved in the arts, serving on the Wheelwright Council, the Friends of the Waccamaw Library Board, and as docent at Brookgreen Gardens for more than ten years. Florida worked with retired principal David Drayton to create and team-teach the very popular course in the Black History of Georgetown County for Linda Ketron's continuing education programs, first at Brookgreen, then Artworks, then Coastal Carolina University's Waccamaw Center. Videos of the course are part of her legacy to teachers in this area. Florida was a member of the Christian Science Church, the SC Historical Society, and the African-American History Organization and Dreamkeepers in Georgetown. Florida's life will be celebrated with a memorial service at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Robert Jackson Collection, a special collection of women's studies in the Coastal Carolina University Library created by Florida to honor her father. Checks may be made to the Coastal Educational Foundation and sent to Dr. Danny Nicholson, CEF, Coastal Carolina University, P O Box 261954, Conway, SC 29528.

Tribute Wall



“ To Robert, Demetria and family Receive our deepest sympathy, we keep you in our prayers and may our life reflect her extraordinary life! The Raphaël family##imported-begin##Josiane and Wigbert RAPHAËL##imported-end##

June 08, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Although Mrs. Yeldell's death pains me, I am sustained by the beautiful experiences we shared while we were colleagues at Prairie View A&M University. Her spirit will live in all of us who interacted with her.##imported-begin##William H. Chapman##imported-end##

June 03, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ To: The Family of Ms. Florida Yeldell A few years back I received a message from my friend, Florida that stated; "I have a new address" Thanks for sharing that she has changed addresses. In the spirit of her faith, Love Samuel##imported-begin##Samuel Montgomery##imported-end##

May 31, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Mrs. Yeldell was a great inspiration for the people of Georgetown, its past and present; She will be greatly missed.##imported-begin##Gloria Barr Ford##imported-end##

May 31, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Our prayers and our sympathy are with you, Robert and family. We so enjoyed our wonderful conversations, and our bridge games with Florida. She was a deeply caring and kind woman who gave so much back to the community and will be missed by all that knew her.##imported-begin##Russell and Doris Lang##imported-end##

May 30, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ We are so grateful for having our lives enhanced through knowing Florida. We extend our deepest condolences to her family.##imported-begin##Norm and Doris Whiteley##imported-end##

May 30, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ To: Robert, Demetria and Family Mitch and I want to extend our heartfelt sympathy. When my mom told me back in 1993 that she wanted me to meet a wonderful lady named Florida, I couldn't have imagined the impact she would have on our lives. We readily welcomed her into our family and had some wonderful times with her over the years. We will miss this special lady and feel blessed to have shared in her life. Please let us know when her memorial service is and if we can do anything for the family, please don't hesitate to call on us. With Love Joan & Mitchell Coleman##imported-begin##Joan & Mitchell Coleman##imported-end##

May 29, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *IN REMEMBRANCE OF A GREAT LADY AND A GREAT FRIEND--
May God's LOVE guide you in this time of sorrow, and may you find
solace in HIS CARE.##imported-begin##James and Jessie
Kirkwood##imported-end##*

May 28, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *My prayers and sympathy are with you. I pray that God will keep
you strong in your hours of bereavement. Ms. yeldell whom I met at
Prairie View was an inspiration to me. She encouraged me to never
give up. I love her for she is truly special. I am a better person
thanks to her. God Bless.##imported-begin##FREDDIE
KIRKLAND##imported-end##*

May 27, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *I am sorry to hear of the lost of Ms. Yeldell. Ms. Yeldell had a
positive affect on my life while I was a student at Prairie View. She
will always be remembered in a special way. My prayers to her
family.##imported-begin##Hosea Henderson##imported-end##*

May 27, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our deepest sympathy is with you during your time of sorrow. We
will keep you in our prayers.##imported-begin##Henry & Minnie
Cyrus##imported-end##*

May 27, 2006 at 12:00 AM