

THE SCRIPT



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Farewell to a Dedicated Peabodian



Our hearts were saddened when we learned that Evelyn (Babysis) Williams Owens had departed this life on Saturday, July 29, 2006 at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond.

Evelyn was raised in a Christian family, and her Christian journey started very early in life. She was baptized at Bethesda Bibleway Church in Petersburg, under the pastorate of Bishop John Beane. She later became an active member of Mount Olivet Baptist Church, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Wesley K. McLaughlin.

Evelyn started her school days by attending Gill's Kindergarten on Gill Street, and after becoming the proper age moved on to Giles B. Cook Elementary School. She attended Henry Williams and completed her high school education in 1970 at Peabody High School, graduating with honors in Business Education. During her high school days, she was known to be an organizer, a leader, and a person ready and willing to get things done. She was a member of the Cheering Squad, Drama Club (Thespian) and DECA Club.

In 1998, Evelyn along with other Peabodians envisioned a 100 year celebration and reunion of Peabody High School Alumni. That vision became a reality in 2000 when the Peabody High School National Alumni Association, Inc. was formed. Evelyn served as President until 2004, committing herself faithfully as a true Peabodian. In addition, while serving as President, she was also Editor of the PHSNAA newsletter, The Script until 2004. On July 23, 2005, PHSNAA sponsored an Appreciation Luncheon to honor Evelyn Williams Owens for her hard work and leadership. Not only was she instrumental in forming the All Alumni Association, the PHSNAA, Inc., but through her leadership the West Street Park was named in memory of Coach Albert Jones and the Peabody Building was placed on the Historical Registry.

(See Farewell, page 3)

Evelyn Williams Owens
July 18, 1951 - July 29, 2006



Peabodians, colleagues, church family and acquaintances filled Mount Olivet Baptist Church to celebrate the life of Evelyn Williams Owens. The following letter was scripted by PHSNAA President Juanita Owens-Wyatt to be read and presented to the family at the memorial services. The letter and a resolution was presented by Alumni Treasurer, Joan Walker.

Dear Alumni:

It is with sad hearts and broken dreams that our founding President, Evelyn Williams Owens, has gone to be with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The Peabody High School National Alumni Association, Inc. would not be a reality, without Evelyn and the charter members' impetus to form a national association.

Without Evelyn at the helm of our association, PHSNAA, Incorporated's recognition as one of the leading forces in the community would be non-existent.

Most of you knew Evelyn personally and professionally. We think of her name as being descriptive of her essence.

- E energetic
V vivacious
E ever on the go
L lively
Y yearning for knowledge
N never ending love for Peabody's history and legacy

Therefore, it is befitting that Evelyn Williams Owens be posthumously affirmed as President Emeritus of the Peabody High School National Alumni Association, Inc., recommended and approved by the PHSNAA Executive Committee on August 1, 2006.

Sincerely endorsed,

- Juanita Owens Wyatt, President
Edith Morton Smith, Vice President
Thelma Mayfield Jefferson, Secretary
Gloria Bonner Brown, Assistant Secretary
Joan Walker, Treasurer
Flossie Johnson Ridley, Chaplain
Bobbie Goodwyn, Sergeant-At-Arms
Maude Brown, Program Chairman
Lucious Edwards, Historian

