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the university and its students.

Besides her paid work on campus, Stone volunteered and worked for the rights of students, faculty and others at UNC-CH While at the University, Stone served on various advisory panels, such as the Recruitment of Black Faculty and the Campus Y advisory board. She was also an adviser for the UNC Collegiate Black Caucus, the African-American Studies Club from 1974-1980, and the Leadership Development Advisory Committee.

Aside from this strenuous

and taught. She succeeded in teaching these people to respect and to appreciate the history, experiences and contributions of persons of African descent. Stone also served and dedicated many hours to the Black Cultural Center Planning Committee. Stone served as a founding BCC member and believed that Blacks on a predominantly white campus needed a place of their own.

On Tuesday, Aug. 6, 1991, Stone was found unconscious in her Durham home by her son Robert Stone. After being rushed to Duke

brain dead. Although her family and friends hoped for a miracle that would revitalize the dynamic woman, she died Saturday, Aug. 10, at about 1:15 p.m.

After the passing of Stone, there was a memorial service and two weeks of activities that paid tribute to her career. Students felt this was an insult to Stone's contribution to the University because they thought that she was more than a scholar. Former Black Student Movement president Michelle Thomas said, "Through her, students were introduced to the beauty of black culture. When she passed, we reflected on what was important to her because she was important to us." Their reflections soon came to focus on the BCC, and they set out to rename the existing BCC in her honor and to erect a freestanding Black Cultural Center. After numerous rallies and petitions, UNC officials finally allowed a name change to the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center in March 1992.

In everything that I have discovered about Sonja Haynes Stone, it has truly made me proud to be a young African American woman. Despite the fact that I did not personally know her, I am touched by the spirit that she has left behind on this campus. I can understand how it was impossible to know this "stunningly beautiful, dynamic, charismatic" woman and not to love her. May Stone's legacy and beliefs live on with the Sonja Haynes Stone Black Cultural Center.

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work, Stone served as a source of inspiration and leadership to every student on campus and to her peers. Stone was an inspiration to many of the people that she met, mentored

University Medical Center, she was diagnosed as having suffered a massive aneurysm in her brain. She lay in a coma in intensive care for days and was finally pronounced