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IN REMEMBRANCE OF

JOHN C. JONES



DEATH, A WAY TO END LIFE

By Tony Melvin

The beginning of the new year (1978) symbolizes the birth of new dreams and new goals to replace the worn ones and the hope that God will grant us the opportunity to enjoy these fruits of our labors. So, joyous life is expressed by all because these are the blessings of a just God. After life there is death. Death is necessary for nature because the newborn must have a place to bed and nurture...this idea leaves us to believe that death will come to all who live. Look forward to death by living a rewarding and full life.

John C. Jones, lived a rewarding a full life. What is more valuable than the respect of ones fellow men, the love of young folk, and the call to service from ones peers? Nothing carries more value than these three. Perhaps, the relationship he had with young people is what people

remember when Dean Jones' name is mentioned.

Young people found in Dean Jones the qualities of manhood attributed to few men in our world. Compassion, knowledge, understanding, honesty, a balance of strictness and leniency, and a willingness to tackle problems regardless of their proportions. He established excellent rapport with the young because he could listen to them objectively and not stigmatize any problems of smaller proportions or low priority because of moral or other reasons. This means more to young people than anything else because the young feel that their ideas and problems are not listened to by the old. Not so, with Dean Jones because he built his reputation by working among young people.

Dean Jones leaves a legacy of fine work with young people at the Raleigh and Goldsboro Youth Centers.

He served for seven years as a Rehabilitation Counselor in the North Carolina Department of Corrections at the Raleigh and Goldsboro Youth Centers before coming to Fayetteville State University in 1959 as an Associate Professor in the Department of Social Science. In 1960, he became Dean of Men and in 1965 was named Dean of Students.

On July 15, 1977, Dean Jones, as he was called, was named Vice Chancellor for Student Development at Fayetteville State University by the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina. This appointment was approved approximately the same time as Governor Hunt announced his appointment as a member of the State Parole Commission. He assumed his duties as Commissioner of the North Carolina Parole Commission on July 18, 1977.

Dean Jones was very active in civic and educational organizations. He was a veteran of World

War II and affiliated with the Cumberland County Red Cross Board, the United Service Fund, the Boy Scouts Council, the North Carolina Department of Youth Development, the North Carolina Conference for Social Services, the Governor's Committee on Study of Children and Youth, the North Carolina Advisory Board of Juvenile Correction, the State Task Force for the Study of Alcoholism Among Blacks, the Cumberland County Mental Health Association, the Cumberland County Drug Commission, and the Fayetteville City Schools Advisory Board. (Mr. Jones was a life long Democrat.) He was also a Ruling Elder of the College Heights Presbyterian Church and Past Basileus of the Beta Chi Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Dean Jones' family, his wife Alice, daughters, Alice and Donna, his stepmother, Mrs. Nina Jones, his sisters and brother, should be proud of him and his accomplishments.

His dying is not as sad an occasion as one thinks usually. His dying is further revelation to us that life ends abruptly. The goals or tasks that we wish to achieve should be expedited. We should use the full and rewarding life of John C. Jones as an example of how our lives should be lived. Let us strive to achieve fellowship among men. Let us strive to achieve excellent rapport among the young; thereby

molding them for a similar life ahead. Let's strive to achieve compassion and understanding so that our lives will be as full and rewarding as Dean Jones' life. These are the underlying messages of the death of Dean Jones. We have lost a great and honorable man but we have gained insight of the mystery of life. Death is the proper way to end life, but let death be one of honor and service to the principles of mankind. Dean Jones! We love you because your living has shown us how to die.