



Wake Forest University Baptist
MEDICAL CENTER

Recognizes
Louise Davis as a
Lifetime Achievement
Award recipient



Louise Davis says a few words at a Valentine's celebration.



Mama to the Community

To those who know and love her, she is simply known as "Mama Davis," the caring woman who is small in stature but big in heart and spirit. Louise Davis has had the ability to make others love her for most of her 94 years of life.

Davis says her secret is treating other people as she wants to be treated - with respect, caring and concern.

"Love everybody," she recently told *The Chronicle*. "Whether you like them or not, love them."

A Winston-Salem native, Davis attended Columbia Heights School and Winston-Salem Teachers College before she found her calling. For more than half a century Davis worked as a beautician, working to bring pride and joy to her many clients.

Davis and her late husband, Raymond A. Davis, lived in White Plains, N.Y., for several decades. There Louise Davis owned and operated her own shop, Lou's Beauty Box. In New York, she also served as vice chairperson and treasurer of the state's Beauty Cultist Association.

Davis' livelihood did not end once she put away her curling iron and returned to her native Winston-Salem in the 1970s. She took on an active role in her church, Mount Zion Baptist, where she is a missionary and serves on various committees.

Davis is also one of the city's most active volunteers. Her activities include work with agencies such as Experiment in Self-Reliance, N.C. Piedmont Council on Aging, the Winston-Salem Urban League and the East Winston CDC. Davis is also an active member of Sisters of Bivouac Chapter 530.

Part of Davis' legacy is her ability to reach out to those in need and stand up for the helpless. She is a former member of the Winston-Salem Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, where she put the needs of public housing residents in the forefront. Davis has been a proud resident of public housing for more than 30 years.

Friends say age has not slowed Davis down. She is a regular sight at local events, from political forums to community gatherings.



Louise Davis looks at the cake prepared for her 94th birthday.



Louise Davis at a ceremony for the Eastern Star Bivouac Chapter 530.