

IN MEMORIAM

A Tribute to A Fine Lady

When I think of you, warm feelings come to mind.
Your spirit, wisdom, and life experiences were one of a kind!
Your life was indeed an example to all.
You were never afraid to accept a challenge or answer a call.
You shared your knowledge of Robert's Rules.
You taught, imparted and gave us the tools
To be the very best Altrusans that we can be
And conduct our meetings most efficiently.
You were a dedicated and loyal friend
Who loved Altrusa until the very end.
Your words will long remain in my heart
Even though of this world you are no longer a part.
Knowing in your heart you have done your best.
Now it is your time for a well deserved rest.

*With Fond Altrusa Memories,
Cindy Schad*

TRIBUTE TO MYRALINE LESLEY December 7, 1924 – January 9, 2006 Submitted by Margaret H. Cannon, District Three Immediate Past Governor

It is with sadness that we report the death of Myraline Lesley, who died on January 9th and was buried in Easley, SC, on January 11, 2006. I am honored that our Governor has asked me to write a brief tribute to Myraline. I cherish the privilege I had of working with her on the District Three Board and the friendship we enjoyed. It is rare to find an individual with the character, knowledge, charm and faithfulness demonstrated by Myraline Lesley.

From 1993 through April 2005, Myraline Lesley shared all of those qualities with the membership of Altrusa District Three and especially members of the District Three Board as she served as Parliamentarian of Altrusa District Three. During those years, she served the following five governors: Mary Epting-Long (1993-1995), Shirley Foor (1995-1999), Donna Johnson (1999-2001), Sandy Furches (2001-2003) and Margaret H. Cannon (2003-2005).

When she decided to retire from the position of District Three Parliamentarian, the District Three Board wanted to pay tribute to her for her many years of excellent parliamentary advise. Betsy Burch, who was serving as District Secretary, suggested that we prepare a booklet and have members of the five boards she served to write an article expressing their thanks for her years of service.

The booklet was compiled along with pictures of members of each board. On May 14, 2005, Linda Robison and Christy Bryant accompanied me on a visit to Myraline's home on "Crittter Hill" in Easley, SC, and presented her with the booklet. She was overwhelmed with joy.

Following are excerpts from the booklet that express the influence that Myraline had on various board members.

Your service to others always extended far beyond your commitment to Altrusa. It was there in professional organizations as well as in your church, business, community and family.

Mary Epting-Long, 1993-1995 District Three Governor

One of the highlights of my years as Governor of District Three, Altrusa International, Inc. was your presence on our Board of Directors. Most certainly, you provided good advice about parliamentary matters at the District level and how to handle the many sticky situations at the International level. I have worked with many parliamentarians on many boards of directors, but you are, by far, the most knowledgeable, skillful and careful. Beyond that and most important to me, however, was your friendship and wise counsel that helped me think through still other board related matters.

Shirley Foor, 1995-1999 District Three Governor

My life has been made much richer because of you. I am always touched by your sincerity, genuine concern and willingness to assist those of us with limited or should I say, "challenged" knowledge of parliamentary procedures.

Christy Bryant, 2003-2005 District Three Director

Thank you so much for all you have taught me about parliamentary procedure. Because of you and your patient teaching, I feel confident to preside at any kind of a meeting knowing that I have the necessary tools to insure a smooth and fair result.

Donna Johnson, 1999-2001 District Three Governor

Although I have only known you for a short time, your impact on my life has been noticeable. You have shown me a new way of service to Altrusa and provided me with a new challenge to learn. No one can ever fill your shoes, but we will try to follow your path.

Colleen Duris, 2005-2007 Parliamentarian District Three

Seeing you at the head table for years advising Governors that came before me, I observed their total respect for you and saw the positive results of your knowledge base in parliamentary procedure. As I became acquainted with you, I quickly held that same respect and credit you with effectively spreading your knowledge to future parliamentarians who follow ably in your footsteps.

Sandy Furches, 2001-2003 District Three Governor

With deepest sympathy during this difficult time. Thoughts are always with you as you grieve for Myraline Lesley. Condolances to her family.

Carol Latham, Past Governor, District Eleven

Now Myraline will no longer play a part in our Altrusa District Three Board Meetings or in our Altrusa District Three Conferences but the parliamentary procedures that she taught us will be followed for many years to come. She will certainly continue to live in our hearts.

