

Dr. Virginia Stone, ac, died

December 4, 1993 in Durham. She developed the first masters program offering a specialty in gerontological nursing at Duke University School of Nursing. She developed the first standards of practice in gerontological nursing for the American Nurses Association and successfully achieved recognition of geriatric nursing as a specialty within the association. Dr. Stone was given the ANA Honorary Award for Leadership in Gerontological Nursing in 1974 and was named the Gerontological Nurse of the Year in 1980.

She participated in the White House Conference on Aging in 1971 and 1981. At the time of her death, she was a member of the Senior Tar Heel Legislature and served on the Triangle J Council of Government's Aging Advisory Committee.

Dr. Stone was not only an intellectual, she was a person with an abundance of caring for people, especially her students and the elderly. All students were special to her and she continued contact with each after their graduation. Her eyes would sparkle and her speaking would gain animation as she spoke of issues emanating from the needs of senior citizens. Her wit was often interjected into her presentations, and her smile would communicate how much she enjoyed her work with the aging. She was a person of warmth and interests beyond gerontological nursing — golf, gourmet cooking, Duke basketball, bridge, international travel and reading.

Contributions can be made to the Dr. Virginia Stone Trust.  
American Nurses Foundation, 600 Maryland Avenue. SW. Suite  
100 West, Washington DC, 20024-2571

—contributed by Dr. Ruby Wilson, District 11  
(appeared first in Senior Outlook, 1994)

In the Tar Heel Nurse January/February 1994