

## Dr. N. Freeman Jones, Jr.

Dr. N. Freeman Jones, Jr. was born December 28, 1928 to the late Numa Freeman Jones, Sr. and Ida Hodnett Jones. Freeman, as he was called by all, attended the public schools in Reidsville, NC and graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in 1946. He continued his education at Shaw University in Raleigh, NC, where he received the Bachelor of Science degree in Biology in 1950.

After graduating from Shaw University, he was hired as an eighth grade teacher at Lincoln Consolidated School in the Rockingham County School System in 1951. He served in that position until 1966. During his tenure as eighth grade teacher, the laws of segregation required the students who had completed the eighth grade from Lincoln Consolidated School to be bussed to Booker T. Washington High School in Reidsville, NC. The staff of Lincoln Consolidated School took great pride in knowing that their students were academically competitive with students from other elementary schools in the Rockingham County School System. Dr. Jones was boastful of the fact that for 11 consecutive years, the valedictorians of Booker T. Washington High School were former members of his eighth grade classes.

Dr. Jones earned the Master of Education degree from Temple University, Philadelphia, PA in 1961. In 1966, Dr. Jones was appointed principal of Lincoln Consolidated School. During his tenure as principal, he introduced many educational innovations to improve the instructional programs, including Individualized Instruction, Cooperative Planning, Cooperative Teaching and Cooperative Learning. In 1970, the process of desegregation came to Lincoln School. Under the leadership of Dr. Jones, every precaution was used to assure that the transition to integration was done in an efficient and efficacious manner.

Dr. Jones earned the Doctor of Education degree in Educational Administration from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 1980. After serving as principal of Lincoln School for 16 years, Dr. Jones was promoted to the central office administrator position of Director of Exceptional Children/Director of Migrant Education. As Director of Exceptional Children/Migrant Education, his focus was improving the instructional offerings of both programs and providing the teachers with effective instructional materials.

In 1991, Dr. Jones retired from the position of Director of Exceptional Children/Director of Migrant Education of Rockingham County Schools. Dr. Jones' work experiences are unique and interesting because he served in the same school for over 30 years and the same school system for 40 years.

Dr. Jones joined First Baptist Church at an early age and remained through his entire life. He served on the Senior Choir, Trustee Board, Scholarship Committee, Chairman of the Shaw Day Committee and Superintendent of the Sunday School.

Over the years, Dr. Jones had the privilege of serving on the boards of the following organizations: Annie Penn Hospital Trustee Board, Annie Penn Hospital Foundation, Hospice of Rockingham County, Mental Health of Rockingham County, Reidsville Chamber of Commerce, HELP, Inc., Reidsville Outreach Center, Ecumenical Family Life and NAACP. Professionally, Dr. Jones was a member of North Carolina Teachers Association, North Carolina Association of Educators, National Association of Educators, North Carolina Retired School Personnel of Rockingham County (served as President 2002 - 2004).

Dr. Jones was president of the Shaw Alumni Association of Rockingham County. During his matriculation at Shaw University, Dr. Jones joined the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. (Iota Chapter) in 1947.

In 2001, the Rockingham County Board of Education approved a recommendation that the Media Center of the new Lincoln Middle School be named in honor of Dr. Jones. In 2004, Dr. Jones was awarded the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award by the Ministerial Alliance of Reidsville and Vicinity.

Dr. Jones was married to the former Constance Slade. They have one daughter, Carol D. Jones. Dr. N. Freeman Jones, Jr. passed on October 16, 2007.