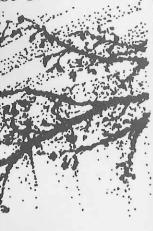
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During this time she was a member of the Women's Society Cabinet of the Southern New Jersey Annual Conference for four years, in charge of developing "The Guild." She organized guilds in various churches of the Conference, along with one at Red Bank Church with 30 members. Up until this time that group has been an important unit of the Women's Society of the Red Bank Church, which is still in existence at this time, known as the "Mildred Morris Group of the Women's Society of Red Bank Church." She was still a member of that church at her death, and a recent letter from their president said though only 16 of the 30 members are from the original group, they all loved her dearly.

Mildred also has made a name for herself in surf fishing, having won one year all the prizes of the contest on Long Beach Island. She caught a 16-lb. striper for this event, and as an extra, a 9-lb. fluke. Surf fishing has been the hobby of the Hamptons until recent illnesses.

Mildred carried Christ in her heart as her eternal guide.

On January 20, when Mildred celebrated her 81st birthday in the Boca Raton Community Hospital on the 7th floor, the nurses and leaders of the hospital gave her a surprise birthday party with a beautiful large, 3-layer cake. She invited all the nurses and half of the entire floor to share the cake with her. A dear older worker came back and said, "Mrs. Hampton, do you suppose I could have a second piece? I never tasted such cake in my whole life!" Mildred answered, "Sure you may, and any of your friends may return if they wish." Despite the terrible pain she was in at the time, she said it was one of the best birthday celebrations she had ever had. That night she had to have two portions of sleeping pills to get to sleep.

She loved people and kindness, and regardless of their station, they learned to love her. Even at Abbey Delray South she was greatly loved by all who waited upon her.

Earl said, "She taught me how to fish in the right way." Her last success was in catching a 6-lb. angel fish on the pier at Ft. Pierce with a light boat pole.

For 18 1/2 years, regardless of what they did, Earl and Mildred could be found together like Siamese twins.

"Beyond the sunset" has now become a reality to Mildred.



IDALENE GULLEDGE SMITH

By Eugene L. Smith

Idalene Gulledge Smith, daughter of Sidney Loy Gulledge and Harriett Watson Gulledge, was born in Albemarle, N.C., October 3, 1904. She was the youngest of five children. Her first experience in ministry came at the age of eleven, when her pastor

asked her to take employment to call on elderly people and tell stories to children. She was graduated from Duke University, where she was made a member of Phi Beta Kappa her junior year. Her sophomore year she attended the University of Texas.

After college she taught in the high school at Wadesboro, N.C. The first class that graduated when she taught there kept in touch across the years, when possible scheduling their summer gatherings when she could attend, and asking her to come back to speak at their fiftieth reunion.

She then went to the Greensboro campus of the University of North Carolina, where she established and directed the Wesley Foundation. She then took her Master's Degree at Drew Theological Seminary. Her M.A. thesis on Christian work with students on college campuses was used for a number of years as a handbook by the then Board of Higher Education of The Methodist Church. She married Eugene L. Smith in 1939. Their two daughters were born in their first pastorate at Roselle, New Jersey. She had distinctive skill in working with people to establish programs which lasted long after she had gone. At Wesley Church, Roselle, it was the reorganization of the women's groups; at Emory in Jersey City it was a Mother's Club; at St. Mark's in Brooklyn it was a released time religious education program. More than 35 years ago she helped form a group of wives of church executives with extensive travel programs. The personnel of that group has changed greatly, but it still continues to meet a real need. As President of what then was called "The Ministers' Wives Association" of this Annual Conference, she initiated the annual "Time Out" gatherings at Aldersgate, which continue after almost twenty years.

She taught in many missionary education conferences, from Arkansas to Maine. For ten years she served as Welcome Wagon Hostess, through which contacts she brought people into membership in churches and synagogues in that area.

Her travels with her husband included extensive trips through the United States, Canada, Asia, Africa and Europe. Her hobbies were varied and included the preparation of worship materials, rock collecting and polishing, stamp collecting, making beaded flowers, decorating stationery, and gardening.

Her contribution was extraordinary in its balance: what she did richly in her own right, and what she did through her devotion to her husband and daughters.

Her older daughter, LuAnn Smith Polk, lives in Groton, Mass., where her husband is headmaster of Groton School. They have two daughters, Malinda and Gillian. Her younger daughter, Rosemary Smith Zander, is Chief Social Worker at Bergen Pines Hospital in Paramus, N.J. She lives in Englewood with her husband who is production manager at a firm making electronic equipment.

In 1974 she suffered a mild stroke and began a long struggle against the encroachments of cerebral artherioschlerosis. After a second stroke in February, 1981, she required the care of a nursing home. She died December 3, 1983, at the Woodcrest Center Nursing Home, New Milford, N.J. The Rev. Douglas Miller officiated at her memorial service. Her daughters spoke, and Gretchen Fischer paid tribute to her "Aunt Idalene." Dr. Tracey K. Jones, Jr., and Philip Cartwright participated.

A brother, Jay, former librarian at Duke University, died in 1941. A sister and brother, Mary and Loy, live in Albemarle. Another sister, Rosa Sturkey, lives in Clinton, Washington. Her husband continues to live in their Closter, N.J. home. Her ashes are interred in the cemetery beside the Rockaway Valley United Methodist Church, Rockaway Valley, N.J.