

The HUNTER COLLEGE ALUMNI NEWS

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LOUISE FLYNN DRADDY

IN MEMORIAM

Louise Draddy was buried as the sun shone, not far from the grave of "Al" Smith. It seemed to me there was something pertinent in that nearness for our recollections of a New York which is now all but gone. The "Governor" was grave, almost stolid sometimes, on the exterior, but he was magnificently gay inside; and our dear Louise, light and pert and upon occasion even frivolous, was very serious within. Her spirit served the purpose it had elected like an austere candle, but round about it her personality danced and skipped to its own rare kind of music. I think she was often genuinely surprised at the things she accomplished. Praise and honor she accepted lightly, even as other women accept compliments. What she contributed to the well-being of her Alma Mater no one will ever fully know. Without her help Roosevelt House would assuredly never have become a serene and thriving place. Her energy made the Scholarship and Welfare Fund of the Alumni Association a reality far greater and more important than most of us at first thought it could be. These are only two of many, many services. She was active in the Association of Neighbors and Friends of

Hunter College, the Graduate Scholarship Committee, the Friends of the Hunter College Library. Of her manifold gifts of time and energy to the Alumni I shall not speak because others can do so far more adequately. She represented us all with wit and distinction on virtually innumerable bodies dedicated to the welfare of the community at large. She was interested in the smallest Girl Scout, in the Mother of the Year, in the aged who needed a home. To her own family she was guide, beloved counselor, and servant. But above all she gave us a treasure we cannot sufficiently cherish. This was her own radiant self. Those of us who have seen her bring countless hundreds of students to the Assembly Hall just because they saw in her a woman equal to every situation and superior to most of them will never be able to cease regretting that she can no longer come to the College, in good weather and foul, loving it as it loved her. Many indeed remain grateful to her. Among them we number especially ourselves. For she was fond of us, not because of what we were individually but by reason of what she fancied we might do for young people and for mankind.

GEORGE N. SHUSTER

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The sense of shock and loss which we felt in Louise Draddy's sudden death still weighs upon us. It is difficult to accept the fact that she is not with us.

It is so saddening for me to think that I cannot see her—I cannot talk with her. No one who knew her can forget her. No one I have ever known, I feel, gave more generously of herself. Louise Draddy was a friend to all, a dear friend of hundreds, of thousands of Hunter people.

Like all her friends, I rejoiced in her wit, her gaiety, her resourcefulness, her delight in activity. She lifted all our spirits. In daily companionship she gave us joy.

The whole history of our Alumni Association during the last decades has been influenced by Louise Draddy's leadership and personality. For years she was chairman of our largest function—our Annual Birthday Luncheon. Then followed the six years of her presidency, and the organization, under her leadership, by a group of founders, of our Scholarship and Welfare Fund. For six years Louise was also president of this separately incorporated fund, and her most notable contribution to the Alumni, in my estimation, was her work on behalf of this important project of our Association. In manifold ways Louise served her College and the Alumni.

We are proud, too, of her reputation in our city, because of her work with other outstanding organizations. To so many good causes she gave a full measure of her time and service.

We shall always remember all that she did. We shall miss our Louise.

FRANCES R. ABRAMS, President

SCHOLARSHIP AND WELFARE FUND

"To live in the hearts of those we love,
is not to die."

Hunter College, the Alumni Association, and the Scholarship and Welfare Fund suffered a tremendous loss when on July 14th Louise Flynn Draddy was called to the Great Beyond.

One of the founders and organizers of the Scholarship and Welfare Fund, she served as our first President from 1949 to 1955. Louise's influence will long be felt and the memory of her influence will be forever cherished by our Board of Directors.

An outstanding humanitarian—Service was her motto. Regardless of race, creed, or color, she never failed to extend a helping hand or lend an attentive ear to her fellow man. True to her beliefs, she was a sincere member of her Church, carrying out its tenets and its ideals at all times. Louise possessed a genial personality—her charm, her ready wit and humor, her kindness, her warmth and generosity, her sincerity and integrity, endeared her to all who had the privilege and honor of knowing her.

Her passing has left a deep void in the hearts of the officers and members of the

Board of Directors of the Scholarship and Welfare Fund. We believe that her dearest wish to our Board would be "Carry on, keep up the noble work of helping our undergraduates who need our aid so much." We will not fail her!

I had the honor to serve as her Vice-President when she was President of the Alumni Association, and later when she was President of the Scholarship and Welfare Fund. A beautiful friendship developed that lasted through the years. "To know her was to love her." Her passing has been a terrible shock to me and her loss is irreparable. I counted her among my dearest and sincerest friends.

"The only links Death cannot sever

Are Love and Mem'ry, they live forever."

VICTORIA BITTERMAN, President,
Scholarship and Welfare Fund
of the Alumni Association of
Hunter College

ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS OF HUNTER COLLEGE

I am grateful for the opportunity to pay a tribute to Louise Draddy. I have never known any one like her. She was intelligent, logical, and just. She was a woman of no pretenses, forthright, loyal, and steadfast. But above all she had two inimitable gifts—a gift for friendship, and a gift for laughter. She had many, many friends from various groups, and from all walks of life, but to each person she was somebody special, and each person felt that he or she was precious to Louise. And she shared her laughter with every one.

I had the privilege of being intimately associated with Louise through our mutual interest in Sara Delano Roosevelt Memorial House. Working with her week in and week out for fourteen years gave me an unusual opportunity to observe her selflessness, her sense of duty, and her generosity of spirit. She was deeply religious, respectful of other people's convictions but scornful of the "simpering pious", who "talk so big, and act so little". She loved the Roosevelt House because it helps provide spiritual and social opportunities for Hunter students. From the beginning she worked tirelessly to interest people in the House and its objectives. She was always a guiding spirit in the Association of Neighbors and Friends of Hunter College, which helps to maintain the House. It was a frightful shock to every one in the Association to learn of the sudden death of our beloved President.

I shall miss her sorely. It is hard not to weep when I think of her. But I must not. Louise would not have liked that. Instead I thank God that I had the privilege of knowing her and that she shared her wonderful gifts of friendship and laughter with me. I shall always remember her in my prayers.

DORIS SHUSTER
MRS. GEORGE N. SHUSTER, Acting President,
Association of Neighbors and Friends
of Hunter College

IN MEMORIAM

It is with a sense of deep personal loss that we contemplate the passing of Louise Draddy. This feeling is shared by countless individuals who worked with Mrs. Draddy in all sorts of organizations.

During the many years that we knew Louise Draddy, we had profound respect for her great ability and phenomenal achievements, but we loved her for her warmth, her kindness, her charm, her humility, and her extreme sensitivity to the feelings and needs of others, regardless of race or creed.

It was easy to talk with Louise Draddy, and seek her guidance and counsel. She had wisdom and a love for human beings. Your problem became her problem, and her advice was always sound and realistic.

Mrs. Draddy served as President of the Associate Alumnae (now the Alumni Association) of Hunter College from 1946 until her retirement in June 1952. She was one of the founders and a Past President of the Scholarship and Welfare Fund of the Alumni Association.

In May 1953 Mrs. Draddy was elected Vice-President of the Association of the Neighbors and Friends of Hunter College. Two years later she became President of this organization, which helps to maintain the Sara Delano Roosevelt Memorial House as a religious, social, and cultural center for Hunter students. She was Chairman of the Hunter College Library Committee and a member of the Hunter College Opera Association.

We are happy that the name of Louise Draddy will be perpetuated at Hunter College through the Louise Draddy Award, which is given annually to an outstanding graduating senior. We are proud that our Alumni Association, in 1952, contributed to the fund through which this award has been made possible.

In November 1949 Mrs. Draddy, as Grand Regent of Court Columbia No. 45, Catholic Daughters of America, received a medallion for "outstanding achievement" from the sponsors of the Women's International Exposition here.

Cardinal Spellman awarded to Mrs. Draddy in December 1949 the medal *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* for service to the Church and to the Pope. She received this honor for her work as president of several Roman Catholic hospital auxiliaries, including Seton Hospital in the Bronx, St. Elizabeth's Hospital, and the Frances Schervier Home.

Mrs. Draddy was permanent Chairman of the Catholic Lay Organizations Committee in the New York Area. She was Vice President of the Pernet Guild of the Little Sisters of the Assumption. In 1950 her many charitable activities were mentioned in a citation accompanying an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters conferred on her by Fordham University.

Louise Draddy was very active in the Girl Scout Council of Greater New York, and she

was a member of the New York City Cancer Committee. She had been a director of Girls' Town and the Manhattan Council of Social Planning, and was National Chairman of the American Mothers Committee for 1952. She worked for the establishment of a community center for underprivileged children in Harlem, and she was an active member of the inter-group committee on Religion at Work in the Community, headed by Dean Carman of Columbia University.

We are happy and proud to have had the privilege and the honor of knowing and working with Louise Draddy. To know her was to love her. She was truly a great lady.

ETHEL G. BERL

FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

It was my very great privilege to be at Hunter for at least one year with Louise Draddy, and an association of even so short a time has meant that her going leaves me with an overwhelming sense of personal loss.

Hers was a rare combination of talents; she could jest continuously and never be shallow; she could be devout consistently and never be pious.

Her warmth and generosity were all-embracing. They were shown daily not only in the service she gave to her College and to many civic groups, but in the little personal private ways that offer to the shy and the perplexed a sense of support and confidence and buoyancy.

The vitality of her spirit will continue to inspire us, and we shall long be blessed in the recollection of her friendship.

KATHRYN L. HOPWOOD, Dean of Students

FROM THE ALUMNI PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

In the Alumni we have suffered a heavy loss in the death of our beloved Louise Draddy. Let us rededicate ourselves, in her memory, to service to our College and our Association.

Now that autumn is here and our Alumni Association's activities are moving into high gear, I hope that we may count on many of you to help us through service on committees.

Let our principal slogan through the coming year be "GREATER SERVICE THROUGH GREATER MEMBERSHIP". As of September 10th we have a paid-up membership of 1417. Our goal is 5000 by May, 1957. Won't you, I ask again, urge our graduates to join us?

As you read this brief note, I shall be traveling for a month with my husband—taking a belated vacation through England, Scotland, Holland, down the Rhine to Switzerland, and then to Paris. I shall be keeping my eyes open for Hunter graduates who have settled in foreign cities. Perhaps we have enough graduates in Paris to form a Chapter there! For as the chapters grow, so does the Alumni Association.

With all good wishes,

FRANCES R. ABRAMS, President