

EULOGY FOR THE FUNERAL SERVICE OF VIOLA GREEN, PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER, DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS AUXILIARY, JANUARY 18, 1984 BY BEA PULED, PAST DEPARTMENT COMMANDER, DEPARTMENT OF WASHINGTON, DAVA, AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON (YARINGTON'S FUNERAL HOME).

Viola Green joined the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary through eligibility of her father, Virgil Wilson, disabled veteran of World War I military service, and was Tacoma Unit #1's first Junior member. This began more than 52 years of service to the parent Disabled American Veterans, the Auxiliary and to veterans and their families across the United States.

She filled many appointments allowed Juniors, then in 1940, served as Adjutant of Tacoma Unit under Mary Vowell. The same year she served as Adjutant and State -0 -Gram Chairman under her mother Olga Wilson, who was Commander of the Department of Washington at the time. Viola went on to fill these same appointments in later years under other Department Commanders as well as other appointive offices and chairmanships.

She also filled all chair offices, including two terms as Commander of Tacoma Unit, and all chair offices and as treasurer of the Department of Washington before becoming Department Commander during the 1948-49 year.

On the National level, she served a two-year term as 13th District National Executive Committeewoman and numerous chairmanships. When elected National Commander in August 1966, in Denver, Colorado, with Past National Commander Henrietta Mills her installing officer, she had filled all National chair offices except Chaplain. Incidentally, serving as National Commander of the Disabled American Veterans that year was Francis Beaton, now deceased.

At the time of her death, Viola was National 13th District Chairman Veterans Administration Voluntary Service for the Auxiliary, and Adjutant of the Department of Washington under present Commander Mary Ann Hopkins and Treasurer of Tacoma Unit #1.

In 1960 when the National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans was held in Seattle, she chaired the National Convention of the Auxiliary. In 1969 she chaired the Women's National Security Forum in Washington, D.C., representing the National Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary.

At home, along with Unit activities, she worked as a regularly scheduled volunteer at the Seattle Veterans Administration Medical Center, contributing 1,183 VA Voluntary Service hours over a seven year period, during which she received a 500 hour award of appreciation. She had also given hundreds of volunteer hours at the American Lake Veterans Hospital, many of them prior to creation of the VAVS program.

In the Bi-Centennial Year of our nation, 1976, the Department Convention, held in Seattle was dedicated to Viola. She shared this honor with Past National Commander of the parent organization, Wayne Sheirbon, another longtime Seattle friend.

Viola was not only committed to the ideals of the organization, she was committed also to those of our United States. So, to focus on this deep spirit of patriotism and encourage others to do the same, she established the travelling Viola Green Americanism Trophy awarded each year to the Unit within the Department of Washington judged to have the most outstanding Americanism report, including a program centered on this theme.

She assisted her husband Jack Green in his responsibilities in Seattle Chapter No. 2, Disabled American Veterans, and participated in the Forget-Me-Not sales fund-raising of the parent organization in both Seattle and Tacoma.

Many expressions of appreciation and respect have been voiced by those who knew her on all levels of her dedicated service to disabled veterans and their families. She was known as thoughtful and considerate, and always careful to acknowledge courtesies

extended her wherever she went. Much of her time travelling between official visitations was spent writing cards and notes, not just "bread and butter" thank-you's, but words of encouragement, commendation or other message to let one know she truly cared. This graciousness in her character endeared her to all.

Her longtime friend, Mary Vowell, spoke for herself and many others when she said "She did everything well. Whatever she accepted to do, we never had to worry about it. She did it right and she never expected anyone to do what she was not willing to do herself." Mary also said, "I was proud to nominate her for both the offices of Department and National Commanders."

Another person reflected. "Even in her own physical weakness and suffering, Viola continued to be a pillar of strength to others, and to express her interest and concern for the Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary and those men and women we serve."

A Seattle VAVS volunteer said, "I did not know her well until we worked together at the Seattle VA. Then I found Viola to be a loving, considerate person who put others feelings above her own.

Another co-worker who knew her well said, "She was a great and special lady who contributed much to each of our lives and made us better people because of her example. She listened, counseled and supported, and was simply a real friend."

There is little we can add in tribute to our loved one, so we turn appropriately to the Scriptures where Christ speaks in Matthew 25, verse 23:

"WELL DONE, THOU GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT, BECAUSE THOU HAS BEEN FAINFUL, OVER A FEW THINGS, I WILL SET THEE OVER MANY; ENTER NOW INTO THE JOY OF AY KINGDOM."

The Department of Washington, Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary, has lost a very special person in the loss of our Past National Commander, Viola Green. Her leadership and knowledge of our organization will be missed. Our sympathies are extended to her husband Jack, her daughter Theresa and husband Paul (a very fine son-in-law), her son Virgil and wife and to all the grandchildren.

May God find a very special place for her in his kingdom....