

100, retired educator is still involved in the - Omaha World-Herald (NE) - April 15, 2019 - page 1B

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Juanita Moore recently turned 100 years old, and she is just as feisty as ever. She has not let age stand in the way of her sense of humor, being involved in the community or giving sound advice.

Her niece, Janet Partridge, threw a big party for her that was very well attended. People from Nebraska and other states came to celebrate with her. They included relatives, friends, church members, former students and members of different organizations in which she participates.

I told her I was going to write an article about her, and she said, "No you're not!" I said, "You have no choice, you are such an inspiration to others and your story needs to be told." She finally laughingly agreed to let me write about her.

Moore was born April 8, 1919, to parents James and Carrie Macey. She grew up during the Great Depression. For African Americans, it was a particularly bleak time. They were more likely to be laid off from their jobs, and their unemployment rate was two to three times that of white people. Charitable organizations that were there to help hungry people would often exclude black people from receiving food from their soup kitchens.

She graduated from Central High School in 1937 and married the late Milton Moore Sr. in 1939. They had two sons, Milton Jr. and Rodney, both now deceased. She has grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives surrounding her with love.

In 1958, Moore graduated from Omaha University (now UNO) with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. She taught at Long and Lothrop Elementary Schools and was a principal at **Howard Kennedy Elementary School** for many years.

Moore, who has always been active in the community, is a member of the New Life Presbyterian Church, the Eastern Star organization, Alpha Kappa Sorority and Queen of Hearts Bridge Club. She said she used to be a den mother, which she absolutely loved, and she volunteered at different churches in the community.

It is not surprising that she selected a career in education since she is known for being eager to help others. Karen Johns, her friend and sorority sister said, "It's because of Juanita that I chose a teaching career. She was so encouraging to me."

Karen worked for a while at Howard Kennedy. When students were sent to Moore because of misbehaving, she would sit them at desks around her office. Karen said she was so impressed how she helped struggling students with their schoolwork and made sure they understood concepts. Moore told Karen that even though she had to take care of disciplining the students, there was no way she was going to let them just sit there without learning.

Moore's niece, Janet Partridge said, "When I was 11 years old, my sister and I moved to Omaha from Los Angeles to live with my grandmother because my mother had died. I remember how devastated I was after losing my mom!"

Partridge said her Aunt Juanita helped her finish high school, go to college, become a member of Alpha Kappa Sorority and even helped her getting jobs. She also helps this generation of children in the family go to college.

I asked Juanita how she was feeling about her birthday party during this joyous occasion. She said, "It's just great having all these friends here sharing my 100th year birthday!"

CITATION (APA STYLE)

At 100, retired educator is still involved in the community. (2019, April 15). *Omaha World-Herald (NE)*, p. 1B. Available from NewsBank: America's News – Historical and Current: <https://infoweb.newsbank.com/apps/news/document-view?p=AMNEWS&docref=news/172D8E03E2C59C80>.

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