

Sarah McKoy Greenwood

September 19, 1913 - February 27, 2008



Sarah McKoy Greenwood was born September 19, 1913, in Chatooga County, Georgia to her father Thad McKoy and her mother Lena Shamblin McKoy. Sarah and her parents moved back to Douglasville when she was about two years old and live in a house on Price Avenue. Sarah graduated from Douglas County High School where she was valedictorian of her class. She attended the Henry Grady School of Journalism at the University of Georgia where she was a member of the Theta Sigma Phi honorary sorority for women in journalism, which had among its members First Ladies, Eleanor Roosevelt and Lady Bird Johnson.

Sarah is noted as the first woman in Douglas County and the State of Georgia to hold a public office as Clerk of the Superior Court. This was a time when women were not even allowed in the courthouse. She was stared at a lot during court because people were not use to seeing a young girl as a court clerk.

When her father, Thad McKoy, who was at the time Douglas County Clerk of Superior Court, died suddenly of a heart attack in 1940, she was appointed to take over his term in office. She later ran and won two additional four-year terms on her own, amid tough competition. Being the first woman to be elected she felt, she had to work harder, could not make mistakes and had to be twice as good as a man at her job. She found that she got stared at a lot during court sessions because people were not use to seeing a female as a court clerk. She chose not to run again after her marriage to Milton Greenwood.

“Her more than eight years in office are remembered by old timers as highly successful and marked by her fine performance of duties,” said Fannie Mae Davis in an October 15, 1970 Douglas County Sentinel newspaper story.

Sarah helped obtain a charter for the local chapter of the Order of Eastern Star where she served as its first Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron. She also held district and state Eastern Star offices.

She was not only a member of the First United Church but taught a Sunday School class as well.

Sarah was recognized in 2002 with the Douglas County Pathway of Service award at the courthouse for her groundbreaking service to Douglas County.

Sarah passed from this life at the age of 94 on February 27, 2008.