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Family ties

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Family ties

Maude Hudson's Furman connections run deep

When I first came to work at Furman in 1980, her grandson, Mike Harley '82, was president of the student body. He was the first student to welcome me to Furman.

Over the next few years, I met some of her other grandchildren — Deborah Harley Carico '85 and David Harley '88. Her son-in-law, Jimmie Harley '58, is now associate pastor of my church, Taylors First Baptist, where her daughter, Gayle Hudson Harley '58, sits a few seats down from me in the choir. Two other grandchildren, Rachel Harley and Rosanne Turner, are also church members, and Rosanne's parents, now deceased, were Tom and Sarah Atha Hudson Turner, both 1956 Furman graduates. Four years ago I met her son, J. Harold Hudson, Jr. '55, who was the photographer at my high school reunion.

Who is this individual with so many Furman connections? It's Maude Hunter Hudson, a 1926 graduate of Greenville Woman's College who celebrated her 101st birthday February 4 in the home she and her late husband, J. Harold Hudson '28, built in Greenville before their wedding in 1930.

Miss Maude's ties to Furman extend even deeper. She received a scholarship to attend GWC that led to a job in the office of President David Ramsay, who became a father figure to her. As graduation approached, she was offered two teaching positions — one in nearby Taylors and one in Powdersville. Instead, President Ramsay convinced her to take a full-time position in the GWC dean's office.

She met Harold while working at GWC, and one of their first dates was scheduled

the very day another suitor was taking her to a Christmas parade. The parade ended a little late — and Harold arrived a little early. Thinking quickly, Maude insisted that Date No. 1 let her out at the "east dorm door" so she could sneak in and freshen up without being seen by Harold. All seemed fine until she got into Harold's car — and promptly sat on his senior derby hat.

Evidently Harold forgave her, as he and Maude went on to be married on May 23, 1930, in the GWC Rose Garden. The Ramsays hosted the rehearsal dinner, and President Ramsay performed the ceremony.

Throughout the years, Maude Hudson has been a loyal Furman supporter who often entertains guests with stories from her college days. Furman president David Shi describes her as "a remarkable woman whose zest for life is infectious and who radiates hope and energy."

It seems fitting, too, that a woman who received a scholarship to attend college now has a scholarship named for her. The John Harold and Maude Hunter Hudson Scholarship is awarded annually to a Furman freshman who is hard-working, gracious and innovative — qualities exemplified by the Hudsons.

Susan Day Gray '78, director of stewardship at Furman, often accompanies recipients of the Hudson scholarship on visits to Miss Maude's home. Gray says, "Every time we see her, we're greeted with a big smile and a hug. Maude makes everyone feel welcome."

When I reflect on the hospitality Mike Harley extended to me 23 years ago and on my subsequent encounters with so many



Maude Hunter and Harold Hudson on their wedding day in 1930; Furman president David Shi helped Maude celebrate her 100th birthday last February.

members of his family, I realize that their graciousness and warmth is a family trait personified by Miss Maude. No doubt it will be passed on to the generations to come.

— **Wayne King**
Director, Annual Giving

To contribute to the John Harold and Maude Hunter Hudson Scholarship, contact Susan Gray at (864) 294-3716 or by e-mail, susan.gray@furman.edu.

University benefits from surge in support, growth in planned giving

During the latter part of 2003, a stronger economy and a significant increase in volunteer activity led to a surge of support for Furman.

As of December 31, the middle of Furman's fiscal year, the university's top gift societies — the Presidents Club (for donors of \$1,000 and more), Trustees Circle (\$2,500+), Founders Circle (\$5,000+) and Richard Furman Society (\$10,000+) — sported gains over 2002-03 in receipts and memberships. The work of Richard Furman Society chairs Jim '64 and Carol Nichols '67 Ney of Atlanta has brought in seven new memberships.

Foundation and government grants, mostly for student-faculty research, reached more than \$2.5 million this fall. The annual year-end grant from The Duke Endowment included \$1.9 million toward the foundation's \$9.5 million pledge for the renovation of the James B. Duke Library and \$100,000 for James B. Duke scholarships, plus

\$300,000 for the Northwest Crescent Center, with which Furman is affiliated.

In planned giving, estate plans in force and matured estate plans continued to grow. Most gifts of this type are added to the endowment, helping to fill Furman's greatest need.

This fall, an alumnus and his wife informed Furman that they have included students in the economics and business administration department in their will with a \$2 million bequest, and the widow of an alumnus endowed a scholarship for student-athletes in a trust, in the amount of \$100,000. These gifts bring the total in Furman's "planned gift pipeline" to more than \$98 million.

Carolyn L. Moseley '44 of Williamsburg, Va., bequeathed \$560,000 to permanently endow the Wilkes-Moseley Scholarship, which honors her parents and will assist students who show financial need, high moral character and academic

promise. In addition, Edna Gladden Hartness' \$500,000 bequest to Furman will be used to provide a discretionary fund for the president and to endow the Edna Hartness Garden near Cherrydale.

I. Lee Arnold, a physician from Chattanooga, Tenn., was a Furman parent and grandparent. His family includes son Coleman Arnold '69, daughter Jane Arnold Barnhill '72 and grandchildren Allison Arnold '97, Ben Barnhill '98, Justin Arnold '00 and Emily Barnhill '00. Years ago he established a charitable remainder trust, which was added to Furman's endowment at his death in August 2003 and created the I. Lee Arnold Scholarship for students planning to attend medical school.

To learn more about becoming part of the ongoing growth in support for Furman, visit www.furman.edu/giving.

— **Don Lineback**
Vice President for Development