



1981 CAMPANILE

Erma Turner, the first secretary to the college masters and Hanszen College's first coordinator, died over winter break.

First secretary to the college masters dies

Rice's first secretary to the college masters died over winter break. Erma Turner, who worked at Rice for over 25 years, also served as Hanszen College's first coordinator.

Although she retired in June 1986, her acquaintances at Rice kept in touch with both fellow employees and former students through frequent visits to the campus.

"She loved Rice and she still came back and had lunch frequently at the Faculty Club," current Hanszen Coordinator Glynda Cumby said.

Turner came to Rice in May 1961 and served as the secretary to the masters of the five colleges at that time.

When each college got its own coordinator in 1966, Turner moved to Hanszen.

Hanszen Community Associate John King (Hanszen '67) was a student while Turner was the coordinator. King continued their friendship and met Turner for lunch once every month from 1970 to 2000.

"Erma was a feisty person who knew her own mind and spoke it clearly," King said.

"She was quick to point out that she was secretary to the master, not secretary to the college or to its officers, although she did help in that regard from time to time."

Turner was 84. Hanszen will be making a donation to Fondren Library in her honor.

— Rachel Rustin

THRESMAN

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