

A native of Shelby, NC, Carrie Ashe came to Danville after graduating from Barber-Scotia College in Concord, NC with a degree in Elementary Education. Her first teaching assignment was at E.A. Gibson Elementary School and later at Park Avenue.

Mrs. Ashe received her master's at North Carolina A&T State University in reading. She continued her post-graduate work at the University of Virginia, Radford University, and Virginia Tech. She was named the first "Master Teacher" for the Danville Public Schools. In that assignment she helped evaluate students, worked with teachers on teaching methods and materials, and helped develop more effective ways of organizing classrooms in the city. Additionally, she was given the responsibility of coordinator of federal reading and mathematics program.

She was later appointed Assistant Principal for Instruction at the newly organized Westmoreland Middle School. She served in that capacity for one year and then was appointed Supervisor of Middle Schools. In addition to those many and varied responsibilities, she was the director of a summer program for academically talented elementary students which brought her great joy. She also spent time as a visiting professor teaching Reading on the Elementary Level at NC A&T. In 1987, Mrs. Ashe retired from the Danville Public School System after 32 years of service to both children and adults.

In addition to education, Mrs. Ashe expanded her service to the community at large. She has conducted workshops for the Community Improvement Council for parents on "Becoming a Positive Advocate for Your Child" and "Reading Makes a Difference" as well as education workshops around the Commonwealth. She also served as an Adoption Recruiter for the State of Delaware, earning praise from then-Senator Joseph Biden. Mrs. Ashe also leveraged her heart for service and connections within the community to help support those in need internationally, including a bed sheet drive for Jamaica after Hurricane Gilbert in 1988.

Mrs. Ashe was the organizer of Project Literacy and has served on numerous boards and organizations including: United Way of Danville-Pittsylvania County, the YWCA of Danville, Danville Museum of Fine Arts & History, Danville Concert Association, Danville Social Services Advisory Board, Patients' Advocacy for Mental Health, Danville Church Based Tutorial Program, Danville City Beautiful, Virginia Commission for the Arts, Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Danville, the Community Improvement Council, and served as the vice-chair of the committee to organize the Danville Public School Education Fund. She also served on the Danville Community College President's Advisory Panel on African American Concerns for three presidents and also as a member of the Danville Community College Board, and DCC Educational Foundation Board. She was the first African-American and first female of the Dan River Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa. Mrs. Ashe is a member of the Danville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and in a member of The Links, Incorporated, Danville Chapter.

In 1987, she was recognized as an Outstanding and Dedicated Educator from Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. In 2001, she was given the Humanitarian Award from the City of Danville by Mayor John Hamlin. In 2009, she was recognized for her Outstanding Leadership for her service as a board member and chair for the Danville Social Services Advisory Board. In 2013, she was given an award for Indispensable Service and Dedication to the Youth and Community by the Moral Hill Baptist Church. In 2018, she received the Ruby B. Archie Award from I Am S.A.R.A.H. In 2019, she was awarded a honorary Associate in Human Letters from DCC.

She is an ordained deacon and elder at the Holbrook Street Presbyterian Church (USA) where she currently teaches the Women's Bible Class and Adult Sunday School. She has spoken at many churches throughout the area and is known for her willingness to serve, her love for her fellow man, and God.

She is the widow of the late Larry Wayne Ashe.

# Carrie P. Ashe

