



SPOTLIGHT

on Orielie Norine Cooper

I was born in Chester, Pennsylvania to Natalie and Benjamin Jackson on October 9, 1928. I was their only child. At the age of ten years my mother died and my aunt, who was a beautician and owned her business took me in. What a wonderful childhood I had. She was a second mother to me

and had no other children.

I graduated from Chester High School, entered Cheyney State Teachers College and graduated. It is now known as Cheyney University. I taught the first and second grades for one year at Franklin Elementary School. I met my husband, John in New York at my relative's house. He was a blind date. We had a long distance relationship for six months. He would travel every other Saturday to Chester and spend the day with me. Finally, he popped the question and soon I moved to New York. Our marriage produced four daughters. We celebrated our 63rd Wedding Anniversary, April 4th.

I worked at the New York Telephone Company as an information operator and soon moved on to AT&T as a long distance operator. Loving fashion and beautiful clothes, I enrolled at The New York Fashion Institute of Technology and learned how to make patterns and make my garments look professional. I also worked at Group Health Inc., as a health claims supervisor.

When my husband retired from The Port of Authority of New York & New Jersey, I retired from GHI. We moved to Orange County, California where I met Miriam Campbell. We spent one year in CA and later decided to move to Las Vegas, where I again met Miriam in Las Vegas and she asked me if I would like to join The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary, thank you Miriam. Thank you SAWA for accepting me and my daughter, Leslie Smith into an organization with a group of wonderful ladies.