

Ellen Green Remembered



Hillsborough Remembers

Ellen Green

May 19, 1915 – September 24, 2006

Ellen Haynes Green was born on May 19, 1915 in Port Tampa City. She was a devoted wife and mother of two children.

Mrs. Green was a dedicated member of the Mt. Zion AME Church. She was a faithful Sunday school student, Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent for 25 years, Church Steward for more than 35 years, Church Secretary for 19 years, and served as an Usher for 54 years. She was often referred to by many as the mother of endless wisdom, compassion and love. She had an untiring commitment to helping others. She was a fearless fighter for civil and human rights, and a crusader for doing right by all.

She spent 47 years at Afro-American Life Insurance, 29 years at Central Life Insurance and 11 years at Progressive Pallbearers Grand Union where she ended her career as Financial Secretary. Fraternally, she was a member of the Sunlight Order of the Easter Star #26 for 42 years and Pallbearers Grand Union Lodge #23. She served as President of the Tampa Branch National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) from 1958 to 1961 as integration began to emerge out of its cocoon of racial hatred. Mrs. Green also served as President of the Tampa Chapter National Council of Negro Women from 1967 to 1982. She was a member of West Tampa Advisory Council, Southwest Civic Club, and Young Women's Christian Association.

She contributed to two chapters of the book *"Port Tampa City, a History of Change"*:

In recognition of her achievements, the first floor reading room in the Port Tampa City Library is dedicated as the Ellen H. Green Reading Room.

The interviews in this oral history collection are a testament to her legacy.