



ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE ALUMNAE LOYALTY AWARD

Presented to

Alice Wright Conkey '41



The Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College is pleased to honor Alice Wright Conkey, class of 1941, with the Loyalty Award. Throughout the years you have proven yourself to be an exceptional volunteer, supportive of your class, and deeply devoted to Mount Holyoke. Today, we are pleased to honor your service and express our gratitude.

Born and raised in India, you came to Mount Holyoke from the prestigious Woodstock School. You excelled in your studies, graduating Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude. Outside of class, you played cello in the orchestra and served as president of the Glee Club during your senior year. Your time on campus marked the continuation of a remarkable Mount Holyoke legacy. As you once noted on an alumnae survey, approximately 45 relatives attended the College. These include your mother, Adelaide Fairbank Wright, class of 1915; your grandmother, Mary Caskey Fairbank, class of 1893; and your great-grandmother, Mary D. Ballantine, class of 1856. In addition, your sisters, Lydia Wright Beaumont and Mary Wright Rainey, both are alumnae. Your daughter, Margaret Wright Conkey, who graduated in 1965, continued the family tradition, as did your granddaughter, Alicechandra Ballantine Fritz, a member of the class of 1992.

After leaving Mount Holyoke, you began graduate studies in music education at Temple University. That fall, you returned to campus to marry your husband, Albert on September 26, 1942. Together, you raised five children. In 1960, you began your career as a teacher and administrator at the Abington Friends School in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania. During your 22 years there, your roles included teacher, registrar, dean, and college counselor.

Within this full life, you always made time for Mount Holyoke. From 1951 to 1955, you served on the Alumnae Association Madras Committee and later served a term on the Nominating Committee. The Class of 1941 knows you as a central part of its Reunion planning. Your roles have ranged from Reunion Dinner Chair for the 45th to Reunion Nametag Chair for the 60th. You also were a member of the class's Nominating Committee from 1991 to 1995 and then chaired the committee for a year. Since moving back to New England, you have been active in both the Southern New Hampshire and the Central Maine clubs. In Maine, you assumed the duties of secretary from 1986 to 1996. You then served a three-year term as Club President. Throughout the decades, your volunteer work has brought you into contact with alumnae from a range of graduating classes. You have consistently earned their respect and admiration.

You have embodied Mary Lyon's expectation when she said, "Let one efficient lady, in almost any place, either alone or with one or two to aid her, commence the work with decision, and with perseverance carry it through, and it will be done!" With sincere thanks for your extraordinary efforts and for your ongoing volunteer service, the Alumnae Association recognizes you with the Loyalty Award.

Cynthia L. Reed '80
President
Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College

Jane E. Zachary
Executive Director
Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College

