

Mrs. Adah Jenkins, 72, was AFRO music critic

BALTIMORE

Mrs. Adah Louise Killion Jenkins, wife of the late James Logan Jenkins Jr., 1830 Westwood Ave., died Tuesday after a lengthy illness. She was 72 year of age and the AFRO music critic nearly a quarter of century.

Mrs. Jenkins was a noted musician, piano teacher, civic and community worker, 1945 AFRO Honor Roll member and frequent honor guest at White House musicals and teas.

She was born April 23, 1901, the daughter of the late Dr. and Mr. Thomas Killion of Baltimore.

She became the first black supervisor of music for the local public schools.

For several years she taught music at Morgan State College.

Many aspiring young musicians recall their contact with her when she taught piano and vocal students in her home.

In March this year, Mayor Schaefer presented her a citation for her contribution to Baltimore city.

Before it was popular to picket, she spent long hours in cold rainy weather, demonstrating her concern that persons of all colors would be allowed to eat in whatever restaurant they chose or attend any theatre in Baltimore.

Among her souvenirs are letters from Charles Boyer, Ossie and Ruby Dee, and Oscar Hammerstein, endorsing support of picket lines in front Ford's Theatre.

At that time, blacks were permitted to me' seated only in the second balcony. She was among those persons, both black and white, who opposed the idea that black people to spend their money in some stores but not to try on hats, shoes or clothing.

Then some stores were known to refuse service to a black person unless he was a servant sent by a white employer to make a purchase.

Mrs. Jenkins was one of the organizers of the Baltimore Interracial Fellowship.

The group first met at Homewood Friends Meeting House. A four raising program made it possible for Fellowship House to be



AT THE WHITE HOUSE in October, 1968, the late Mrs. Adah K. Jenkins was a guest as a member of the Music Critics Association, a group entertained by Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson.

purchased.

Mrs. Jenkins helped organize the local Congress of Racial Equality, (CORE). The original group often met at her home.

Until she became ill in January of this year, she was active in the NAACP membership campaign. One of her grandsons, Logan Mitchell, was the first child in Baltimore to have life membership in the NAACP.

Mrs. Jenkins was active in the following groups: Piano Teachers Guild, Music Critics Association, Baltimore Music Teachers Association, Women's Auxiliary of Baltimore Symphony. Mrs. Jenkins was also member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

Her favorite was a social club in which she was a

member for many years: the Just US Club, organized when members were in high school. As they married, their husbands became members.

In January, 1973 she attended her last club meeting, soon thereafter, she lost ability to walk.

Surviving are two children Thomas Killion Jenkins Sr. and Mrs. Margaret Rebekah Bain; five grandchildren, Patricia Jenkins, Thomas K. Jenkins, Jr., Logan Mitchell, Joan Mitchell and Robert Mitchell.

Her cousins include mesdames Mildred M. Allen, Edythe M. Blake, Catherine M. Wilson and Georgianta M. Chester and a daughter-in-law, Mrs. Barbara P. Jenkins.