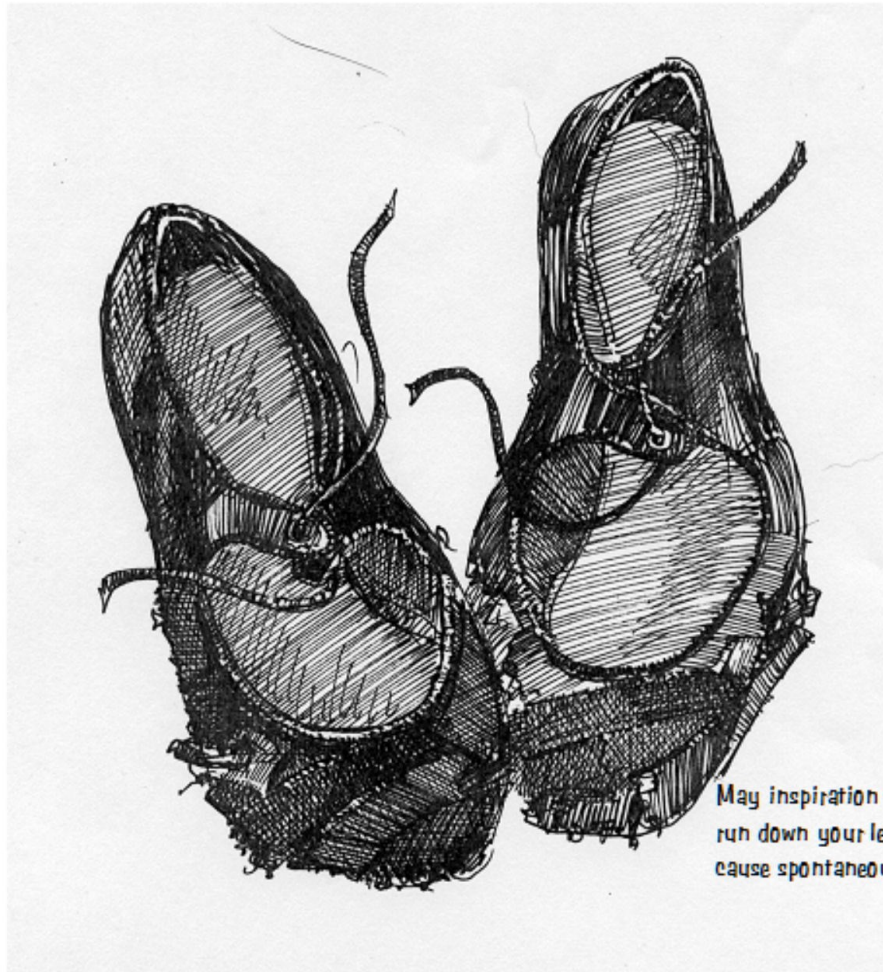


Dance Shoes on the Organ Pedals



May inspiration fill your heart and hands,
run down your legs, onto your feet and
cause spontaneous dancing.

Ancient Irish Blessing

**Celebrating Harlene Scofield's 50th Anniversary as Organist at
South-Broadland Presbyterian Church**

**By Dottie Lafferty,
with assistance from Dawn Kemp and Lenesa Heath, Harlene's daughters**



Harlene, seated at the 1962 Allen organ, donated by the Sanford Weaver family when the new church building was erected in 1962. This is where Harlene can be found almost every Sunday morning and for many other hours during the week.

Cover artwork is an original drawing by Bob Holloway of Harlene's well worn, tap shoes, worn for many years as she played the organ. These shoes were finally retired from service in 2003.

A Life of Music, Prayer & Love

In 1955, South Presbyterian Church was in search of an organist. The committee members, Cecil and Florence Hinshaw and Clive Hoover, heard of a vibrant young organist and went to hear her and to interview her. The rest, as they say, is history - fifty wonderful years of history.



A young Harlene

This young organist, Harlene Scofield, accepted the position as organist at South Presbyterian and through 50 years of various pastors, many different music directors, a merger of two churches and untold changes in membership, she has remained the one unchanging, unwavering and totally dedicated constant as this body of Christ has worshipped. Her smiling face each Sunday morning and her mastery of the organ and all its intricacies have ever served to draw the worshippers into the presence and wonder of God.

This unparalleled tenure as organist is but one facet of this charming lady. All who meet her are soon charmed and delighted by her effervescent joy, her calm manner and the lilt of her laughter. It takes only a few seconds to recognize that one is in the presence of someone who loves her Lord and her life in Him. Her conversations with the Lord are some of her favorite times and these conversations are often. Prayer is not a once-in-a-while chore for Harlene, it is an around-the-clock privilege and joy.



*Harlene's father,
D.C. Reed*



*The farmhouse in Norris, Missouri where
Harlene was born and lived until she was 16.*



*Harlene's mother,
Alto Inloes Read*

In the early decades of the last century, a young couple settled into a cozy farmhouse near Norris, Missouri, a small town outside of Warrensburg. This young couple, Duncan Carney Reed (better known as DC) and Alta V. Inloes were blessed with three children: a daughter, Twila; a son, DC and of course, Harlene.

From the beginning that farmhouse was full of laughter and music. Many evenings were spent with the family "band" playing their various instruments and enjoying old favorites and some of the "new stuff". DC, Sr. played the drums. Alta played the accordion. DC, Jr. played the trumpet and Twila played the clarinet and saxophone. Harlene also played the saxophone and excelled on the piano.



The Reed Family Band—1939

The three siblings attended the only school in Norris, a small one-room schoolhouse quite appropriately known as Norris School. When Harlene was 16 years old, the family was preparing to move into Warrensburg



*Harlene and her siblings with the family pets,
Jo-Jo and Petey Pat*

The night before the move, Harlene's father died.

Harlene finished her high school education at Warrensburg High School. After graduation, she left for the nation's capital where she worked for some time at the Pentagon, working for the Signal Corps. She then returned to Warrensburg and attended Central Missouri State Teachers College (now Central Missouri State University).



After a year of college, she went to work at the Sedalia Army Air Base (now known as Whiteman Air Force Base). At the air base, she worked for the quartermaster. The Army was in the process of closing this base as an army base and it was the job of the quartermaster's office to sell off all of the equipment in small lot sales and then send the



money on to the Army. Harlene remembers being a young 19 year old, responsible for carrying large sums of money to the Finance office. She was usually unaccompanied, but she never remembers being worried or afraid at all. How times have changed.

After this job ended, Harlene returned to college and majored in Music with a minor in Home Economics. (That explains the good food—especially cookies that she makes). She graduated with a Bachelor's of Science degree.

After graduation Harlene went to work for the Veterans Administration in Kansas City. She has also been employed with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Besides her tenure at South-Broadland, one of her more recent employment adventures (and yes, it WAS an adventure) was working with preschoolers at the Shepherd's Way Day Care Center. Harlene has many stories to tell about the antics of the children and their unbounded energy.

Harlene has two daughters, Lenesa and Dawn. Each of these daughters are overwhelmed with love and admiration for their mother—for her unfailing love, her unflagging devotion, and her amazing musical abilities. The girls are full of stories of memories of their childhoods. Both love to tell the story about the skunk and Mama's organ.



Dawn, 5th grade

Here's the way that story goes: Lenesa's sixth grade class had a pet skunk, somewhat ironically known as Violet. Each weekend, the children took turns taking



Lenesa, 6th grade

the skunk home to care for it. The time came when it was Lenesa's turn to have Violet visit her home. On Saturday morning, the girls took the skunk from her cage and took her to the living room to watch cartoons on the TV with them.

We all know how engrossing cartoons are to children and we can all imagine how little interest they hold for skunks (unless it's Pepe LePew). Very soon, Violet was exploring the room and found what appeared to her to be an inviting skunk hole, leading to a wonderful skunk cave. She climbed up the pedal of the organ and made her way inside. When the girls finally loosed their attention from the cartoons, they soon heard some odd noises from inside Mama's organ. It was Violet, working hard to make herself at home.



They soon discovered that it's much easier for a skunk to enter an organ than it is to get a skunk to come back out. As she worked hard to fix things the way she wanted them (cutting through wires, making a nest, etc.) the girls tried everything they could to get her to come out. It finally resulted in the back of the organ being removed and Miss Violet receiving a forcible eviction. The skunk was not happy and the organ has never been the same. The many sounds it now makes when it is turned on has resulted in it being known to the family as Rice Krispy.

Lenesa says that many of her favorite memories of times with her mother were centered around the holiday celebrations at the church



Harlene, at the organ, preparing for morning worship.

She loved all the special things associated with the holidays—the candlelight, the special music, the tradition and ceremony. She also remembers the fun and awe at watching the many weddings her mother played for during the years.

Sometimes the same event is remembered in different ways by different people. One of the most memorable times for Dawn was one winter when there was a severe ice storm. The family was without power for a week. Lenesa says that what she remembers most of the week was that "it was COLD and there was no electricity." Dawn relates that it was a "special time with Mama". They camped out on the sofa bed in the living room in front of the fireplace. They sang songs and told stories. They got to eat out often that week, which didn't happen very often when you have a mother who cooks as well as Harlene does. All in all, in spite of hardships and an uncomfortable situation, Harlene did all she could to bring them through it safely and happily.



Harlene, relaxing near the piano with the family cocker spaniel, Molly.

Lenesa remembers special times each summer when their family "adopted" some children who would come to spend a few weeks with the family each summer. She remembers the fun times "sharing" her

mother with others.

She also remembers her awe at her mother's impressive musical talent. Harlene has a very rare musical ability known as "perfect pitch." She can hear any musical tone and immediately tell what pitch it is. Lenesa remembers well the hours she spent practicing when her mother had her taking piano lessons. She would be in the front room at the piano and her mother would be several rooms away in the kitchen. She can still hear her mother calling from the kitchen, "No Lenesa, it's not an A you need there—it's a C".



Harlene, Lenesa and Dawn at the organ with Lisa Overacre, one of the children the family "adopted" each summer.

Both girls remember a life filled with music. They remember Mama singing to them in the bathtub or at bedtime. They remember Mama practicing for hours herself to perfect her own craft.



Harlene, cuddling and singing to infant Dawn

Harlene has always been the practical sort, giving practical gifts but always knowing what kind of gift would really touch your heart. Even with all her practicality and "down-home" charm, it is nice to note that there is a bit of global recognition for her as well. As well-known and loved as she is locally, she has even been talked about in Red Square in Moscow! That's world-wide acclaim!

Harlene has worn many hats, had many roles and has answered to many names. Of course we know the titles of Daughter, Sister, Mother Grandmother, Aunt and Friend. But there are also a couple of lesser-known other names that she has answered to over the years.

A close friend has called her "Harley" for years (can't you just see her dressed in leather, riding a big motorcycle?). But the most endearing



and enduring nickname came from her father. When she was a youngster, there was a popular cartoon and series of short films starring Mickey Rooney known as the "Toonerville Folks" or the "Toonerville Trolley". Harlene's father noticed a very distinct

resemblance between one of the Toonerville characters and his daughter and since that time, Harlene has been known among family and friends as "Tooner."



Harlene first played for a wedding when she was just out of high school. This started a long career as a wedding (and funeral) musician that has spanned many decades. There is no record of exactly how many wedding she has played for but it is agreed that there have been several hundred. In May, 2004, she was honored to be the organist at the wedding of her own granddaughter, Miranda.

Harlene now has five grandchildren, Miranda, Melanie, Michelle, Angie

and Robert. and four great-grandchildren.



Lanesa and her daughters, Miranda and Melanie.



Dawn's children, Robert, Angie and Michelle and granddaughter, Alicia.



Dawn and her grandchildren, Anjelica, Elisabeth, Alicia and Jason.

In Recognition of Fifty Years of Service to the Lord

Dinner Music provided by Harpist, Pam Lynch

*Pearlie Moore and
Vivian Robinson*

*A Gift of Love from
Friends and Family*

Pastor Lyn

A Gift from the Church

Don and Mary Benson

A Gift of Recognition

Dottie Lafferty

*Greetings and Messages
from Friends and Others*

*Dawn Kemp and
Lenesa Heath*

To Mama, with Love

Rick Gilpin

The Legend of the Dogwood

The Reunion Choir

A Gift of Song

Bob Corbett

A Gift of Art

Dottie Lafferty

The Shoes

Helen Bishop

Remembrances

Pastor Lyn

*Remembering the Past,
Looking to the Future*