

REWARD OF MERIT

1979 NATIONAL TEACHER
of the
YEAR AWARD PROGRAM



PEGGY SUE MASON, Nominee

ROANOKE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

IDENTIFICATION AND PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

STATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Basic Data Sheet

(include full face photograph)
(in color)Name Mrs. Peggy Sue Mason Age 43 Home Address 1910 Rorer Avenue, SW 24016Name and Location of School Huff Lane Elementary, 4412 Huff Lane, NW 24012Subject and Grade Level Special Education - Intermediate EMRYears in Present Position 9 Total Years of Experience 15- Name and Address of School Principal Miss Marcia Larson, Huff Lane Elementary
4412 Huff Lane, NW, Roanoke, Virginia 24012Name and Address of School Superintendent Mr. M. Don Pack, Roanoke City Schools
40 Douglas Avenue, NW Roanoke, VA 24017

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Institutions and Location</u>	<u>Position</u>
1969 -	Roanoke City Public Schools, Roanoke, VA	Special Education Teacher
1965-1967	Edgewood Elementary School, San Antonio, Texas	Special Education Teacher
1963 - 1965	PACAF - Fifth Air Force - Tokyo, Japan	Special Education Teacher
1957 - 1959	Roanoke City Public Schools, Roanoke, Virginia	Homebound Teacher

PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Institutions and Location</u>	<u>Degree</u>
1952-1956	The North Carolina College - Durham, NC	B. A. Degree
Completed 1969	The University of Virginia	M. A. Degree
Summer 1959	Hampton Institute, Hampton, VA	Certification for Elementary Education
September 1966 - January, 1967	Our Lady Of the Lake College, San Antonio, Texas	
January, 1968 - May, 1968	The University Of Maryland, Overseas Division, Frankfort, Germany	

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

THE STORY OF MY LIFE

by PEGGY SUE HARRIS MASON

In 1935 on the 12th day of January, I was born in Roanoke, Virginia to the wonderful family of Elsie and Kollye Harris, Sr. I was to be the last child in this closely knit family of three girls and one boy.

The Lord blessed me to be born in a family whose mother still proclaims, even 43 years later, that her children are her most precious possessions.

I can not personally remember my early childhood before age six. My mother keeps those memories refreshed in our minds by recalling over and over again stories about her children that still bring laughter to our lips.

My father died when I was six years of age. My mother, with the help of God, kept her family of five children together by working at the Greyhound Bus Station. She held this job for 23 years.

I shall never forget my first steps into the world of education. My first grade teacher, Mrs. Mattie Morris, was everything a first grade teacher should be. She was our "Mother", in every sense of the word, away from home. Her classroom was full of interesting things in every available space. Who knows, maybe this is why I still feel today that my classroom must be a place where the children can have an educational experience in every direction they turn.

My first school, Gainsboro Elementary School, was a school where the children held their principal and teachers in great respect. To the students, they were the kind of individuals that we wanted to grow up to be "just like." I can still see the classes lining up to march into the school each morning. Our teachers made school a place where God was included in our daily devotions. I remember certain Bible verses and chapters of the Bible that we learned in Gainsboro School. The Reverend A. L. James from the First Baptist Church on North Jefferson Street would come each year to have a "mini" revival and extend an invitation to the students to accept Christ as their personal Savior. These are vivid things in my memory because this is where I joined the church in a revival of this nature. My family has always, then as well as now, been active members of a church.

On the cold winter days, we were fortunate to have great potbellied stoves in this large school. They gave the school an even more wholesome atmosphere from learning, a secure place to be mentally as well as physically.

My teachers in the elementary school were well qualified for their positions as leaders. They stressed the importance of getting an education. The teachers and parents worked closely together to see that this goal would be reached in as many lives as possible. I will forever be grateful to these dedicated individuals, who passed on to their students a "love for learning." I knew early in life that I wanted to be a teacher to help others as I was being helped.

I am glad that I came up in a generation where the principal of the school was rendered the admiration and respect like that of a Queen. My first principal's name was Miss Queen Williams. The students would always stand when she entered the room. Our parents shared the responsibility with this "stately" lady in shaping our lives. They worked so closely together that a student knew that if he misbehaved in school and was punished for it, he would get a double dose of punishment when he was reported to his parent.

My school career continued in the Lucy Addison High School. This was a community school where everybody knew each other. Friendships were cemented that have never been broken down through the years. While in Addison, I followed a course of study in preparation for college. Even though my mother was not financially able to send us to college, we had the faith to know that if this was the course in life God desired for us to follow, a way would be made for us to attend college. Hard work and study were the parts we had to personally play, and we did it well.

I had many good teachers in High School Nevertheless, I do not feel guilty in saying that my favorite teacher was Mrs. Ethel Robinson. Mrs. Robinson was my eleventh grade English teacher. Early in life I had begun to develop a love for reading as one of my major leisure time activities. Mrs. Robinson increased my love for reading by adding literature. I loved to hear her recite poems. I can still hear her saying lines from the poem, June from "The Vision Of Sir Launfal" by James Russell Lowell;

'Tis heaven alone that is given away,
'Tis only God may be had for the asking;
No price is set on the lavish summer;
June may be had by the poorest comer.

Schools were never closed for any reason in those days. We were like the mailmen, "through rain, hail, sleet or snow, etc; etc; etc;. . .regardless of the weather," we attended school. I had to be ill to miss a day in school. Then as well as now, I still get a thrill when I receive a Perfect Attendance Certificate at the end of a school year.

After graduating from Addison High School, I began my college career at The North Carolina College, Durham, North Carolina on a work scholarship. Here I majored in Sociology and minored in Social Studies. For the first time in my life, I was to be away from home without a member of my family being with me. After the first spell of homesickness passed, I got down to the business of being a college girl in every respect. I worked my way through college, a fact that I still appreciate twenty-two years later. I studied and worked hard for my college education. My mother was my partner. She was a partner who sacrificed a great deal to make this opportunity possible for me. I will forever be grateful for her moral and financial support.

After graduating from North Carolina College, I came back to Roanoke expecting to secure a job as a Social Studies teacher. Much to my regret, there was no vacancy. My family did not want me to seek employment in another city. I got a job in the Dietary

Department at Roanoke Memorial Hospital. I worked there for three happy years.

While working at Roanoke Memorial Hospital, I secured a part-time job as a Homebound and Substitute Teacher with the Roanoke City Schools. These jobs were "sandwiched" in between my hours at the hospital.

During the summer of 1958, I left Roanoke Memorial Hospital to work as a counselor in a summer camp sponsored by the Rockland County Center for the Physically Handicapped in New York City, New York. This was my first experience in the field of Special Education. This was a rewarding experience.

After returning home from New York, once again I was not able to secure a regular teaching job with the Roanoke Public Schools. I returned to my job at the Roanoke Memorial Hospital where I worked until the Spring of 1959. Once again I left the hospital to take a job as a Secretary at the Lincoln Terrace Public Housing Projects. This job was to be for two months, while the regular Secretary was on maternity leave. Following this job, I attended summer school at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia to become certified in Elementary Education.

In August, 1959, I received a telephone call from Martinsville, Virginia to come for an interview for a position as a teacher for the Mentally Retarded. I was successful in obtaining this position. My years of waiting for a regular teaching job finally came to an end.

I worked for 2½ yeas in Martinsville, Virginia. During this time I started working toward a Master's Degree in Education at the University of Virginia. This goal was reached in 1969 when I received this degree with my special field of interest being teaching the Mentally Retarded.

In August 1962 I got married to Sgt. Dewey M. Mason, Jr., who was a career person in the United States Air Force. From this union, two lovely daughters were born, Bettina Suzetta' and Kelly Michelle'. As a result of my marriage, I was able to travel and teach Special Education in Tokyo, Japan, and San Antonio, Texas, as well as travel extensively. I secured a teaching position in Germany, but due to unexpected events, I was unable to keep it.

After a tragic automobile accident in Germany in which my loved one was killed, I had to readjust to building a life without him. After 1½ years of being a mother and father to my daughters, and completing the requirements for my Master's Degree, I returned to teaching and secured a job as the Special Education teacher at the Huff Lane Elementary School. I thank God for these nine successful and rewarding years at this wonderful school.

To me, my family, my church, and my school are still the most important things in my life.

PHILOSOPHY OF TEACHING

MY PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

by PEGGY SUE HARRIS MASON

I once read a children's literature book entitled, "The Door In The Wall" by Marguerite DeAngeli. One of the most meaningful paragraphs that could undoubtedly be the key statement to summarize my personal philosophy of Education reads as follows:

"None of us is perfect. It is better to have crooked legs than a crooked spirit. We can only do the best we can with what we have. That, after all, is the measure of success: What we do with what we have." I sincerely hope that I have succeeded in helping my pupils in Special Education to "Succeed by doing with what they had."

Personal Involvement: Teaching is many things. As a teacher of Special Education, I must be many persons. Teaching school is more than just a matter of reading, writing and arithmetic. Any teacher who can spend five to six hours a day, five days a week, with a group of children and not become involved in their personal problems nor develop some feeling of parenthood, should not be allowed in a classroom. Teaching is a very human profession and very human people cannot help but get involved.

A Teacher As A Guide: I must act as a guide on the learning journey for these special pupils. As their guide, I must, on the basis of my experience, my knowledge of the road (subject matter) and of the travelers (my pupils), and my keen interest in their learning, assume major responsibility for the trip. I set the goals, establish the limits of the trip in terms of the students'

needs and abilities, determine the way to be taken, enliven and enrich every aspect of the journey and evaluate progress. I must know well the travelers (pupils) for whom I am to guide. The better I know their backgrounds, abilities, maturity levels, strengths and weaknesses, special talents and interests, the better I will be able to guide them.

An Authority: One Who Knows: As a teacher, I should be an authority: one who knows and knows that I know. I must know; not everything of course, not anything completely for that is impossible, but I must know much. The teacher, as one who knows, exemplifies the fruits of knowing and learning: its uses, its joys, its responsibilities, its limits.

As A Teacher I Must Be A Learner: As I work in the classroom, on any level ^{from} ~~for~~ the preschool room to the post school sheltered workshop, I am engaged in communicating. In order to communicate, I must know as much as I can about my subject matter, new contributions to my own particular field, my pupils and how these pupils react and relate to the subject matter.

As a learner with other learners in the class the sources of my knowledge will include reference books, textbooks, other teachers, and original research. As the teacher, however, the pupil learns new information and the teacher gains new insights as he realizes that learning is easy for some and difficult for others. I will become more keenly aware of the need to find the paths along which I can communicate to others, and I will learn that the paths

differ with each individual. Some will be hungry to learn, some will not want to learn, and there will be degrees of desire and ability between these two extremes.

I Must Be A Facer Of Reality: As a teacher, I must face many realities. I must face the fact that people are what they are at different levels and stages in process toward maturity. I will have to accept my pupils and their strengths and weaknesses and place their attributes in the proper perspective. I must realize that every individual must have some sense of worth and adequacy to cling to it and to build on it, and that this must be preserved as the individual takes a more accurate look at himself.

A Teacher Is An Evaluator: In making evaluations, I will need to understand the pupils in terms of their environment and their places in the home situations and in the community. I need to know that pressures are brought to bear. Through my efforts, I will discover some important information as I talk either directly with the students, directly with the parents, or with the administration who have knowledge of the pupils' backgrounds.

A Parent, Too? I know that I must be more than first a teacher if I am to succeed. I know that my most perceptive critics will be neither the parents of the children I teach nor my fellow teachers, but the learners themselves. I will soon be rewarded by being allowed to serve as second parent, advisor, big sister, psychiatrist, etc; etc; etc. . .

In summary, I would like to mention Marguerite DeAngeli's beautiful book, "The Door In The Wall." This is a marvelous story to help young people understand that somewhere there are people who care if they will be open-minded enough to see and accept them for their worth. I feel that my outlook on life is one which I attempt to forget about my wants and desires but try to plan my life so that I will make a worthwhile contribution to mankind. In achieving this goal, I feel that my pupils and other young people that I work with will reach their highest potential and be able to adjust to a world that has constant changing mores and ideals.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SPECIAL AWARDS

MOTHER OF THE YEAR - 1974 - High Street Baptist Church, Roanoke, Virginia

OUTSTANDING ELEMENTARY TEACHER - 1974 (An Award shared by outstanding Elementary Teachers throughout the United States)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP IN THE VIRGINIA CONGRESS OF PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION, 1978

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Membership in the Following:

National Education Association - Roanoke Education Association
Virginia Education Association
International Reading Association
The National Council for Exceptional Children
NAACP
Burrell Hospital Association

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Roanoke Neighborhood Alliance - Board Of Directors
Teacher Center Planning - Board Of Directors
Past, Credit Union of High Street Baptist Church - Board Of Directors

COMMITTEES

Served on the Superintendent of Roanoke City Schools Placement Committee for
Special Education

OFFICE HELD

President - Local Chapter of the National Council For Exceptional Children
Vice President - Classroom Teachers Association

AT PRESENT

Vice President - Southwest Community Neighborhood Alliance

EDUCATIONAL AND CIVIC SERVICES

HIGH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

2302 Florida Avenue, N. W.

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24017

TELEPHONE 563-0123

NOEL C. TAYLOR, D. D., PASTOR

CHAIRMAN OF JOINT BOARDS

ULAS N. BROADY
2204 LYNNHOPE DR., N. W.
362-5118

CHURCH CLERK

WILLIAM D. COLEMAN
4700 GRANDIN RD. EXT., S. W.
774-8586

September 15, 1978

To Whom It May Conern,

I am pleased to give my highest recommendation for the consideration of Mrs. Peggy Sue Mason as the "Virginia State Teacher Of The Year." She has demonstrated outstanding capabilities in serving the City of Roanoke in a teaching capacity for a number of years.

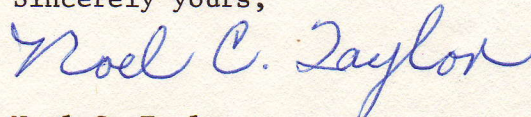
Mrs. Mason is a woman of learning and skill. Her profound knowledge and experience have won for her wide-spread recognition in her profession. She has performed her official duties in the highest possible manner. Her sincerity and integrity have earned for her the respect and admiration of her fellow co-workers and the people of the community.

In spite of Mrs. Mason's accomplishments, she has remained unaffected and unassuming. Through her intellectual force and the warmth of her understanding she has done much to aide students with learning problems.

She is a woman of great character and wonderful temperament who enjoys a splendid reputation for honesty, loyalty, and concern for others.

In addition to her tremendous success as an educator, she is also a great worker at the High Street Baptist Church where she has demonstrated her warm-hearted humanity and deep concern for the welfare of others. She is a creative teacher who is thoroughly familiar with teaching procedures and policies. Mrs. Mason is highly respected throughout Roanoke and is a delightful person. I am pleased to recommend her without any hesitation or reservation for the "Virginia State Teacher Of The Year" award.

Sincerely yours,



Noel C. Taylor
Minister, High Street Baptist Church
Mayor, City Of Roanoke

NCT/mjg

ROANOKE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HUFF LANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
4412 HUFF LANE, N.W.
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24012

September 18, 1978

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my privilege to recommend Mrs. Peggy Sue Mason for the "Teacher of the Year" award. She is an outstanding teacher of mentally retarded children.

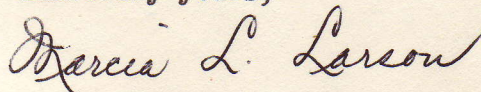
Mrs. Mason's first concern is for the welfare of her students, providing many opportunities for them to learn and become fully functioning members of society. Her consistent and lovely manner of leadership and classroom management creates a wonderful atmosphere for learning and respecting one another. The rapport between teacher and students is exemplary.

There is a purpose in everything Mrs. Mason provides for students. The classroom is a living example of a learning center. It is full of exciting experiments, exhibits, projects and accomplishments. Each student is encouraged to succeed and to become accountable for his behavior. She provides time when students may participate in activities with students in the regular classroom.

Mrs. Mason is highly respected and loved by parents who have not hesitated to express to me their appreciation for her and everything she does for their children.

I appreciate the opportunity to recommend Mrs. Mason for this honor, for she possesses all the fine qualities of an outstanding teacher.

Sincerely yours,



Miss Marcia L. Larson
Principal, Huff Lane School

Huff Lane School
September 19, 1978

To Whom It May Concern:

We commend for your consideration as "Teacher of the Year" our colleague, Mrs. Peggy Sue Mason.

As a teacher of the Educable Mentally Retarded, Mrs. Mason has been an integral part of the Huff Lane professional educational community for many years. She has combined a high degree of professional ability with a compassionate concern for the children in her care, and in so doing has set a remarkable example for all of us.

Mrs. Mason has involved the community in her instruction. As an example of this technique she has utilized senior citizens as tutors and resource persons in her class with good success. She has also involved her students with senior citizens by eating lunch with them and sharing holiday activities.

Mrs. Mason has exhibited a highly professional attitude in her dealings with students, fellow teachers, and parents. She has served as an officer of our PTA and continues to be very active as both a teacher and parent. She has served as a faculty representative for her professional association and continues as an active member.

As co-workers we recognize in Mrs. Mason the most desirable qualities of an educator. She remains to all of us an example of a caring, concerned professional.

Sincerely yours,

Walker B. Healy, Jr.
Billie Sue Walker

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I have had the honor and privilege of working with Mrs. Peggy Sue Mason in the High Street Baptist Church for more than ten years.

In our Sunday School she is a teacher of children in the Intermediate Department.

Mrs. Mason takes pride in presenting her lessons to her class which show evidence of many hours of planning and studying.

She serves as publicity chairman for our Sunday School, principal and teacher for Vacation Bible School, a sponsor for the Angelic Choir, teacher for the Wednesday Evening Bible Study Class, and president of the Senior League of our church.

Mrs. Mason is dependable and a very efficient person in the area of Religious Education.

It is an honor to recommend her for candidacy for OUTSTANDING TEACHER FOR VIRGINIA STATE'S TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD 1979.

(Miss) A. Lorraine Johnson

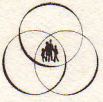
A. Lorraine Johnson

Superintendent, Sunday School

High Street Baptist Church

Kindergarten Teacher,

Roanoke City Public Schools



Roanoke City Public Schools

Division for Educational Programs
P. O. Box 13145, Roanoke, Virginia 24031

40 Douglas Avenue, N.W.
(703)981-2876

September 13, 1978

Re: Teacher of the Year Recommendation
Mrs. Peggy Sue Mason, Special Education Teacher
Huff Lane School
Roanoke City Public Schools

Dear Sirs:

I am very pleased to have the opportunity to recommend an outstanding individual as teacher of the year.

I have known Mrs. Mason as a fellow teacher, a member of the Council for Exceptional Children, and for the last three years as a special education teacher under my supervision.

Special education teachers, even more than teachers of the non-handicapped, must be very special people. There must be an abundance of patience and compassion, as well as the knowledge and experiences required for effective classroom performance. In all of these areas, Mrs. Mason has continuously demonstrated a level of excellence observable in very few individuals.

Personally, I feel that her nomination is a long overdue honor, and that her selection as teacher of the year would be recognition of her outstanding service to young handicapped children.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Sieff
Supervisor, Special Education

RBS:ep



Roanoke City Public Schools

Department of Pupil Personnel Services
P. O. Box 13145, Roanoke, Virginia 24031

40 Douglas Avenue, N.W.
(703)981-2744

September 13, 1978

TO Whom it May Concern:

Mrs. Peggy Mason has requested that I write a letter of recommendation concerning her nomination to be teacher of the year in Virginia for 1979.

I have known Peggy Mason as a teacher for the educable mentally retarded for around seven to eight years. Her classroom provided a cheerful outlook and was most intellectually stimulating so that a gifted child would be able to find resources and help for learning in a way that was both interesting and challenging. She was also concerned about the welfare of her students and their families as well. She had good relationships with her children's parents. She was very well respected and a part of her local school.

Mrs. Peggy Mason was not only president and president elect of our Council for Exceptional Children but she has been active in this organization even when not holding office. She was president in 1975-76.

Mrs. Peggy Mason is a cheerful and positive person all the times I have known her. She has always had a professional respect for her fellow teachers.

I am most pleased to recommend Mrs. Peggy Mason to be Teacher of the Year for 1979 in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Sincerely,

Eugene H. Meyer
President, Chapter 134
Council for Exceptional Children
School Psychologist

EHM/th

Black Southwest Neighborhood Alliance

P. O. Box 12354
828 CAMPBELL AVE., S. W.
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24025
(703) 982-3513

OFFICERS

OTIS OGDEN
PRESIDENT

PEGGY MASON
VICE PRESIDENT

MARTHA OGDEN
RECORDING SECRETARY

NORMA RICE
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

GLORIA BRATTON
TREASURER

Sept. 11, 1978

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We highly recommend Mrs. Peggy Mason as a recipient of the Virginia State Teacher of the Year award.

Mrs. Mason is an outstanding person in the community. She is involved in many civic and community activities.

She has been elected by our Alliance for two consecutive years to the Roanoke Neighborhood Alliance Board of Directors and serves exceptionally well on that board. She also serves as vice president of the Southwest Community Neighborhood Alliance (previously, Black Southwest Neighborhood Alliance).

Mrs. Mason's concern and involvement with young people is especially commendable.

Not only has Mrs. Mason contributed of herself to the community, she has been generous in her contributions of funds as well.

When called upon, Mrs. Mason responds immediately and with enthusiasm to lend the hand that is need despite her involvement in many other worthwhile activities.

We find Mrs. Mason's work in our community invaluable, and her impeccable character and pleasing personality make her a great example for our young people.

Sincerely yours,

Otis Ogden
Otis Ogden
President

ROANOKE NEIGHBORHOOD ALLIANCE, INC.

P. O. BOX 12354 • 824 CAMPBELL AVE., S. W. • ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24025 • PHONE: (703) 982-3513

Sept 13, 1978

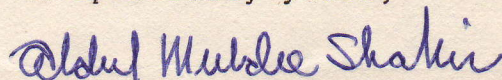
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The Board of Directors for the Roanoke Neighborhood Alliance voted unanimously to pass a resolution in support of Mrs. Peggy Sue Mason as a candidate for the Teacher of the Year Award.

Roanoke Neighborhood Alliance specifically wished to acknowledge the tremendous efforts that Mrs. Mason has exerted in our movement to improve the general lifestyle of the residents of our community. In addition, we recognize the high professional qualities that she has exhibited in her job as a teacher.

It has been resolved by the board of directors for the Roanoke Neighborhood Alliance that Mrs. Peggy Sue Mason be given complete support as a candidate for the Teacher of the Year Award.

Respectfully yours,



Abdul Mubdee Shakir
Associate Director

AMS/clc

To Whom It Concerns,

The nomination of Peggy Sue Mason for Teacher of the Year displays excellent judgement. For two years I have had the privilege and pleasure of working with Mrs. Mason as an aide.

Professional expertise provides a simplified description of her teaching abilities. She offers to the class exemplary leadership and guidance. All subjects are taught with excitement, clarity and on any necessary level. From the planning book to the appearance of the classroom she spends many, many hours.

In the class, Mrs. Mason exhibits a caring, loving attitude for each child. The disinterested, frustrated or unhappy child will be confronted with a ready smile and a chance to grow, to belong, to attain specific individual educational needs.

Starting a 4 - H club, introducing the students to the Junior Red Cross, the Student Government, Music and community relations are just a fraction of the results she has achieved.

For several years Mrs. Mason has been an effective, dedicated teacher in the field of Special Education. The Lord bestowed her with many talents and she utilizes them generously for her students, community and church.

Any child, coworker, parent or acquaintance will find she has a sincere, genuine, caring attitude for all.

To teach is to instruct or show others. To witness her love and devotion for her profession and all it concerns is to learn.

Everyone leaving her class goes with hope, a feeling of accomplishment and a look to the future.

If asked, I could name no one more deserving of this honor than Peggy S. Mason.

Mrs. Mason cultivates and possesses the quality of being understanding. The life she lives emanates unselfish service. The willingness to help others, listening with a caring ear and giving of herself are traits she has that are admired by many.

Watching her in the classroom going about her duties lets you come face to face with the purpose for which we are all created, to be of service to others. Children sense and know she cares. They know she is concerned if they have personal problems or if their problem is academic. Each student is made to feel that they are somebody, and that they have something to contribute to the world no matter how small.

The manner in which she teaches and the care she gives, were not merely obtained by attending college and earning a degree. The techniques and care comes from the HEART.

This world would be a better place if there was a bit of Peggy Mason in all of us. My life and that of my family has been touched and made richer by such a magnanimous person.

If named Teacher of the Year this will be an honor not just given to her, because she has well earned that honor. Therefore it is to the credit of all concerned that we recommend Peggy S. Mason.

Sincerely,

Sarah Gilpin

Sarah Gilpin
ESAA Aide

Jean Pence
Jean Pence

Special Education Aide

2517 Maycrest Street
Roanoke, Virginia

September 15, 1978

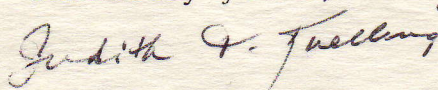
To Whom It May Concern:

The Huff Lane School PTA was delighted to learn that Mrs. Peggy Mason has been nominated for the Virginia State Teacher of the Year Award. Mrs. Mason has been an outstanding member of the Huff Lane PTA, serving as Program Chairman and Historian on our Executive Board, and being a faithful and active PTA member.

For several years now, Mrs. Mason has accompanied our Huff Lane students to monthly roller skating parties, sponsored by the PTA. Last May our PTA awarded Mrs. Mason an honorary life membership to the Virginia Congress of PTA's for her dedicated service and interest in PTA work.

Our PTA is proud of Mrs. Mason and all her endeavors.

Sincerely yours,



Judith T. Kuelling
President
Huff Lane PTA
Huff Lane School
Roanoke, Virginia



September 22, 1978

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the Program Manager of a residential facility for children and have known Mrs. Mason for the past 1½ years. She has been the teacher for one of the children in my program since his entrance into the Huff Lane School.

In the time that I have been acquainted with Mrs. Mason, she has been most helpful to both me and my child. She has instilled in John a desire to learn that has made his school experience most rewarding. Mrs. Mason has made a special effort to see that his class has been mainstreamed into all the activities and functions of the school.

Mrs. Mason's patience and eagerness have been an inspiration to me and I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to know her and work with her.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Philips
Program Manager
3003 Read Road

SP:mf

Chairman
James A. Ford

Vice-Chairman
William R. Reid

Secretary
H. James Hebert

Treasurer
Mrs. Jane Hough

Executive Director
Dr. Fred P. Roessel, Jr.