Jennie Gardner’s Unfailing Support Inspires a Sister’s Loving Tribute

Jennie Puryear Gardner ’31 was a role model for her younger sister Milly. “She was smart and full of life. I admired her and wanted to be like her,” Milly Puryear Marshall said.

Jennie’s classes at Rhodes College nurtured her love of words, writing and literature. Her Rhodes experience helped Jennie become Book Page editor of The Commercial Appeal, Memphis’ daily newspaper, where she served for more than a decade. Jennie’s enthusiasm for books and ideas has continued throughout her long life.

When Milly temporarily lost her scholarship at Vassar, Jennie stepped in and provided the financial assistance that allowed Milly to continue her studies. “Jennie’s experience at Rhodes convinced her of the power of a good education to enrich one’s life,” Milly said.

In recognition of Jennie’s devotion to learning, Milly Marshall has established The Jennie Puryear Gardner Scholarship at Rhodes. The scholarship will serve qualified young women interested in studying writing and literature at Rhodes.

Jennie Puryear Gardner ’31
Milly Marshall made a planned gift to Rhodes to honor her sister Jennie. With her gift of an IRA to fund The Jennie Puryear Gardner Scholarship, Milly took advantage of a unique giving opportunity made possible by The Pension Protection Act of 2006.

The Act enables donors who are age 70 1/2 or older to make a tax-free transfer of funds, up to $100,000, to Rhodes. The legislation applies to outright gifts completed by December 31, 2007.

You, too, can honor a family member, colleague, or friend with a planned gift to Rhodes. Your gift, like Milly’s, can help Rhodes attract and retain a talented, diverse student body while creating a lasting legacy for the honoree. For additional information, please call Sue Matthews, Director of Planned Giving, at 901-843-3919, or 1-800-264-5969.

For information regarding requirements of The Pension Protection Act of 2006, visit the Rhodes Planned Giving web site at www.rhodes.edu/plannedgiving.