

February 5, 2008

Dear Family, Friends, and Associates of Dr. John B. Turner:

We are writing to you, on behalf of the 150,000 members of the National Association of Social Workers, to let you know how very sorry we were to learn of Dr. Turner's recent death.

Throughout his long life, Dr. Turner made a lasting impact through a wide variety of roles and key leadership positions in a number of national organizations and institutions.

Dr. Turner's involvement with the National Association of Social Workers spanned more than 50 years. He was a Charter Member of NASW, having joined just after NASW was formed in 1955.

One of his most significant accomplishments was serving as the editor-in-chief of the 1977 *Encyclopedia of Social Work*, which was published by the National Association of Social Workers. The two volume set included 1,760 pages with 192 articles, 106 biographies, and 54 statistical tables.

More recently, Dr. Turner was elected to be an NASW Social Work Pioneer®, one of social work's highest honors. Out of hundreds of thousands of social workers, only about 600 individuals have been elected. Dr. Turner's name is permanently mounted on a brass plaque in the Pioneer Room in the NASW National Office. His name and a brief biography are included on our web site. We hope his story will inspire students, social workers, and others to continue the important work to which he dedicated his life.

We are proud to claim him as a social worker, a life-long member of NASW, and a friend.

The National Association of Social Workers will continue to promote and uphold the values by which Dr. Turner lived, and we are committed to do our part to ensure that his story—and the legacy of his good work—lives on and serves as an inspiration to future generations of social workers.

Sincerely,



James J. Kelly, PhD, ACSW
President, NASW
Board Member, NASW Foundation



Elizabeth J. Clark, PhD, ACSW, MPH
Executive Director, NASW
and President, NASW Foundation

