

Joyce Sessoms

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***What I remember best about my Ward-Belmont days...** I was at Ward Belmont during the War 1944-46 and we were aware of the death of men. But we had some good classes and much fun while getting educated. I had many boarding school friends and had a tea for some of them. They smuggled me into the dormitory and I spent the night there. So many memories; Jane Knobe singing "Sewanee" at one of our programs, winding the May-pole at May Day; sitting in Senor Donner's Spanish class when it snowed and all the Florida girls went wild with excitement, the march from the academic buildings to the Acklen Hall on graduation day and singing "The Belles of Ward Belmont", which still brings tears to my eyes. Many

of us went on to Vanderbilt and continued our friendships there. Mary Ann Murray, Martha McIntyre, Jessie and Mary Staub, Suzie Sparks and many more. I have fond memories of my years at Ward Belmont and shall always cherish them.

***Where my life has taken me...** After leaving Ward Belmont, I went to Vanderbilt and graduated there in 1948. I married Alf Taylor after graduation and taught school in Nashville for two years while Alf finished law school. We moved to Johnson City in 1950 where I have lived ever since. Alf was a successful lawyer but died in 1976. We had a girl and two boys; our daughter, Cathy died in 1970 of a disdiagnosed ruptured appendix. She was a merit scholar and ready to go to Vanderbilt. Our two sons are lawyers and went to Vanderbilt. I have 7 grandchildren. I got my Master's degree in 1977 and taught school 9 years before marrying Dr. John Tallent, an English professor who died in 1998. I have traveled extensively throughout the world and just returned from a trip on the new Queen Mary 2. I am very active in my Methodist church and teach a bible class. I also belong to several clubs; bridge; garden, etc... I read and walk a lot. I am thankful for fairly good health.

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***What I remember best about my days at Ward-Belmont...**

I remember sitting on the stairs outside the Founders Hall smoker, and singing in the evenings. Dressing up and making signs for Senior Mid-Day "carrying on" rehearsing the minuet when the lights went out in the gym. Thanks to Miss Morrison, we didn't miss a turn. Miss Martha Ordway, Miss Margaret Diller, my two roommates, Mary Ellen Rondall and Hickie Purcell-We are still friends! It was a wonderful time! And "serving" the strawberry shortcake when you were table hostess. And working on Milestones and Chimes.

***Where my life has taken me...** I married after graduating from University of Wisconsin and working for a year in New York at Mademoiselle Magazine. My husband was a Navel Officer. We lived mostly in Norfolk, VA, Annapolis, and New London, CT. After he retired, we and 5 children settled in Memphis 36 years ago. My husband has died, two daughters live here. We have seven grandchildren (and two

cats). I garden, read, cook, feel very well and I am very blessed!

Rowene Zick

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***What I remember best about my Ward-Belmont days...**

Breaking the rules that were imposed on us! (I learned this at Ward-Belmont) But not bad ones! Just the ones like wearing hats, gloves, hose and heels when one left campus!

***Where life has taken me...** I have traveled to China, Mongolia, and the rest of Asia, New Zealand (2 months), Australia (2 months), Europe, Yemen, Russia (2 months), and in 1992, I went to Uzbekistan with the Peace Corps. I now go back every other year to teach English. It is a wonderful country. When I returned, I drove 40,000 plus miles around the USA! I have a wonderful daughter, Anna, married to a delightful man (Ron Skow) so I go to Florida over the Christmas holidays. They live in Venice, Florida. I have enjoyed my life.