

Adele Dorothea Penterman Reed

(Adele pronounced "A deal")



Adele D.P. Reed was an educator, philanthropist and scholar. Throughout her life she believed in the worth of each individual. She dedicated her life to improving education through various resources, especially for women.

Born in Elmwood, NE on February 22, 1915, Adele graduated from Peru State Teachers College, and received her Master's Degree in education from the University of Nebraska. Along with her husband Wayne O. Reed, she served at every level of education. A former teacher at both high school and college levels, Adele was also associated with the Nebraska State Department of Education. She did considerable writing and editing in various areas of education. For seven years she served as an interviewer and researcher in the selection of the National Teacher of the Year.

While living in Washington DC Adele became involved in P.E.O., a worldwide women's organization dedicated to the encouragement and enhancement of educational opportunities for women. Adele was a member of PEO Chapter EE in Lincoln, Nebraska and Chapter T, in the District of Columbia where she was a past State

President. But it was the P.E.O. Educational Fund where she focused most of her energies. She served on the national executive board for many years, overseeing a multi-million dollar loan fund granting scholarships to thousands of women enabling them to receive a college education.

After the death of her beloved husband and partner, Wayne O. Reed, Adele returned to her native Nebraska where she continued to positively influence the lives of young people, encourage education, and always supported her community. She established the Wayne O. Reed Memorial Scholarship for the University of Nebraska Teachers College, the Wayne O. and Adele Reed Scholarship Fund at Peru State College and was a founding contributor to the Foundation For Knowledge, District OR-1. Adele and Wayne recognized the critical importance of carefully selected and properly educated teachers, so it was only natural that Adele established a fund dedicated to service and leadership in the promotion of education

Her love for books brought her to volunteering at the library. She received several Certificates of Achievement citations for her 25 years as a volunteer at Gere Library.

Adele passed away February 6, 2010. Her generous bequests will ensure that her determination to impact the lives of exceptional individuals, as well as her commitment to the development of educators and her community will leave a lasting legacy.

