

## **EILEEN W. JOHNSON**

Eileen W. Johnson, Class of 1944, who passed away in 2004, spent 32 years in the Human Resources Department of General Foods Corp. where she introduced diversity training and programs to expand minority opportunities.

Her father, Dr. Arthur Williams, the first African-American physician in White Plains and the founder of the NAACP in White Plains, had been the first African-American graduate of Pomona College in Claremont, California. After White Plains High School, Mrs. Johnson also attended Pomona and became the first female African-American graduate in 1948. She later studied psychology, counseling and guidance at City College of New York.

Mrs. Johnson started at General Foods as an Employment Interviewer and rose through the ranks to become Human Resource Manager responsible for personnel activities for the Research and Engineering functions. Throughout her career she served as a counselor and mentor to hundreds, helping people from all backgrounds, including women and minorities, advance their careers.

After retiring in 1986, she consulted on management development and diversity training issues with the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington and with the New York City Department of Corrections. In addition, Mrs. Johnson served on search committees for the Episcopal Diocese of New York.

Active in community and civic affairs, she was a member of the Boards of the Greenburgh Town Library, St. Mary's in the Field and the YMCA of White Plains. She was also a member of the Vestry of the Grace Episcopal Church and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Mrs. Johnson received the YMCA of Greater New York Black Achievers in Industry Award and the White Plains YMCA Distinguished Service Award.