—Verda Welcome

(Continued from Page-A1)

respected colleague, and truly on of Baltimore's best citizens.

"I lost a good friend, (but) we all lost something" said former Baltimore Mayor Clarence 'Du' Burns.

Councilman Lawrence Bell felt that she taught us to "not be afraid to stand up for what we believe in."

In addition to the local dignitaries, there were also many national public figures present to pay their respects, and give tribute.

Among some of the noted mourners were Dr. Benjamin Hooks, National Director of the NAACP, U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski.

According to Senator Mikulski, "We are very blessed to have had a Verda Welcome in Baltimore." She also said that Senator Welcome taught her that "to reach people you don't do it by book, you do it by the heart."

In his tributary remarks, Dr. Hooks stated that, Senator Welcome was a "humble . . . legendary leader," and as long as there's a passion for justice, her memory will live on."

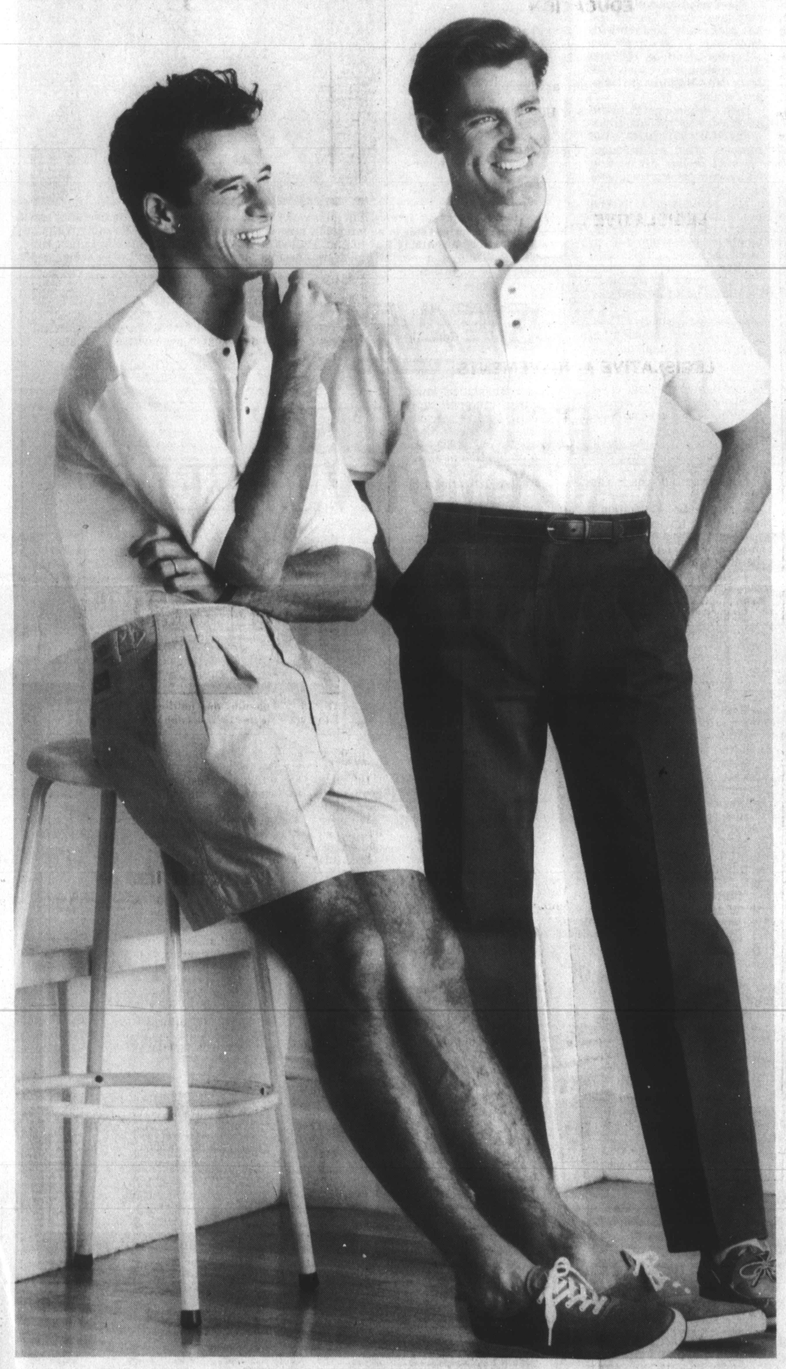
She was a fighter for equal rights in the early days when it was unpopular," said former Senator Clarence Mitchell.

James Williams, Director of Public Relations for the National NAACP, said, "if you're going to do anything in terms of remembering Miss Welcome, you have to remember the importance of the political process."

The Morgan State University Choir, under the direction of Dr. Nathan Carter, performed two selections in tribute to Senator Welcome, "In Bright Mansions" and "Ain't That Good News."

However, maybe the most appropriate selection of all was rendered by soloist Mrs. Florence Shipman Gardener, as she drew choruses of amens from those in attendance with her eloquent rendition of "May The Work I Done speak For Me."

Senator Verda M. Freeman Welcome is survived by her daughter, Mary Sue, in whose arms she died peacefully on April 22, and a grandson, eight sisters, four brothers, and a large extended family.



LEVI'S DOCKERS SALE

24.98 & 27.98

SAVINGS ON CASUAL SLACKS AND SHORTS IN 100% COTTON

SALE 24.98
LEVI'S® DOCKERS® PEBBLECLOTH SHORTS.
Shown left. Updated styling with Hollywood waistband, side tabs and back button pockets. 100% cotton. Sizes 30-42. (D.335) Reg. $29

SALE 27.98
SAVE 25% ON LEVI'S® DOCKERS® CASUAL SLACKS.
Shown right. Plain front or pleated twill slacks or pleated lightweight canvas slacks. 100% cotton. Sizes 30-42. (D.075) Reg. $38

Twill slacks and pebblecloth shorts on sale through April 28, 1990.

HECHT'S
ESPECIALLY FOR YOU!

The Afro-American Section B

METRO PROFILE

■ Lifestyle B2
■ Area Entertainment B3
Saturday, April 28, 1990

Mrs. Verda Freeman Welcome

Known as a quiet pioneer, in 25 years as a state legislator, Mrs. Welcome worked on an array of civil rights and other social issues.

She started her climb to political prominence in 1958, when the Black community in West Baltimore successfully unseated longtime White incumbent James H. 'Jack' Pollack, putting Mrs. Welcome in his place.

Four years later, in a bitterly contested campaign, both in the streets and in the courts, Mrs. Welcome ousted the Pollack backed candidate for State Senate, becoming the first Black woman state senator in the U.S.

Contemplating a legislative problem.

At 82nd birthday celebration, Tony Fulton, Aris Allen, Edward Lewis, grandson Gregory and daughter, Mary Welcome.

Birthday celebrants included Mary Welcome, Arthur Murphy, Glen DeBeal and Samona Nixon.

Lt. Gov. Blair Lee, 3d and Walter Orlinsky chat with Mrs. Welcome.

Born: March 18 — Lake Lure, North Carolina
Married: Dr. Henry C. Welcome, Surgeon
Daughter: Mary Sue Welcome

EDUCATION

1932 Coppin State (Normal School)
B.S. 1939 Morgan State College, Baltimore
M.S. 1943 New York University, New York City
Advanced Studies: Columbia University, New York City
Howard University, Washington, D.C.
Honorary Degrees: Doctor of Social Science, University of Maryland, 1970
Doctor of Letters, Howard University, 1972
Doctor of Laws, Morgan State University, 1976

LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND

Member Maryland House of Delegates for 4 years, 1959-62..

Member Maryland Senate for 15 years, 1963 to present.

Baltimore's first Woman Senator.

Maryland's first Black Woman Senator.

Democrat, representing the 4th District, now the 40th Legislative District.

First Black member of Legislative Council of the General Assembly of Maryland.

LEGISLATIVE ACHIEVEMENTS

Led fight for passage of state public accommodations law.

Sponsored the bill which brought Maryland's public accommodations law into conformity with the broader federal law.

Sponsored legislation which repealed Maryland's 100 year old miscegenation law, removing the prohibition against mixed marriages.

Sponsored bill which established voter registration by mail.

Co-sponsored legislation providing state grant for construction of the new Provident Hospital.

Sponsored the bill requiring the State to pay minimum wage for every day a person is confined in prison for a crime he did not commit.

Sponsored legislation creating the Commission on Afro-American History and Culture.

Sponsored law requiring "equal pay for equal work" regardless of sex.

Started the investigation of executive motor vehicle insurance finance charges paid by motorists forced to deal with substandard insurance companies, and cancellation of insurance policies without legitimate cause.

Was successful with legislation to restore the AFRO-AMERICAN to the list of newspapers in which election notices must appear..

Sponsored legislation which created the rank of Lieutenant for policewomen in Baltimore City.

Fought valiantly on the Senate Floor against continuous harassment of welfare recipients and urged the Legislature to exhibit genuine concern for and possible solutions to the problems encountered by welfare clients..

Blocked a bill which would have barred college students who participated in "sit-ins" from attending state colleges.

Fought successfully attempts in the Legislature to curtail Interracial Commission activities.

Introduced legislation making Maryland State College an integral branch of the University of Maryland.

Sponsored legislation which made it unlawful to intimidate a person who files a complaint against unlawful employment practices.

Fought continually to prevent the 4th District from being gerrymandered so as to reduce the voting strength of the Black voters.

Sponsored gun control legislation repeatedly.

Sponsored legislation allowing a single person to become an adoptive parent.

Authored law permitting guardians to purchase real estate for incapacitated or disabled veterans.

Sponsored legislation restricting retaliatory actions of landlords against tenants.

Sponsored legislation to tighten the law against the sales of eggs unfit for human consumption.

Introduced legislation which resulted in an evaluation of medical services a state penal institutions by the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Md.

Introduced a bill providing for licensure of funeral homes.

Established a revolving fund for medical and dental scholarships through legislation.

Gov. and Mrs. Harry Hughes pose with the Senator.

Discussing opening day politics with Joseph Bonvegna at the 1977 session.

Introduced a bill which became law requiring distribution of bicycle safety laws when a bicycle is sold.

Introduced legislation for creation of a low-cost loan program for installation of fire equipment in small domiciliary care facilities.

Was responsible for Maryland's first laws making it illegal to smoke on elevators, buses, hospitals, clinics and doctors offices.

Sponsored bill which created Morgan State University.

CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Instituted a suit against the Mayor and City Council to prevent the Civic Center from being placed in Druid Hill Park, largest of Baltimore City's parks.

Responsible for an ordinance preventing fire escapes from being constructed on the fronts of homes in residential neighborhoods and other buildings on the main streets of Baltimore.

Was successful in getting funds included in the state budget for erecting a foot bridge over Cold Spring Lane which divides the campus at Morgan State University. This bridge had been requested by college officials for more than 12 years. The bridge has been named the Verda F. Welcome Bridge in her honor.

MARYLAND SENATORS IN 1981 — (L to R) Senators Clarence M. Mitchell, III, Arris T. Allen, Robert Douglass, Mrs. Welcome, Tommie Broadwater and Clarence Blount.

Youthful Verda Welcome as a fledgling legislator.