



### ***GSHPA Mourns the Passing of Bev Walker, a Long-time friend of Girl Scouting***

The Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania membership is deeply saddened by the passing of our sister, Bev Walker," said Jane Ransom, President and CEO of the Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania Council, after attending her funeral on Wednesday, Nov. 17.

Bev made countless contributions to Girl Scouting and profoundly impacted the lives of thousands of girls in south-central region of Pennsylvania. "We are inspired by Bev Walker's commitment to building the leadership and self-esteem of girls to which she contributed through her positions as Secretary of the Board of Directors for the Hemlock Girl Scout Council, Co-Chair of the Volunteer Recognition Committee for the Hemlock Girl Scout Council, and as a troop leader," Ransom added.

Always an active member of her community, Bev did as much as she could to contribute to the lives of young people in the Harrisburg and Hershey area to help them secure a better future. In 1973, after earning her associate's degree in Human Services and Child Care at Harrisburg Area Community College, Bev and her husband, Ira (Bud) Walker, Jr., moved to Hershey and became the first African American house parents at the Milton Hershey School. She then went on to work at Strawberry Gardens and the South Central Employment Corporation. "Bev Walker took the Girl Scout Promise, '...to help people at all times,' to heart," stated Ransom.

Bev also served as a member of the Capital Presbyterian Church, Capital Presbyterian Women's Association, Capital Presbyterian Deacon Board in Harrisburg, Advisory Board Committee (YWCA) on Violence Intervention and Prevention, Numian Ladies Investment Club and the Just Us Ladies Social Club. As one of her Girl Scout sisters said, "Bev spread her ability to do good and be helpful as widely as possible. She was always there and somehow found a way to contribute and make a difference in people's lives."

Beverly Ann Delworth Walker, 74 was a resident of Hershey, Pennsylvania. She was born on June 8, 1936 in Springfield Massachusetts. She is survived by her beloved husband, Ira (Bud) Walker, Jr., her son, Ira D. Walker, III, her daughter, M. Renee Papapietro; her grandchildren, Lena Malcolm, David Malcolm, Amber Walker, Rebecca Walker, Garreth Papapietro, Kaela (Papapietro) Marsh and grandson-in-law, Brandon Marsh; and her great grandchildren, Shardae Papapietro and Jeremiah D. Marsh.

We, at GSHPA, salute Bev Walker and send our profound condolences to her family and all who loved her.