

October 4, 1983

Mrs Shirley D. Few
Chairman
Administrative Board
Duke Memorial United
Methodist Church
Durham, N.C.

Dear Shirley:

This is to confirm my recent telephone response to your wonderful honor bestowing letter of September 7. The actions of your Recognition Committee and the Administrative Board bestowed upon me an honor beyond my greatest expectations and wishes. I am so grateful for the opportunity to have served this, I believe God's purpose - Duke Memorial Church and its people - for so many years. I know that I am the richer for having done so - and this is reward enough.

I know that it appears rude and unappreciative to decline the honor of having the Middle Building so named, but I must give a very-positive No to this. In explanation for my firm position, let me simply say there are many who deserve

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this honor more than I and I would be very uncomfortable if I permitted it to happen. I respectfully request the committee and Board respect my position on this important matter. I am genuinely grateful and honored by their expressed desire to name the building for - and, this fact is reward enough.

I will be honored if I am permitted and called upon to serve Duke Memorial in the future - but, in a less demanding category than in the past.

Helen and I have so much to be thankful for - among which, and at the top of the list is the friendship and support of you, Ken and so very many at Duke Memorial - God has indeed been good to us. May He bless you and yours equally and more so.

Very sincerely yours,

Ken

W.K. Howard, Sr.

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