

Class of 1937 – Rosa Evelyn “Rose” Gillespie.



Rose graduated from Tech High School and received a Master's Degree in English and Psychology from Memphis State University. During World War II, she rode a motorcycle to get to her job as an aircraft riveter at the Fisher Aircraft factory, working the late shift building B-52 bombers. On Sundays, she'd finish up early, head home for a quick change, and then dash off to church to play the organ. Rose taught music for 35 years at Fairview Jr. High and then East High. She was an athlete playing golf and tennis and was a pitcher for Humko professional softball team. She served as minister of music at McLemore Christian and spent 35 years at Central Christian Church.