

Alice "Dove" M. Kull (1897 - 1991)



Alice "Dove" Montgomery Kull was born near Perry, Oklahoma. She obtained a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Oklahoma in 1922, a Master of Arts in English from Columbia University in 1927 and a master's in social work from the University of Oklahoma in 1940. She was a newspaper society and feature editor from 1922 to 1923; and taught English at Fairfax High School from 1923 to 1926, the University of Oklahoma from 1927 to 1933, and Oklahoma City University from 1933 to 1935.

She married Alexander E. Kull in 1925. He died in 1953.

She entered the field of social work and child welfare during the Great Depression and worked for the Federal Emergency Relief Administration in Oklahoma City, the Works Project Administration in Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Department of Public Welfare, the Child and Family Welfare Division, and the Salvation Army in Oklahoma City. Dove Kull moved to Alaska in 1959 to work in child welfare in the Welfare Division of the State Department of Health and Welfare, in Anchorage and later in Juneau. She was instrumental in the establishment of the state's first accredited child-care center. She was a clinical social worker for the Federal Public Health Service at Kotzebue, and the director of Alaska Homemaker Services, Inc.

Dove Kull was active in working for senior citizens' and women's issues. In 1976, she was appointed to a state senior housing committee and was instrumental in getting senior citizen housing built in Juneau. She was instrumental in the establishment of the Older Alaskans Commission in 1981, and was appointed to serve three terms on the Commission. She was also a representative in the State Committee on Services to the Elderly, a member of the Planning Committee of the White House Conference on Aging, a member of the Alaska Advisory Committee of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and a delegate to the International Women's Conference in Houston in 1977. She was an organizer and past president of the Juneau branch of the American Association of Retired Persons.

She was also a member of several professional organizations including the National Association of Social Workers, the Academy of Certified Social Workers and the American Association of University Women. She received numerous honors including a Distinguished Service Award from the Pioneer and Capitol U.S. Jaycees, and being named Woman of the Year by the Juneau Soroptomists Club and the Juneau Business and Professional Women's Club.

She also received an honorary Doctor of Humanities from the University of Alaska Southeast in Juneau in 1987. The AWARE women's and children's shelter in Juneau was named Dove Cottage in her honor in 1985. She died in Juneau, Alaska.