We Stand ~ A Founders’ Day Tribute

This ceremony unfortunately has no name, chapter or date.

(This requires 12 speakers, one for each Founder. Of course, modifications can be made.)

1. We stand in honor of Dr. Annie Webb Blanton whose dream, drive, and genius for organizing brought Delta Kappa Gamma into being. Dignified in appearance, small and feminine, she possessed a warmth and nobility which endeared her to her students and to her peers.
2. We stand in honor of Mamie Sue Bastian, a fun-loving Founder who always expressed her views in her own unique way. Dr. Blanton counted upon Mamie Sue’s warm, outgoing personality, her sense of humor, and her ability to make friends to help organize chapters. Mamie Sue developed a spirit of friendship and cooperation in the Society and inspired loyalty to its purposes.
3. We stand in honor of Ruby Cole, who had the distinction of organizing Beta Chapter in her home city of San Antonio, less than two months after the Society was founded.
4. We stand in honor of Mabel Grizzard, who was known for her community work as well as for her experience as an educator. Her former students rated her as an outstanding teacher who was understanding and helpful.
5. We stand for Dr. Anna Hiss, who is described as being tall, graceful, charming, cultured, and friendly. She was a creative and effective administrator with great precision in organization. These many talents made her a beloved and long remembered Head of the Physical Education Department at University of Texas.
6. We stand to honor Ray King., who served as the first treasurer of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society. She was very active in the educational, cultural, and social life of her community, and enjoyed playing Bridge with her many friends.
7. We stand to honor Sue King., an excellent scholar and leader. Her students remembered her as the teacher who made history come alive for them. Few Society members had the privilege of knowing her, since death cut short the career of this brilliant woman less than a year after the Society was organized.
8. We stand in honor of Dr. Helen Koch, renowned professor at the University of Chicago for many years this farsighted educator saw the Society as an organization whose future capabilities could dissipate any condition which might seriously threaten the welfare of children. She knew the Society could advance the cause of education and constructive international relations throughout the world.
9. We stand in honor of Ruby Terrill Lomax, who served the University of Texas as Dean of Women and as Associate Professor of Classical Languages. She held many leadership roles in her church and in civic and social organizations. Her university students named her “Deanie” a fact which indicates that her human characteristics were appreciated as much as her intellect.
10. We stand in honor of Cora M. Martin, a petite, very fashionable lady who added color and fun to every gathering. She has been described as the best first grade teacher ever. She brought out the best in every child.
11. Lalla M. Odom, one of the early advocates of women’s rights. Her determined stand against discrimination brought about the reversal of the ruling against married teachers in her city. She expressed herself well, frequently taking issues with any attempt to downgrade teachers and education.
12. We stand in honor of Lela Lee Williams, who welcomed differences of opinion, honored each person’s view points and took time to analyze a speaker’s remarks. During her 45 years with the Dallas Schools, she constantly searched for new techniques and innovations to improve teaching.

(The ceremony did not have a concluding remarks section. Below is one that has been created as a means to summarize the tribute.

These 12 women stood up for all of us, those of us teaching or those who have retired. Each one gave of themselves to form the Society we know of today. As our song says, “forward moving ever” may we strive to advance the Society and hold dear the seven purposes. May we ALL stand to honor them.)