

*Grapelard
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HCHC Loses Friend In Death Of Velma Minter

With the death of Mrs. Velma Duren Minter this past week, Houston County has lost a diligent historian and the Historical Commission, a dedicated volunteer of many years, according to Eliza Bishop, a historical commission associate of Mrs. Minter.

"Her heritage involved her in history appreciation from birth into a pioneer family," said Eliza, "and she in turn involved others through her teaching career and active membership in civic, church, fraternal and social organizations. Her notable work through the historical commission included bicentennial and sesquicentennial celebrations, annual Pilgrimages to the Mission Tejas, tri-centennial of the Mission in 1990 and El Camino Tercentenary."

Mrs. Bishop continued, "she and her twin sister Zelma were instrumental in securing the historical marker for the New Energy Cemetery and active in surveying Houston County cemeteries for the Commission's publication: Houston County (Texas) Cemeteries. She also wrote family stories and collected photographs for the Houston County History."

"Whenever history was needed, Mrs. Minter provided the answers," said Eliza of her long-time commission associate. "Velma Duren Minter could always find a need for history in whatever our undertaking. Houston County's history is a more complete record thanks to her diligence; and we are the better historians because of her sharing time and talents with us."

Many of Mrs. Minter's Houston County Historical Commission associates attended her funeral services Monday.