



Mrs. Corrie Cook Fernandez, LPN

The Pacolet community is so very, very fortunate that Mrs. Corrie Cook Fernandez made their health and well-being her life's work. She was a Nurse, Midwife and Friend. Her nephew, Bruce A. Norris, wrote a tribute to her for Facebook on the 40th anniversary of her death on November 26, 1978. The information and photos in this article are based on that tribute and are used compliments of Mr. Norris. Mrs. Fernandez was an institution in Pacolet.

In Loving Memory of My Maternal Aunt, Mrs. Corrie Cook Fernandez, LPN

On the 40th Anniversary of Her Homegoing, on November 26, 1978.

I will forever cherish the many memories of spending my childhood summer vacations from Baltimore, Maryland; with her & my aunt, Irene Cook, in Pacolet, South Carolina; in the 1970s.

I didn't realize how special & loved she was by so many people in Pacolet, until I was around eight years old!

It was then that I began to learn her story, she had brought half of the town into life! She was the nurse, as well as midwife, from 1932 – 1964, for Pacolet's beloved longtime only doctor, the late Dr. Robert Dennis Hill Senior, MD (1899 – 1964). She began working for Dr. Hill around age 15, as a nurse maid to his two children, then at age 16, she began accompanying him on house calls.

In June 1932, she delivered her first baby in Pacolet, her baby sister, my mother, Gladys Cook Norris (1932 – 2011).

She went on to deliver hundred hundreds of other babies, during her tenure with Dr. Hill, with having the honor of several being named after her (Corrie Littlejohn Oglesby, Corrie Smith, Corrie Wannamaker, Corrie Shippy Gist & Corrie Ann Graham).

After Dr. Hill's passing in 1964, she continued nursing in the Pacolet community for Dr. Hill's successor, Dr. Thomas F Drake, MD until his untimely passing in 1968.

For the next two years, She served Pacolet's medical needs solo, continuing to see patients at Dr. Hill & Dr. Drake's Former Clinic.

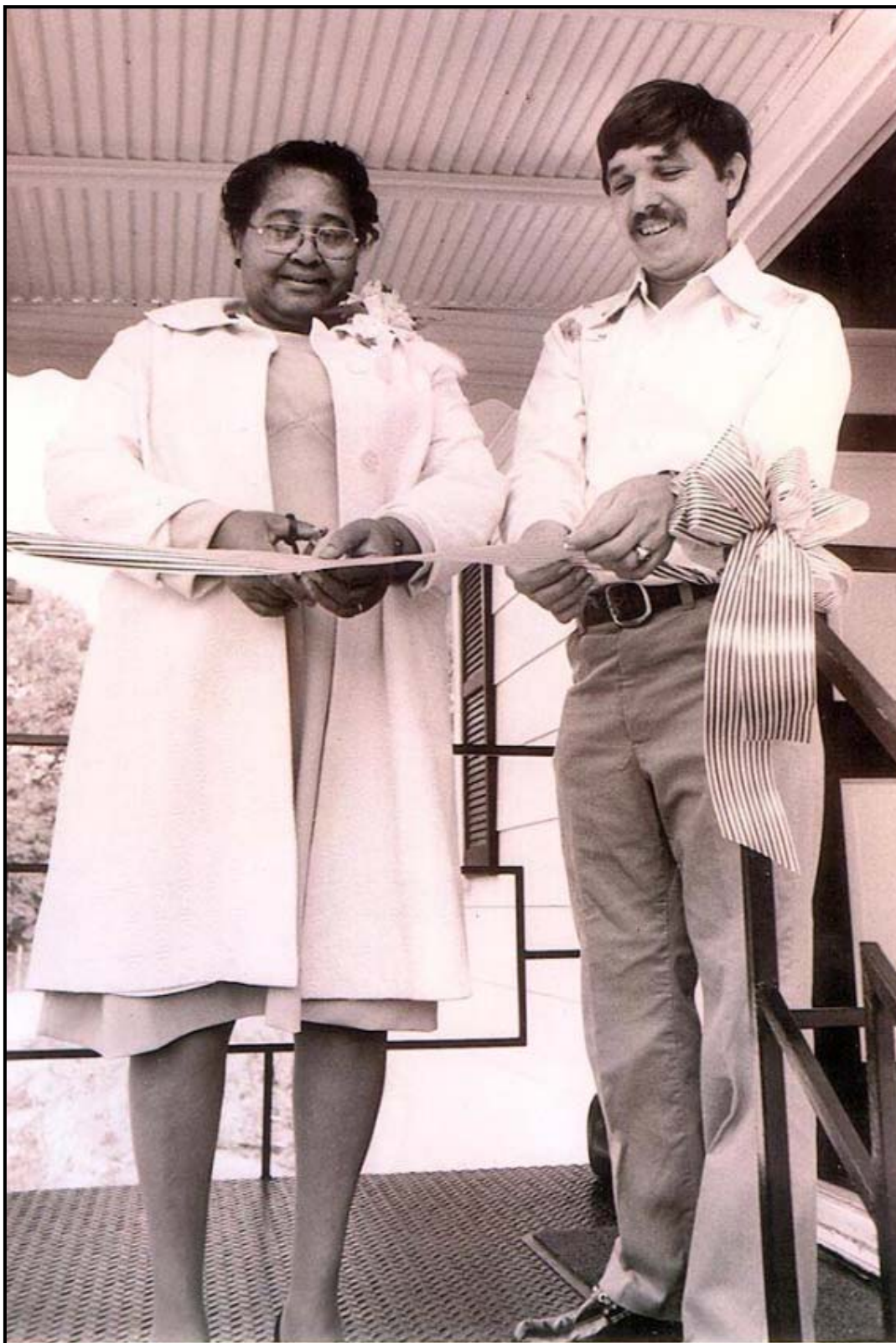
Around 1970 she took a position as private nurse to the owner & founder of the former Community Cash grocery store food chain, Mr. & Mrs. Broadus R. Littlejohn Senior.

She remained with the Littlejohn's until just weeks before her untimely passing, at age 63, in 1978.

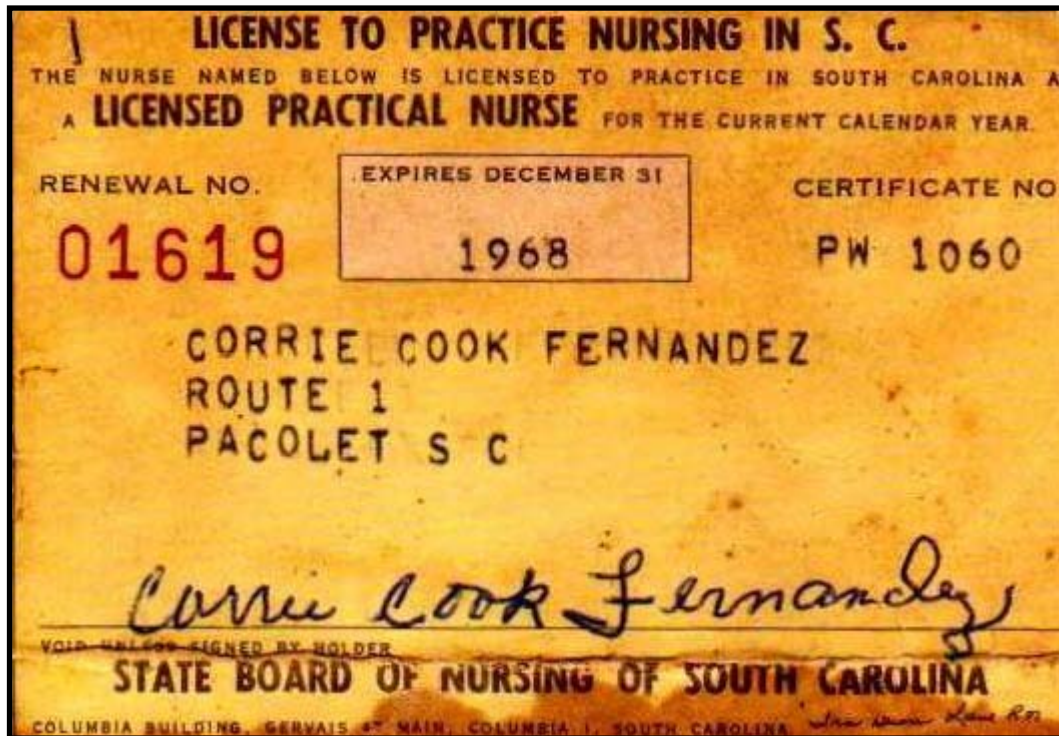
She was a great people person, loved by just about everyone she came in contact with. I inherited most of my people skills from her. Although for only a short while, the first 12 years of my life, I feel so blessed to have had an aunt, as great & loving, as she was!

Until we meet again, Pacolet's "Florence Nightingale", I will treasure the precious memories in my heart, loving you & missing you still, your "Lil Boy"

(Written By Bruce A. Norris, her Nephew)



Corrie Cook Fernandez was an important and well known member of the Pacolet community. This is evidenced by the above photograph. She was chosen to cut the ribbon for an opening ceremony for the addition of the Pacolet Mills Fire Department. Helping her, was Ted Thompson, Secretary of the fire department. This picture is from the *Spartanburg Herald* newspaper on November 11, 1976.



This is a copy of Corrie's license to practice nursing in South Carolina from 1968.

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