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John and Adele Swift Development & Enrichment Center (JADE)

"...hard work and education will carry you through the world."

Mrs. Adele Swift

Newsletter for Summer-Fall 2025

Special Celebration Edition



JADE's Vision

To change lives today for a better tomorrow.

JADE's Mission

To develop partnerships in communities to transform lives now in hope of a better future.

JADE's Partnerships

JADE is a tax-exempt non-profit organization based in Rialto, California. JADE was created for public and charitable purposes to provide funding for education and humanitarian needs. JADE has developed partnerships in communities within the Inland Empire, Belize City, and rural communities of Belize to provide tuition assistance for education; package and deliver food to the homeless, elderly, disabled, and low-income families; offer free vocational classes to women; provide students with free tutorial classes; contribute monies for medical emergencies and dialysis treatments; donate vitamin and iron supplements for children with HIV/Aids; and provide transportation and spiritual support to those in need.

From JADE's Director – Gloria Swift

This year, 2025, is a year of celebration. Imagine growing up on a farm, working and producing food for your daily survival. Here is a glimpse of the life of two women who know all about farming and ranching. There were challenges and successes along the way, and our Father was always by our side.

"Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee." Deut. 31:5 KJV

Because my parents were all about getting an education to live a better life, the Swifts' children established a non-profit in their names, The John & Adele Swift Development & Enrichment Center (JADE). We continue in our parents' footsteps - providing humanitarian assistance to those in need.

Celebrating a Century of Life and Legacy



Mama Adele Swift



One hundred years ago, Mama Swift was born in rural Belize. She and her husband John were blessed with eight children while they cultivated the land and raised cattle, which everyone knows is not an easy profession.

“We nurtured eight children,” said Mama Swift. “They had options: work on the farm, study and be promoted from primary school and go on to college or choose not to study and work the rest of their life laboring on the plantation.”

We chose the first option.

The Bible took center stage in our home. We were always reminded, “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added on to you.” Matt 6:33 KJV

“I had a great life,” remarked Mama Swift. “How did I live this long? I read my Bible every day and live God’s Word. The Bible says, ‘Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.’ Prov. 3:5-6 NIV

“I had no idea my children were planning a birthday party. What a pleasure to visit with folks whom I have not seen in over 30 years. The speeches from my children brought tears to my eyes. The comments from the guests, well, I never knew I had such a significant impact on the lives of others, but that was only with God’s

blessing and guidance. I had never experienced so much love in one place. To God be the glory. Amen.

“Thanks to everyone for the memories. I will cherish them for however longer I will be on this earth. When my Father calls me, I am ready. I have lived a good life. Like Paul, I can say, ‘I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day...’” 2 Ti 4:7-8 NIV



Mama and her children

Mama with Extended Families (below)



Inside the Reception Hall



Pastor Anthony Riley (opening remarks & blessing)



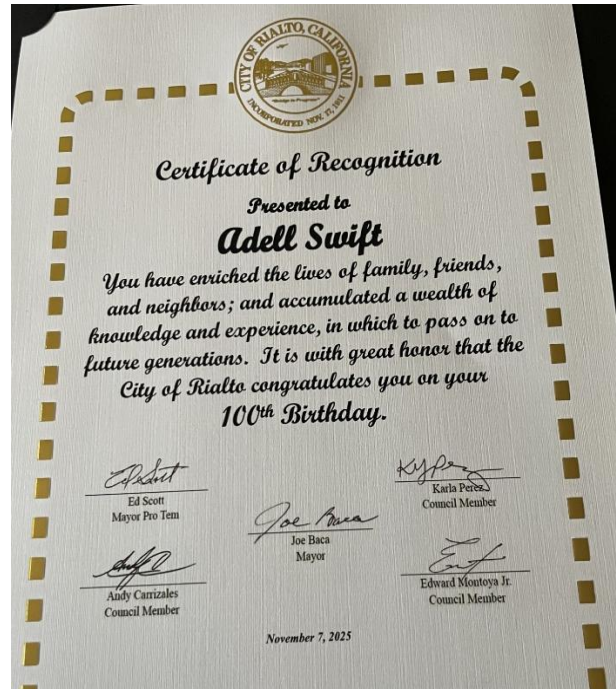
*"Turn Your Eyes on Jesus"
performed by great-grandchildren:
Micah, Emma, Ava, Isaac, & Levi Stryffeler*



Dr. Richard Hart (guest speaker) met the Swifts in the late sixties, when as a missionary student, he went to Belize after graduating from college. Of course, he was adopted into the family.



Pastor Carlo Mendoza (Closing remarks and blessing)



Certificate of Recognition from City of Rialto

In addition, for Mrs. Swift's 100th birthday, she received a Certificate of Recognition from California Legislature Assembly and the Secretary of State. Furthermore, California Senator Adam Schiff sent an American flag with a certificate proclaiming that the flag was flown over the Capitol on her birthday.

What a wonderful day of tributes! Mrs. Swift's legacy is not what she is leaving behind, but what she has set in motion for the future.

Gloria Swift's SCA High School Reunion



I worked along with my parents while studying to successfully finish primary school. The goal was to leave slave-labor behind, move to the city, attend and graduate from St. Catherine's Academy (SCA), get a teaching job, and earn a paycheck. Mission accomplished.

After teaching for a year, I had the opportunity to join the Belize Police Force as WPC (Woman Police Constable). At that time, Belize was still a British Commonwealth, and six women were recruited every three years. After six months of rigorous training with 49 other candidates, I graduated and tied with a male counterpart for second place.

But is the grass always greener on the other side? After a couple years in law enforcement, I emigrated to the United States. I served honorably in the United States Army, where in a class of 50 participants, I earned Distinguished Graduate at the Instructor's Training Academy. I reentered law enforcement, this time as the first female on the police force.

Later, I moved into Banking where the maxim was "If you want anything done, give it to Gloria Swift." My life returned full circle as I entered the teaching profession. I was well respected, to the extent, that at the high school level, new staff members were advised, "Don't be like us. Be like Ms. Swift." After 22 years as an educator, I retired.

Fifty-five years after graduating from SCA, I am back on the homestead where I grew up. What fun it was to celebrate with some of the ladies as we proudly reminisced about those high school experiences!



Sister Sarita, Principal 1970

Members of the Class of 1970



JADE's Board of Directors

Evadne Swift	President
Angie Lindsey	Vice President
Aracely Herrera	Secretary
Gloria Swift	Treasurer
Directors: Johnnel Cole, Linda Crawford, Alma Edison, Vanessa Awonsawya, and Margery Swift	

JADE's next meeting will be January 16, 2026, at 6 P.M. PST via WhatsApp