



Lady in Green

IN HER SUNDAY-BEST CROWN AND MATCHING GREEN DRESS, Mrs. Helen Turner stopped traffic. Regular diners at the legendary Helen's Bar-B-Q in Brownsville, Tennessee, weren't accustomed to seeing her clad so regally. Most days, she's in a T-shirt and casual pants with her hair pulled back or covered—proper attire for creating magic over an open pit of barbecue. But on this day, as she posed for a photo session to honor her achievements in a discipline often dominated by men, people saw Mrs. Helen for who she has always been: a leader, a trailblazer, a queen.

Helen Turner was the winner of SFA's 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award. Visit southernfoodways.org to watch Helen: The Legend by SFA filmmaker Zaire Love.

PHOTO BY ZAIRE LOVE