

OBITUARIES

Russell

Funeral Home
822 Carl Russell Ave.
722-3459

BAILEY

Mrs. Carrie Benton Bailey, 81, of 1400 E. 24th Street died Dec. 21 at Springwood Care Center of Forsyth.

She was born on Nov. 5, 1921, in Darlington County, S.C., the daughter of the late Martha and James Benton.

She was a member of Spencer Memorial Christian Church and a retired employee of Forsyth Medical Center.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ezekiel C. Bailey; two sisters and two brothers.

She is survived by: one daughter, Peggy Bailey of Winston-Salem; four sons, Johnnie Bailey (Margaret) of Greensboro, Evester Bailey (Brenda) of Durham, Leroy Bailey (Jessica) of Clemmons and Tyrone Bailey (Jackie) of Hunterville; eight grandchildren, Christopher Bailey, Kesha Bailey, Mark Bailey, Phillip Bailey, Kalena Bailey, Candis Bailey, Randal Bailey and Stacie Bailey; one sister, Bertha Mobley of Winston-Salem; a host of other relatives and friends.

A private graveside service was held at Piedmont Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to either Hospice of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County or Alzheimer's Foundation of Forsyth.

Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of services and arrangements.

DANDY

Mrs. Barbara Jean Hunter Dandy, 58, of 1946 Flatrock Street passed away Dec. 26 at Britthaven Rest Home in Kernersville.

She was born on May 27, 1944, in Forsyth County to the late Doris E. Hunter and Theotis Foster. Mrs. Dandy's sister, Betty Lou Booker, helped raise her after the demise of her parents. She attended College Heights Junior and Senior High School. Mrs. Dandy also attended Piedmont Bible College, where she received a certificate for Christian service in April 2001. Mrs. Dandy worked as a nurse's aide until she became disabled in 1981. She was a member of Morning Star Baptist Church, where she served in the Senior Choir, Spiritual Choir and on the Missionary Board.

Mrs. Dandy is survived by: a wonderful and loving sister, Mrs. Betty Lou Booker, and brother-in-law, Mr. Otis L. Booker, and a gift from God in a son, Fletcher L. Hunter; two uncles, Willie E. Hunter and Fletcher Hunter Sr.; several very dear friends, Mrs. Barbara Isom, Mrs. Sylvia Brown, Deacon Clifton Benson, Deacon James E. Bowman, Rev. Thalaferro Huntley, Deacon Kermit Bailey; and a host of brothers and sisters in Christ; a devoted care-giver, Delphine James of Winston-Salem.

A graveside service was held Dec. 28 at 2:30 p.m. at Evergreen Cemetery. Rev. Thalaferro Huntley presided.

Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of services and arrangements.

HUNTER

Mr. Calvin Eugene Hunter Sr., 69, of 6010 Meadowbrook Mall Court, Clemmons, was called home on Dec. 20 at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

He was born April 3, 1933, in Winston-Salem to the late Rother Perry Hunter and Robbie Green Hunter, who preceded him in death.

Mr. Hunter attended Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools and was a painter by trade.

Mr. Hunter leaves to cherish his memories: one sister, Barbara Hunter Brown of Winston-Salem; three daughters, Kim (Wendell) Parker of Tampa, Fla., Kathy Miller of Winston-Salem, Robin Neal of Winston-Salem; four sons, Larry Welch, Terry Phelps, Calvin Hunter Jr. and Rother Hunter, all of Winston-Salem; one devoted brother-in-law, Benjamin Brown of Winston-Salem; a devoted niece and care-giver, Evette (Edward) Abbott, and a devoted care-giver, Mr. Schwinn Dale; another niece, Artiase Brown of Winston-Salem; one aunt, Janice Funderburk of Winston-Salem; a devoted cousin, Carolyn Anderson (James) of Detroit, Mich.; eight grandchildren. The family would like to thank staff members of Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, ICU 4A, for their services.

A memorial service was held Dec. 26 at 1 p.m. at the Chapel of Russell Funeral Home.

Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of services and arrangements.

PHILLIPS

Mrs. Viola Johnson Phillips, 67, of 5732 Harpers Ferry Road passed away on Dec. 23 at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

She was born April 30, 1935, to the late Richard Green Johnson and Sallie Wiles Johnson. Mrs. Phillips was educated in the local public schools. She was a member of Union Baptist Church, where she served with the Senior Choir and the Missionary Group. She was employed with A Cleaner World until her health failed.

Mrs. Phillips was preceded in passing by Richard "Buddy" Phillips.

Mrs. Viola Johnson Phillips leaves to cherish her memories: her children, Thomas Johnson (Aquanetta), Lloyd Johnson, Ronnie Johnson (Rosa), Tammy J. Brannon (Darel), Cynthia L. Phillips, Anthony P. Phillips, Shari L. Phillips and Betty J. Phillips; 15 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Ella Mae Moses, Elizabeth Johnson Robinson; one brother, Richard Johnson Jr.; many other relatives and friends.

The funeral was held Dec. 28 at Union Baptist Church. Rev. Dr. Sir Walter Mack Jr. officiated. Burial was in Piedmont Memorial Park.

Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of services and arrangements.

SPEASE

Mr. John Thomas Spease, 63, of 315 W. 25th Street passed away Dec. 20 at his residence unexpectedly.

He was born on July 4, 1939, in East Bend to the late James and Gyp Spease where he attended the public schools. Mr. Spease was the founder and owner of John T. Spease Construction Co. in Winston-Salem. Aside from managing a successful business for 32 years, he participated in and enjoyed baseball

and modified auto racing. He played semiprofessional baseball for the Winston-Salem Pond Giants and was known for his tenacity and passion for the game. His love for racing was known to all who knew him, as he was an avid fan of Jr. Miller Racing. He was one of the founders of the Old-Timers Baseball Reunion, which is held annually in Winston-Salem.

He was preceded in death by brothers Richard A. and Fred Spease, and sisters Clara Sue and Sarah G. Spease.

Surviving are: his wife of 18 years, Bonnie H. Spease of the home; six children and one stepson; sisters, Patricia Davis of Wilkesboro, Dorothy Moore, Nancy S. Scott (Roland) and Mary Porter of Winston-Salem; his father-in-law, Amos Hickman (Annie); brothers-in-law, Nino Hickman (Lorie) and Edward Hickman of Winston-Salem; sisters-in-law, Classie Ford, Linda Hickman, Mandy Phillips (James), Delphine Davidson (Victor), Alice Hickman and Kathryn Spease, all of Winston-Salem; one devoted friend, Hennie Pope of Winston-Salem; a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, family and friends.

The funeral was held Dec. 30 at 2 p.m. at the Chapel of Russell Funeral Home. Bishop John Heath officiated.

Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of services and arrangements.

TATE

Mrs. Gloria Denise Tate, 49, of 240 Woodland Ave. passed away on Dec. 23 at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

She was born on June 1, 1953, in Winston-Salem to Lewis and Mamie Edwards. She was educated in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools.

She leaves to cherish her memory: two sisters, Elizabeth Tate, with whom she lived, and Carolyn Galloway; one brother, Lewis Tate Jr., all of Winston-Salem; two loving nephews; one niece; and many other caring relatives and friends.

A memorial service was held Dec. 28 at noon at the Chapel of Russell Funeral Home.

Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of services and arrangements.

WARD

"God saw the road was getting rough and the hills too hard to climb, so he gently closed his eyes and whispered to God, 'Peace be thine.'"

Mr. Samuel Preston Ward, 85, of 930-L North Cleveland Ave. passed away on Dec. 23 at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

He was born Aug. 21, 1917, in Winston-Salem to the late Jake and Clara Barker Ward. He was a retired employee of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., Whitaker Park Blending Department. He was of the Baptist faith.

He is survived by: one daughter, Elizabeth Ann Mackey; one grandson, Cedric Barksdale; two great-granddaughters, Brittany and Brianna Bailey; a dear friend, Dora Welborne, and family; a host of other relatives and friends.

He was loved by many and will be missed.

Graveside rites were held at 11 a.m. Dec. 27 at Salisbury National Cemetery in Salisbury.

Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of services and arrangements.

**CLARK S. BROWN
& SONS FUNERAL HOME**
727 N. Patterson Ave.
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101
(336) 722-8117

BITTING

Mrs. Wanda C. Bitting, 1630 Chestnut Street, Apt. B., was born in Winston-Salem to the late Henry M. and Mildred D. Wilson on Nov. 28, 1960. She departed this life on Dec. 15 at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

Colleen was a graduate of West Forsyth High School, Class of 1979. She was a former employee of Arbor Acres Triad Methodist Home and worked for Industries of the Blind. Mrs. Bitting was a member of Grace Chapel Holiness Church.

To memorialize her life and commemorate her love she leaves to mourn the following: a loving husband, Mr. Karl Bitting Sr. of the city; a son, Karl Bitting Jr., of the home; a step-daughter, Karla Davis of the city; four sisters, Valerie Thompson of the home, Juanita Glen, Almetris (Tony) King and Shirley Boyd, all of the city; four brothers, Henry (Alma) Wilson Jr., of Phenix City, Ala., Fred C. (Carol) Wilson, Kenneth M. (Savvier) Wilson, Tyrone (LaChine) Forbes of the city; her father-in-law, Mr. William Bitting; two sisters-in-law, Karen and Michelle Bitting; three brothers-in-law, Martin, Marvin and Charles Bitting, all of the city; two maternal aunts, Natalie (Johnny) Love of Charlotte and Janice Sims of Virginia Beach,

Va.; two maternal uncles, Lawrence (Blondie) Smith of Lexington, N.C., and George (Cynthia) Sims of Virginia Beach; two paternal aunts, Mrs. Lou Ollie Wilson and Mrs. Inez Wilson of the city; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

The funeral was held Dec. 21 at 1 p.m. at Bethlehem Baptist Church. Pastor Johnny Stowe officiated. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery. Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

SPEAS

Mr. Solomon E. Speas, 6280 Riverbluff Farm Road, passed on Dec. 20 at Forsyth Medical Center.

He was born on June 28, 1911, in Tobaccoville to the late Calvin and Minervia Speas. Mr. Speas was a U.S. Army veteran, a farmer, and an employee of Dolly Dress Shop in Winston-Salem.

He leaves to cherish his memories: two sisters, Annie Mae Speas Porter and Mable Lee Speas, both of Tobaccoville; one brother, Joseph Bennett Speas of Winston-Salem; two sisters-in-law, Margaret Speas and Ruth Speas of Winston-Salem; devoted nieces, nephews, cousins; a devoted buddy, Chad Mabe; and a host of friends.

A graveside service was held Dec. 23 at 2 p.m. at Center Grove AME Zion Church. Rev. George Erwin officiated. Burial followed at Center Grove AME Zion Church Cemetery. Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

WATSON

Mr. James M. Watson Sr., 437 W. 24th Street, passed at the Kate Reynolds Hospice Home on Dec. 9.

Mr. Watson was born on June 6, 1914, to the late Mr. George Watson and Mrs. Selia Dunlap Watson. He was educated in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools. He was employed as a housekeeper for the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System and N.C. Baptist Hospital, retiring after 30 years of service. Mr. Watson was a member of Mount Zion Baptist Church for more than 50 years, where he was a member of the St. Matthew Group of the Laymen's League and Sunday school. In the community, he was a member of the 24th Street Flower Club and the Retired Men's Club of the YMCA.

Mr. Watson was preceded in death by his wife, Mrs. Oneada Worthy Watson.

He leaves to cherish his memory: a daughter, Gloria (Frank) Campbell of Greensboro; two sons, James (Doris) Watson Jr. and Lorenzo (Betty) Watson; six grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; a brother-in-law, Kadoza Worthy; a sister-in-law, Olivia Bradshaw; a devoted friend, Izora Glenn; and several other relatives and friends.

The funeral was held Dec. 13 at 11:30 a.m. at Mount Zion Baptist Church. Dr. Lillie L. Travis officiated. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery. Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

CARTER

Mrs. Ruth L. Carter, 4040 Village Trace Drive, Tobaccoville, went to glory on Dec. 20 after an extended illness at her home.

Ruth was a native of Winston-Salem. Although she traveled much, she spent most of her life in her native city. She was born in the Pittsburg Avenue community but resided in the Rundell Street neighborhood. Mrs. Carter was a graduate of Atkins High School, Class of 1956. Ruth was a retiree of US Airways, where she worked for many years as a cargo accounting clerk.

A faithful and longtime member of United Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church, where her family before her had belonged, Ruth was active when she was able and still attended even after her health began to fail.

Mrs. Carter was preceded in death by her father, Jesse L. Young; mother, Etta R. Young; sister, Doris Y. McMurry; and aunt, Gertrude R. Woods.

Survivors include: a devoted daughter, Glenda W. Cook; three brothers, John (Carol) Young, Lonnie Rae Young, both of Winston-Salem, and Cozell W. Young of Butner, N.C.; a granddaughter, Ashley (Sweet Pea) Cook; grandmother, Beulah Roseborough; five aunts, Dorothy Hunter, Leretha Pankey, Vera Roseborough, all of the city, Dermetta (Calvin) Jones of Indiana, and Alice Graham of Mooresville, N.C.; three uncles; Wade (Lorraine) Roseborough and Haywood (Vera) Roseborough of Alabama, and Clyde Young of Mooresville; three devoted nieces, Francena Hawkins, Cheryl (Samuel) McIlwain and Linda (Dr. Paul A. Lowe Jr.) Scales; four nephews, Bernard (Gloria) Scales Jr., Arthur Bitting, John Young Jr. and Alphonzo Byrd; and a very devoted friend, Doris (Charles) Strickland. There are also many grandnieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

The funeral was held Dec. 24 at 1 p.m. at United Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church. Dr. J. Donald Ballard officiated. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery. Clark & Brown & Sons Funeral Home directors were in charge of services and arrangements.

Renaissance Choir of Winston-Salem is making plans to celebrate first anniversary

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Renaissance Choir of Winston-Salem, under the direction of Dionn "Maestro" Owen, is making plans for the celebration of its first anniversary.

The choir was formed in October 2001 to participate as special guest for the anniversary of the W.M. Johnson Memorial Chorale. With individuals representing more than 20 churches, the choir sang praises to God with more than 123 voices. With a love for singing and the bond of fellowship, the choir expressed a willingness to continue.

On Jan. 18, 2002, the choir celebrated in a debut concert of what is now known as the Renaissance Choir. 2002 has proven to be a busy, yet fulfilling year for Renaissance. Since its inception, the group has been blessed with

engagements, some of which were true surprises! Some of the most memorable events for the choir were to sing in a program with recording artist Yolanda Adams at the LJV Coliseum and Bishop Dryfus Smith and the Wings of Faith Choir of Atlanta, Ga. During the year the choir participated in various anniversaries as special guest and many concerts along the East Coast. Because of its anointed singing and willingness to worship, the choir has earned a reputation as a ministering choir.

The celebration will consist of three major events for the choir. On Jan. 25 at 6 p.m., the anniversary celebration will kick off with a pre-anniversary musical. The program will consist of choirs and groups for whom Renaissance has performed. This musical will be

held at "The Chapel" (Phillips Chapel Baptist Church), 132 N. Glenn Ave.

On Feb. 1, a gala will be held. The banquet will be held at the Sawtooth Center, 226 N. Marshall Street. This formal/semiformal event will be an evening filled with entertainment and fine dining. Scheduled to appear are Peace of Mind (P.O.M.) and Charles Crouch. Peace of Mind consists of three of the most talented and unique singers in the Triad. Crouch, a noted poetic lyricist, possesses the ability to captivate his audience with the use of rhyme and spoken lyrics with faint background percussion to convey the message of the Gospel, hope and encouragement.

Seating for dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m., and dinner will begin at 6 p.m. Tickets for this event are

\$25 and can be secured by contacting Dionn Owen at 923-1079 or Bobby Witherspoon at 287-9867. Seating is limited.

The anniversary celebration will conclude Feb. 2 at 4 p.m. with the Renaissance Choir in concert. This event will include a robe dedication and the choir performing several selections from its upcoming CD/video release. Writers for this release include Dionn "Maestro" Owen; Patty Perin of Peace of Mind; Alex Hill, music director; and several other choir members who have written songs for this project. This event will be held at Phillips Chapel Baptist Church.

The public is invited. Contact Dionn Owen at 923-1079 or Bobby Witherspoon at 287-9867 for more information.