

OBITUARIES

**Linda Gayle Morris Layton**

EDENTON - Linda Gayle Morris Layton, 74, of 234 Country Club Drive, passed away on Monday, January 7, 2019, in her home.



Mrs. Layton was born in Morganton, NC on November 4, 1944, and was the daughter of the late A.W. and Ruth Morris. A retired teacher, after moving to the area, she taught in both the Bertie and Chowan County public school systems, and later at Lawrence Academy. She was a member of Edenton Baptist Church.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Bill Morris.

Surviving are her husband of over 43 years, Carlton Edward Layton; her son, Carlton Douglas "Doug" Layton, his wife, April, and their children, Olivia and Carson; and extended family and friends.

A memorial service will be held Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in the chapel of Miller Funeral Home & Crematory, 735 Virginia Road, Edenton, and will be conducted by Pastor A.J. Layton. The family will receive friends in the funeral home the hour prior to services, and all other times at the residence.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to The Parkinson's Foundation, 200 SE 1st Street, Suite 800, Miami, FL 33131, or online at [www.parkinson.org](http://www.parkinson.org).

Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting [www.millerfhc.com](http://www.millerfhc.com).

**Deborah Lynn "Debbie" Keown**

ELIZABETH CITY - Deborah Lynn "Debbie" Keown, 61, of 1639 Nixonton Road, and formerly of Tyner, passed away peacefully on Thursday, January 3, 2019, in her home where she was surrounded by her family.

Born in Louisville, KY on March 5, 1957, she was the daughter of the late John Eugene, Sr. and Mary Elizabeth Coons Keown. A loving, caring, and giving mother, daughter, sister, and friend, she never met a stranger and always had something to say.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a sister, Renee Spruill, and by a grandson, Ryan Keown.

Left to cherish her life and legacy are her daughter, Paulette L. Adkison; two sons, Paul L. Keown and Timothy L. Keown; two sisters, Susan K. Melton and Christine Bright; four brothers, John E. Keown, Jr., Roger A. Keown, Robert L. Keown, and Larry Spruill; 11 grandchildren, Hallie, David, Elizabeth, Douglas, Misty, Miranda, Michael, Cody, Cloe, Gage, and Trent; four great-grandchildren, Tamir, Braxton, Alayna, and Dawson; and two special nieces, Pam and Nonie.

A memorial service was held Saturday at 10:00 a.m. in the Miller & Van Essendelft Funeral Chapel, 1125 Harvey Point Road, Hertford, and was conducted by Minister Tina Shannon. Friends joined the family in the funeral home for a time of visitation immediately following the service on Saturday.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the McConnell-Raab Hope Lodge, 930 Wellness Drive, Greenville, NC 27823.

Online condolences may be made by visiting [www.millerfhc.com](http://www.millerfhc.com).

**Deborah P. Futrell**

HERTFORD - Deborah Przeklaska "Debby" Futrell, 69, of 151 Clipper Drive, passed away Saturday, December 29, 2018, in Vidant Medical Center, Greenville, NC.



Mrs. Futrell was born in Conway, SC on August 14, 1949, and was the daughter of the late Victor Vincent Przeklaska and Ruby Inez Alford Przeklaska Villafranca. A homemaker, in earlier years she had been employed as a radiologic technician in various hospitals throughout South Carolina and North Carolina. A member of Open Door Church, she had also previously enjoyed fellowship with Bethlehem Church of Christ and Snug Harbor Community Church, and throughout the years had been passionately involved with both Albemarle Emmaus and Kairos Prison Ministry.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her step-father, Mario Villafranca.

Surviving are her husband of 42 years, Mark Futrell; her daughter, Mandy Futrell Whitehurst and husband, Chris; two beloved grandsons, Gavin and Alex Whitehurst, all of Camden, NC; her two sisters, Vickie Przeklaska Baber of Greensboro, and Martha Przeklaska White of Myrtle Beach, SC; three nieces, Tracy Gunter, Renee Hill, and Courtney Jensen; a nephew, Ryan Baber; and numerous cousins, aunts, and uncles.

Debby was a loving daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and aunt. She enjoyed photography, reading, history, music, traveling to the mountains and the beach, and cooking for family, various ministries and the less fortunate. She will be most fondly remembered for her selfless compassion for others, sharing the love of Christ through children's and prison ministry, her perseverance and inner strength, and an unwavering love for her two grandsons.

A memorial service will be held Sunday, January 13th, at 3:00 p.m. at Open Door Church, and will be conducted by Pastors Stephen Mizell, Stanley Nixon, and C.D. White. Friends may join the family for a time of visitation at the church immediately following the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Kairos of North Carolina, State Financial Secretary, PO Box 2543, Shelby, NC 28151, or online at [www.kairosnc.org](http://www.kairosnc.org) (designated to Kairos Inside - Bertie or Pasquotank CD).

Miller & Van Essendelft, Funeral and Cremation Providers, 1125 Harvey Point Road, Hertford, is assisting the family with arrangements, and online condolences may be made by visiting [www.millerfhc.com](http://www.millerfhc.com).

**Jane H. Smith**

EDENTON - Norma Jane Harrell Smith, 83, of 230 White's Landing Road, passed away on Sunday, December 30, 2018, in Vidant Chowan Hospital.

Mrs. Smith was born in Chowan County on July 10, 1935, and was the daughter of the late Gurney Patrick and Maggie Parks Harrell. A retired clerk in both pharmacy and appliance retail stores, she was member of Rocky Hock Baptist Church.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Harold Junior Smith; and by her brothers, Jackie Ray Harrell and Raleigh Pat Harrell.

Surviving are her step-children, Margaret S. Taylor (Robbie) of Wilson and Harold A. "Todd" Smith (Susan) of Raleigh; a niece, Gail H. Boyd (Jeff) of Edenton; a nephew, Pat Harrell, Jr. (Karen) of Portsmouth, VA; three great-nieces, two great-nephews, and several great-great-nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, January 2, 2019, at 11:00 a.m. in Rocky Hock Baptist Church and were conducted by Dr. James Horton. A private burial followed in the Harrell Family Cemetery near the home. Friends joined the family in the vestibule of the church immediately following the service, and all other times at Gail and Jeff's home, 226 White's Landing Road, Edenton.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the building fund of Rocky Hock Baptist Church, 113 Rocky Hock Church Road, Edenton, NC 27932, or to one's favorite charity.

Miller Funeral Home & Crematory, 735 Virginia Road, Edenton, is assisting the family and online condolences may be made by visiting [www.millerfhc.com](http://www.millerfhc.com).

**Gerald K. 'Jerry' Thompson**

TARBORO - Gerald K. "Jerry" Thompson, age 85, passed away Tuesday, January 1, 2019 at Vidant Edgecombe Hospital in Tarboro.

He is survived by his wife, Doris Elaine Thompson; children, Gerald K. "Ken" Thompson, Jr. (Nyla) of Carolina Beach, Shelley T. Killebrew (Randy) of Tarboro, and Scott Thompson (Carolyn) of Raleigh; seven grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Services are pending and will be posted at [www.davislittlefunerals.com](http://www.davislittlefunerals.com) Davis-Little Funerals of Rocky Mount.

**William Nelson Hamill**

GREENVILLE - William "Nelson" Hamill, 82, passed away Saturday, December 29, 2018 at Brookdale Assisted Living in Greenville.



A private graveside service with military honors was held in Weldon Cemetery, Weldon, NC.

Nelson, son of the late William Edward and Louise Jennings Hamill, was native of Weldon, NC. He served his country in the US Navy for four years during the Korean War as a submarine ship repairman. Additionally, he served in the US Coast Guard Reserves, stationed at Fort Macon, for 26 years.

He was a graduate of East Carolina University and received his BS Degree in Industrial Arts and Technology. Later he received his certification in special education. He began his teaching career in Danville, VA and continued at JH Rose High School in Greenville, teaching carpentry and cabinetmaking. He also taught basic woodworking and shop skills to the trainable mentally handicapped students at Brinson Memorial School in New Bern and machine shop at John A. Holmes High School on Edenton. His most fulfilling and rewarding job as an educator was working and trainable mentally handicapped students.

Nelson was the owner and operator of a woodworking and stripping business in Greenville and Eastern Refinishing, specializing in counter tops; cultured marble, porcelain and fiberglass. He was a member of Weldon United Methodist Church where he served as an usher. Nelson was an educator, veteran, businessman and friend who will be missed by many.

In Nelson's own words: "I love travel, camping, mountains and/or the beach in the spring and fall, and head south in the winter. I enjoy action/romance TV shows and movies. I also enjoy boating, fishing, water sports, hiking, sightseeing, etc."

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sisters, Charlotte Hamill of Weldon and Margaret Hurley of Urbanna, VA; and his beloved dog, "Dusty" Beau.

Nelson is survived by his caregiver and wife of many years, Rebecca Hurdle Hamill; daughter, Wendy Hamill Farmer and husband Bruce; two grandsons, Jamie Hamill and wife Emmy and Alan Farmer; step son, Stacy Bunting; step grandson, Christopher Bunting and his family; as well as several special nieces and nephews.

A special thanks to the Amedisys Hospice Team, especially Caren, Sara and Daneen and to the staff of Brookdale Assisted Living on Dickinson Ave, Greenville.

You may consider memorial contributions to The Humane Society of Eastern Carolina, 3520 Tupper Dr, Greenville, NC 27834 or to The Paralyzed Veterans of America, PO Box 758532, Topeka, KS 66675-8532.

Arrangements by Smith Funeral Service & Crematory, Greenville. Online condolences may be expressed at [smithfhcs.com](http://smithfhcs.com).

**BASS**

Continued from 1A

tion, Knighton said, "Captain Bass shares your vision for safe neighborhoods and has pledged to work closely with the Planning & Inspections Department to help with Code Enforcement efforts."

She said Bass is excited about working with the Fire Department captains and all the town's firefighters on ways to prevent or mitigate the risks Edenton's firefighters are exposed to and he is looking to expand fire prevention education initiatives in the schools and throughout the community.

"I am so pleased to be appointing a Fire Chief who has

worked his way up the career ladder within the Edenton Fire Department," Knighton said. "Bass has the training and skills to manage the Fire Department and he has the enthusiasm to help people, which is Edenton Fire Department's mantra, and I think he is going to be a great addition to the Town Leadership Team."

Bass' official start date as captain will be Jan. 16. A formal swearing in ceremony will be held in early February, Knighton said.

A life-long resident of Edenton, Bass and his wife Jennifer have three daughters - Lauren, Natalie and Kinnan. Jennifer, also born and raised in Edenton, is an educator with Washington County Schools.

**STALLINGS**

Continued from 1A

As a 45-year resident of Edenton, Stallings hopes to continue to do his part to help the town thrive.

"There have been successes, for which I can thank my counterparts on the council. We have also struggled with adversity with Hurricane Isabel and the economic recession of 2008," he said. "Currently, through educational enhancement and selective law enforcement, we

are waging war against opioids and other drugs which cripple our youth, undercut our unemployment rate and threaten our quality of life."

If elected mayor, Stallings hopes to continue the "quest to make Edenton even better ... by lifting Edenton to a level in which we can all be proud."

At the end of video, about 80 of Stallings' supporters helped him urge voters to allow him help Edenton and its residents "move forward together."

The election is in November.

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 residents who are interested in being appointed to fill upcoming vacancies on various boards and commissions are encouraged to fill out an application. Vacancies currently exist on the Board of Adjustment, Planning Board and Tree Committee. Applications are available at the Town Hall or at [www.townofedenton.com](http://www.townofedenton.com).  
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The Family of Gary Farmer, Sr. would like to thank our great community for the outpouring of love showed to us during our great loss. Thank you to each who called, brought food, sent flowers, visited and prayed for us. We are so blessed by you all!  
 Family of,  
**Gary Farmer, Sr.**

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