



AS I SEE IT

Bruce Barton

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STORYTELLING WORKSHOP

sponsored by the Lumbee River Fund

Friday, November 30, 2001
3:00-5:00 pm

Indian Education Resource Center, Pembroke, NC



A Tribute to the Life of Mrs. Flora "Margaret" Oxendine Sampson

November 22, 1913-September 10, 2001

Ms. Margaret began her earthly journey on November 22, 1913. She was born in the Saddletree Community where she lived until the family moved to Pembroke. She was the fourth of eleven children born to the union of Joseph and Mary Magdalene Locklear Oxendine. She attended Pembroke Graded School and Cherokee Indian Normal School. Ms. Margaret earned a two year teaching degree. She later received her Bachelor of Science in education from Pembroke State College for Indians.

She was married to the late Edwin Sampson. They were married for 40 years before his death in 1978, and she has remained his widow for twenty-three years. She and Edwin had two daughters: Barbara Ann and Bonnie Gail.

Barbara, their first born, has three children: John (Pete), Teresa (Sissy) and Brandi. Barbara is married to Bruce Barton who has been a wonderful son-in-law and PaPa. Grandson Pete is married to Lori and has two children, Little John and Mallorie. Granddaughter Sissy is married to Roger Willie and has two children, Seattle and Jodi.

Bonnie, the second child born to Margaret and Edwin, has three children, Tyra, Margo and Edwin (Little Man).

Ms. Margaret was actively involved in her church. She was a member of the First Methodist Church in Pembroke. She attended Deep Branch Baptist Church for many years where she taught the Young Married People's Sunday School Class. She later went to Tabernacle Baptist Church where she attended for thirty years. She was actively involved in the GA's at Tabernacle Baptist Church.

She began her teaching career in 1934 at Ashpole Center where she taught for two years. She then moved to Pembroke Elementary School where she taught for nine years and from there taught at Deep Branch Elementary School for thirteen years. Her last years in the classroom were spent at Union Elementary School where she taught for seventeen years. Her years in the classroom spanned over forty years. During these years she touched the lives of many young people. She made a difference in their lives by making a difference in the way they felt about school, life, and more importantly how they felt about themselves. She had a unique way of making everyone feel special. Many of her former students have expressed their fond memories of feeling like they were special to "Ms. Margaret."

She evidently knew that "children don't care what you know, but they need to know that you care."

Thank You Note

We thank you for sharing the celebration of the life of our Mother.

We struggle to find words that can appropriately express our deep appreciation to so many who have ministered to our family during our other's sickness and our time of sorrow. Your words of condolence and your acts of kindness have meant so much to each of us. I John 4:11 says "Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another." We have certainly felt your love and friendship during this time of sorrow. Our prayer is that the God of love and peace will be with you and your family.

It would be impossible to personally name all of the people who have meant so much to us during this special time. However, we would like to extend a very Special Thanks to Dr. Joseph Roberts. Dr. Roberts showed a tremendous amount of compassion in his tireless efforts to make our mother as comfortable and pain free as possible. It is our prayer that God will strengthen him and enable him to provide that same compassion to other patients for many years to come.

We would also like to ask God's blessings on the following very special women: Mary Cummings, Anessa Locklear, Brenda Gillespie, the Ladies of Tabernacle Baptist Church who provided services to our Mother each Sunday morning.

Thank you,
Barbara Barton, Bonnie Sampson and all the family

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Grandmother

by Brandi Nakell Barton

My grandmother, Mrs. Margaret Sampson, is a wonderful person. She is one of the most influential people in my life. My grandmother has taught me a lot about how a person should conduct themselves in this life. She is a wonderful role model for me and all those who come in contact with her.

My grandmother is beautiful to me. She has gray hair, blue eyes, and wears eyeglasses. She is medium size and looks much younger than her real age of 82. She has aged very well and, in my opinion, looks no older than 65 or 70. Grandma is a Lumbee Indian and is a beautiful, brown-skinned woman. Her legs are what gives her away as far as age is concerned. She walks with a noticeable limp because she has arthritic knees. My cousins and I kid her about how she walks. We often laugh with her (not at her) about her funny walk. We tell her she wiggles like a duck when she walks around the room. She does not get mad at us for kidding her and laughs with us. She is fun to be around. Grandmother is also short, even shorter than I am. Grandmother is five feet and one inch tall, that is four inches shorter than I am. Grandmother is short but she is not fat. She looks just like a grandmother should look to me. My grandmother also has a problem with her throat and sometimes it is difficult to understand her when she talks. When she talks, she has a habit of looking at you directly in the eyes. She then folds her hands around her body as she talks to you. Another characteristic of my grandmother is the fact that she mostly wears jogging pants, a sweatshirt, and a hat when she goes out in public these days. She only dresses up if she is going to church, a funeral, or a wedding. Grandmother claims to be very cold natured. We have to have a blanket for her when she visits us.

My grandmother is a Christian. I know she is a Christian mostly because of the way she treats me. She is sweet, gentle, kind and honest. Grandmother hardly ever gets mad and most of the time is very calm. She is a good influence on me, and keeps me from losing control of myself and my feelings. Once when I was having a problem with my boyfriend, I talked to my grandmother about it and she gave me very good advice. She said that a boyfriend ought to make me feel better about myself, not worse. I found out that was good advice later on. Grandmother also believes we ought to go to church on a regular basis. She has set a good example for me by living her Christian life before me. She is a member of Tabernacle Baptist Church (about halfway between Lumberton and Pembroke) and is loved by everyone there. She used to teach Sunday School until her legs and her throat slowed her up. She still goes to church just about every Sunday. If my grandma can get up on Sunday morning and go to church, then the rest of us ought to be able to do the same thing.

My grandmother is also a very honest person. She believes truth is the best policy and loves to tell us that "you won't have to remember a lie if you will tell the truth." My family has a lot of confidence in my grandmother, or "granny" as we like to refer to her. I am proud to be grandma's granddaughter. She has six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She is always there to baby-sit for us or to nurse us when we are feeling bad. Granny is also easy to talk to. She is a good listener too. I know she loves me. She shows me in many ways, for instance, she always has a smile for me and a nice word when I see her every morning and every evening. She is not very critical and helps me when I am sad and not sure of myself.

My grandmother and I spend a lot of time together. She lives next door to us and I see her in the morning before I leave for school, and I visit her as soon as I return home from school. My day seems to go better if I see her every day. She is my recipe for a good day.

Granny is the center of my life and the center of our family. Everyone in the family looks up to her for advice and love. Every girl needs a loving grandmother like mine. I remember once when we went to an ice cream shop together. There was just the two of us. We had a wonderful time together. She shared with me some of the experiences of her childhood. She told me that every little girl should spend sometime with their grandmother. She remembered special occasions with her grandmother too. She made me feel very special and I will always remember that special time together in Lumberton when grandma and I visited the ice cream shop and talked about her childhood and my dreams for the future. Grandma loves birthdays too. Our family has more birthdays than anyone else; at least it seems that way to me. It seems that we are sharing a birthday just about every Sunday after church. I believe we received our love for birthdays, and other happy occasions, from grandma.

A grandmother is a very special person. I wish everyone could experience the joy of having a grandmother like mine. She is sweet, kind, and gentle. She listens well and she loves me very much. She makes me feel very special. I guess that is what grandmothers do; they make us feel special! So, whether I call her "grandmother," "grandma" or "granny," she is all the same to me. She is special!

Written April 22, 1996

SRMC Foundation Volunteers Ready to "Take it to the Top!"

Retired physician Bob B. Andrews has a big job ahead of him. Nevertheless he feels confident that with hard work and the help of his volunteer team, together they can take it to the top!

Andrews is the chairman of the Southeastern Regional Medical Center Foundation Capital Campaign to raise \$3 million to help in the funding of SRMC's largest construction project since the original building was opened in 1953. He announced the goal at a news conference held on the morning of Nov. 8 and restated it again that evening at a pep rally for the volunteers.

He also announced that the campaign had raised \$1.9 million from within the SRMC family, including board members, physicians and employees. "This amount speaks more than words can about the overwhelming support this project has generated," he said. "Based on the generosity we have seen so far, we have no doubt that we will be able to reach our goal."

The building project will feature a state-of-the-art, six-story Patient Bed Tower as well as major renovations and expansion of existing facilities. Current semiprivate and ward rooms will be replaced by 136 large, private rooms and adjoining private baths. Ground breaking for the new tower was held on Sept. 24. Altogether the new buildings, expansions and renovations will total \$50 million.

Andrews noted that for only the second time in its history, SRMC is reaching out to the community it serves to ask for help in completing a project vital to the health care of the region. Back in 1960, the hospital raised \$250,000 for a \$1 million project to add a new wing.

He added that the original plans called for the completion of only four floors of the new patient tower, but with the capital campaign goal of \$3



Dr. Bob Andrews (center) introduces key SRMC Foundation volunteers, from left, Jim Byrne, Randall Jones, Andrews, W. C. Washington, and Katrina Locklear.

million, funding will be there "to top the tower" and complete floors five and six.

Also serving on the campaign's steering committee are: John Barker, president of Triangle Ice Company; Faye Caton, a community leader; Dr. Boyd B. Gasque Jr., diagnostic radiologist and president of the SRMC Medical Staff; Katrina Locklear, retired educator and community leader; Randy Rust, local businessman and chairman of the SRMC Board of Trustees; Horace Stacy Jr., local attorney and chairman of the SRMC Foundation; W. C. Washington, owner of Washington's Men's Store and board member; and SRMC President/CEO Luckey Welsh.

The campaign has been organized to reach all the major segments of the community. Orthopedic surgeon Dixon Gerber heads up the medical staff division; businessman Coble D. Wilson Jr. chairs the advanced lead-

Dear Editor,

In his Nov. 8 letter, "Native Americans were first to suffer from biological warfare," Arvis Locklear Boughman made a point I have not read in any other news publication, seen in T.V. news coverage, nor heard on the radio, although I have read the account in recorded history. Mr. Boughman wrote: "Smallpox was used in biological warfare against our people 200-300 years ago. The Smallpox epidemic or plague (whatever our people called it) killed not 3, 5 or even 100 as anthrax has done in Washington, D. C., Florida, and New York, but killed millions of American Indian people in North Carolina. Over 70% of our people (entire tribes) were wiped out." How did this happen? "Smallpox infected blankets were intentionally given to our Native American ancestors, brothers, and sisters (taken from individuals suffering from smallpox) to further annihilate the Native American population."

Besides Mr. Boughman's excellent point, there is another interesting parallel between our European ancestor's treatment of the Native Americans, and our current dilemma. In a recent videotaped message made in Afghani-

stan, in which Afghanistan was not mentioned even once, Osama bin Laden warned that there would be no peace in the United States until there was peace in Palestine. Currently, there is no peace in Palestine because the Israelis are continually encroaching on Arab land, the way our European ancestors encroached on Native American Land. Americans wonder why Arabs hate us so much, and why the al-Qaida terrorist network attacked America. Why did the terrorist target the symbols of the Untied State's economic and military might? Simple, because the United States has given Israel over three billion dollars per year for over fifty years, and Israel has used an undetermined amount of that over one hundred and fifty billion dollars to finance the "ethnic cleansing" of Arabs from their homeland. Let any Americans who offer the argument that the Jews may have owned Palestine first, give their land back to the descendants of the Native Americans who owned this land first, before they offer it.

Think about it, please!
Robert C. Currie Jr.

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The most-visited house museum is Elvis Presley's Graceland, in Memphis, Tennessee. It's seen by more than 600,000 people per year.

FALL REVIVAL

West Robeson United Methodist Church will be holding their Fall Revival November 25-27. The service will begin at 7 p.m. nightly with a supper to be held at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend.