

Area Deaths and Funerals

MR. CLAY LEE HOWARD

Mr. Clay Lee Howard, 85, of Turner's Nursing Home died Sunday, Aug. 21, at Forsyth Memorial Hospital.

He was born in Statesville to the late Edward and Mary Smith Howard and had lived in Winston-Salem for about 50 years. He was a member of Beulah Baptist Church, where he was a member of the Deacon Board.

He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Ethel Bond of Richmond, Va.; one son, Mr. James Willie McKinnon of Winston-Salem; one sister, Mrs. Marie Wilkes of Statesville; three grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; one daughter-in-law, Mrs. Bernice McKinnon of Winston-Salem; one son-in-law, Mr. Clovis Bond of Richmond; one brother-in-law, Mr. Hubert Wilkes of Statesville; many nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Services were held at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 24, at Beulah Baptist Church, with the Rev. John T. Miller officiating. Burial followed in Evergreen Cemetery.

Johnson-Howard-Robinson Home of Memory was in charge of the funeral arrangements.

MR. EDWIN P. BROWN III

Edwin "Winn" Pierce Brown III of 2724 Henry St. died Tuesday, Aug. 23, in Watford, England. A native of Raleigh, he was a former resident of Augusta and lived in France and England for two years. He was a member of Aldersgate United Methodist Church and a graduate and National Merit Finalist of Westtown School in Westtown, Pa. He was a graduate of Wake Forest University.

He was a member of the Exchange Club of Richmond County and was a graduate of Leadership Augusta. He served on the Board of Parks and Recreation Department for Richmond County, Riverfront Augusta Project and was an active member of the Rowing Regatta Committee. He was listed in Outstanding Young Men of America in 1983.

He was active several years in real estate as a broker for Blanchard and Calhoun. In 1986, he became affiliated with Montpelier International Real Estate Development Co. of Bath, England.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin and Anne Brown of Augusta; a sister, Ms. Anne Heath Moss of Augusta; a brother, Mr. Mark Shields Brown of Atlanta; several other relatives and friends.

A memorial service was held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 26, at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, with the Revs. Grady Wigley and John Oliver officiating. Burial was in Westover Memorial Park.

Elliott Sons Funeral Home was in charge of the funeral arrangements.

MRS. OGLATHER STELLA McEACHIN

Mrs. Oglather Stella McEachin of 1112 Peachtree St. died Friday, Aug. 19, at Forsyth Memorial Hospital. She was a native of Laurinburg and had lived in Winston-Salem for 13 years. She was a Baptist.

She is survived by one daughter, Ms. Annie Jordan of the home; seven grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Ms. Nettie McCall of Washington and Ms. Fannie McNeil of Laurinburg; one son-in-law, Mr. John H. Jordan of the home; one sister-in-law, Ms. Emma B. McLaurin of Laurinburg; one brother-in-law, Mr. Lacey Blue; several other relatives and friends.

Services were held at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 23, at Clark S. Brown and Sons Funeral Home, with Minister Wilbur Pankey officiating. Burial followed in Piedmont Memorial Gardens. Clark S. Brown and Sons was in charge of the funeral arrangements.

MR. WILLIE EARL McCANDIES

Mr. Willie Earl McCandies, 57, of Lexington died Saturday, Aug. 27, at his home. He was a member of Ezekiel AME Zion Church, where he was a member of the Steward Board. McCandies was an employee of the Carolina Panel Co.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Madie H. McCandies of the home; one daughter, Mrs. Willie R. Abney of High Point; one son, Mr. Kenneth E. McCandies of Winston-Salem; one sister, Mrs. Lillie Mae Harris of Jamaica, N.Y.; two brothers, Mr. Coy McCandies Jr. and Mr. James Franklin of Lexington; six grandchildren; three stepgrandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one aunt, Mrs. Alfreda Kooz of Lexington; many other relatives and friends.

Services were held at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 30, at Ezekiel AME Zion Church, with the Rev. J.L. Shaw officiating. Burial followed in Lexington City Cemetery. Gilmore Funeral Directors was in charge of the funeral arrangements.

MR. HILDRED LEE BOSTON

Mr. Hildred Lee Boston, 24, of 3722 Prospect Drive died Monday, Aug. 22, at Forsyth Memorial Hospital. A native of Winston-Salem, he was the son of the late Mr. John Henry Spencer and Mrs. Mary Boston Spencer. He attended Carver High School and was employed as a security guard at the Aladdin Club and Fowler-Jones Construction Co. He was a Baptist.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Mary Boston Spencer of the home; two children, Ms. Ciera Boston and Ms. Kiera Parker Boston; six sisters, Ms. Cynthia Jeter, Ms. Mattie Boston, Ms. Christine Boston, Ms. Terri Boston, Ms. Bridgette Boston and Ms. Curjorie Sales; seven brothers, Mr. John Henry Caesar, Mr. Aururio Caesar, Mr. Johnny Boston, Mr. Reginald Boston, Mr. Timothy Boston, Mr. Victor Boston and Mr. Larry Boston; nine aunts; one uncle; several nieces, nephews, cousins, many other relatives and friends.

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said, have labeled Catholics the anti-Christ. He said Catholics are listed right behind Afro-Americans and just ahead of Jews on the Ku Klux Klan's hate list. As recently as a few weeks ago, Father Gaunt said, he received a telephone call from a resident of King, where a new Catholic church is opening. He said the caller welcomed him to King and then proceeded to say that he "knew who we were and what we were up to."

Being such a small number within a large faith, some wonder whether Afro-Americans have truly been able to assimilate into the Catholic faith and whether they experience racism within the church structure and from church members. Mrs. Douthit said that she personally has not experienced any kind of racial discrimination within the Catholic Church. If there is any type of discrimination, she said, it is sexual.

"It's more of a sexual issue than a racial issue," she said. "I just don't see that race has been an issue. We're still waiting to see some female altar attendants. But I don't see a racial problem. I feel at home

in the Catholic Church." Mrs. Douthit also scoffed at the notion that Afro-Americans who attend a church whose congregation is largely white, lose touch with their spiritual roots and the spiritual tradition of the Afro-American church.

"You only get out of something what you put in," she said. "We may not sing Negro spirituals as much, but if you put yourself into church you make it what you want it to be. I don't feel that I lose touch with my roots or my heritage because I go to a Catholic church. The world is not predominantly black. You have to search to stay in touch with your roots. I don't see the church as being any different."

Mrs. Douthit said also that many people who have Catholic friends are confused when they see them going to church in jeans or pants. Then they are further puzzled when they see them go to church during the week and when they stay for maybe only 45 minutes to an hour. Too few people, she said, take the time to find out why these things are acceptable in the Catholic Church, opting instead to

draw incorrect conclusions.

"We don't draw lines and say 'well, you're black so you have to go to this Catholic Church, and you're white so you have to go to this Catholic Church.' That's what's unique about our Church. It doesn't matter what side of town you live on or what color you are, you can go to any Catholic church in the city," she said. "The manner of dress is not important. The point is just to get to Mass. It's just an hour so there are no excuses to miss Mass."

Mrs. Douthit, who finds it amusing to be considered a "Black Catholic," is not comfortable with the labels that are attached to her just because of the church she attends.

"I'm black and I'm Catholic. So what?," she asked, laughing. "The important thing is to stay in touch with your roots and that's an individual and personal responsibility. It has nothing to do with the church I choose to attend. ... I would like to see the Church open its doors to communion for everyone. That's a reaching out in extending the peace of Christ. We're all worshipping one higher being."

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