

OBITUARIES

Russell
Funeral Home
822 Carl Russell Ave.
722-3459

FRANKLIN

Mrs. Etta Tate Franklin, Winston-Salem, passed away June 12 at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

She was 96 years old and had led a very active life until her health began to fail her in the past year.

Mrs. Franklin was born on Nov. 30, 1909, in Blacksburg, S.C.; however, she spent most of her adult life in Winston-Salem. She was the daughter of Mr. Andy and Mrs. Sudie Tate and was one of 11 children. Mrs. Franklin was preceded in death by her parents; her only child, Mr. John Howard Tate Jr.; her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Elizabeth Tate; and her sisters and brother. She was also preceded in death by several grandchildren.

Mrs. Franklin was well-known throughout the Winston-Salem community. She held several jobs during her lifetime, including employment at Kate Biting Reynolds Memorial Hospital as a nurse's assistant and employment at the Goodwill Rehabilitation Center, where she taught children how to cook. For 29 years, Mrs. Franklin was also employed by the School Guard Unit of the Winston-Salem Police Department, from which she retired with a stellar record at the age of 80.

A devoted member of Goler Metropolitan AME Zion Church, Mrs. Franklin not only attended church regularly, but also was very active in her church. She was a member of the Usher Board for more than 60 years and faithfully attended the Wednesday noon prayer service until her health failed her. She was also a member of the church's Gospel Choir. In addition, Mrs. Franklin could be depended on to cook delicious meals for special occasions in the kitchen of the church.

Mrs. Franklin was a charter member and the first president of the New Carver Community Club, a position she held for more than 50 years. Before her health declined, she was also an active member of the Y Activities Club and participated in the sewing class held in the Carl Russell Center sponsored by the city's Recreation Department.

Left to cherish her memories are: her husband of 60 plus years, Mr. Natus W. Franklin of the home; great-granddaughters, Ms. Rebecca Tate of the home and Ms. Elaine Henry of San Bernardino, Calif.; a special great-great-granddaughter, Ms. Raquel Aaron of San Bernardino, Calif.; and a special niece, Mrs. Mattie Mae Ashford of Winston-Salem. Also surviving are one grandchild, Mr. Arthur Tate of Los Angeles, Calif.; 13 great-grandchildren; and 13 great-great-grandchildren. Mrs. Franklin will also be remembered by a host of other nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

The funeral was held June 21 at noon at Goler Metropolitan AME Zion Church. Rev. William Conrad officiated. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery. Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

GEE

Mrs. Betty Jean Thompson Gee, 2614 Cole Road, Winston-Salem, passed away June 17 at Forsyth Medical Center.

Born in Winston-Salem, she was the daughter of Harriet L. Thompson and Eddie Thompson. Mrs. Gee attended Bethlehem Baptist Church, where she was a member of the senior choir. She was employed by Forest Park Elementary School. She was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Louise Thompson; and a brother, Ezell Thompson.

She is survived by: a devoted husband, Johnnie Gee; three children, Shelia W. Thompson, Elaine C. Williams and Erik K. Williams; four stepchildren, Deborah Pratt, Sharon Brown, Johnnie Gee and Darnell Gee; 15 grandchildren; a sister, Cordelia Hairston; a brother, Tyrone Thompson; a devoted friend, Ms. Louise Harden; and many devoted nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. The family wishes to thank the staff of Ninth West Tower at Forsyth Medical Center for the care given to Mrs. Gee.

The funeral was held June 22 at 2 p.m. at Bethlehem Baptist Church. Rev. Dwight Hash officiated. Burial followed at Piedmont Memorial Gardens. Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

GUESS

Ms. Shirley Duncan Guess, 1943 Kentucky Ave., Winston-Salem, passed away June 17 at her residence.

She was a lifelong resident of Winston-Salem, where she attended the public schools. She was a retired employee of K&W Cafeterias of more than 20 years. She was born to Mrs. Catherine H. Williams and Mr. Robert Duncan. She was preceded in death by her mother, Mrs. Catherine H. Williams; birth father, Mr. Robert Duncan; stepfather, Mr. Elsworth G. Williams Sr.; two daughters, Ms. Debbie D. Thomas and Miss Crysanthia E. Guess; two brothers, Mr. James O. Houston and Mr. John W. Williams.

She is survived by: three daughters, Miss Sherian Gillespie, Mrs. Cynthia (Roderick) Guess-Godwin, Miss Toni Guess; one son, Mr. Thelton Guess Jr.; four sisters, Mrs. Marilyn W. Page, Mrs. Peggy A. (Steve) Grooms, Ms. Lessie L. Williams, Mrs. Teresa L. (Billie) Brown; five brothers, Mr. Melvin Williams, Mrs. Elsworth (Helen) Williams Jr. of Wilmington, Del., Mr. Nathaniel (Vera) Williams, Mr. Fred L. (Valerie) Williams of Richmond, Va., Mr. Larry D. (Debra) Williams of South Carolina; nine grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; a host of nieces and nephews, great-nieces and -nephews, great-great-nieces and -nephews, other relatives and many friends.

The funeral was held on June 23 at 1 p.m. at Calvary Hill Church of Greater Deliverance. Bishop Claude Turner officiated. Burial followed at the family plot of Parklawn Memorial Gardens. Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

ROBINSON

Mr. Thomas Junius Robinson, 1900 W. First Street, Winston-Salem, passed away June 13 at Winston-Salem Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center.

He was born Dec. 7, 1927, in Richmond, Va. He is survived by: his wife of 35 years, Frances Robinson; a stepson, the Rev. Jerry L. (Lozette) Williams Sr.; a stepdaughter, Yvonne W. Jackson of Winston-Salem.

The funeral was held June 19 at 11 a.m. at Mount Zion Baptist Church. Rev. Bonnie Lacey officiated.

Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

SAMUELS

Deacon William Johnson Samuels, 2335 Fosterdale Lane, Winston-Salem, passed away June 18 at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

Deacon Samuels, the eldest son of Fred and Alice Samuels, was born April 9, 1928, in Winston-Salem. William was educated in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County public schools and later went into the U.S. Army and served in the Korean War. Upon returning home he worked in various occupations, retiring from the National Cash Register Co.

Williams was a member of the Cassanovas and the Royal Sons Gospel Quartet. He renewed his relationship with God at Macedonia Worship Center, where he served on the Deacon Board and in the Senior

Choir and the Male Chorus.

William was preceded in death by his parents, Fred and Alice Samuels; two wives, Alease Samuels and Aloise Samuels; and his grandson, Zakee Samuels.

He leaves to cherish his memory: a loving and devoted wife, Elder Mary H. Samuels; three children, Evangelist Carlotta (Andrew) Fleming, Ronnie (Beverly) Samuels and William Gregory (Bobbie) Samuels; five stepchildren, Denise W. (Greg) Bradsher, Maxwell (Precious) Wagner, Taneka and Kenyetta Hardy and Tammy (Everette) Norwood; a sister, Mattie Samuels; two brothers, Tommy (Polly) Samuels of Richmond, Va., and Nolan Samuels of Winston-Salem; a host of other relatives and friends.

The funeral was held June 22 at 2 p.m. at Macedonia Worship Center. Apostle S.D. Johnson officiated. Burial followed at Piedmont Memorial Gardens. Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

WILLIAMS

Mr. Joseph Williams Jr., 328 E. 17th Street, Winston-Salem, passed away June 16 at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

Joseph was born Jan. 26, 1950, to Elizabeth Robinson Williams and Joseph Williams Sr. Joseph attended the Darlington County schools and retired from Thomasville Furniture Co. after 15 years of service. He was a man of all trades, enjoying auto mechanics, mowing, painting and home repairs. He also loved to bowl. He was preceded in death by his father, Joseph Williams Sr., and a nephew, Herbert Brown.

He leaves to cherish his memories: his wife, Loletta Williams; seven children, David (Rhonda) Williams, Lorenzo (Valerie) Williams, Antwan Williams, Darrell Saunders, Antonio Nicholson, LaTonya (Antonio) Brock and Derricka Nicholson, all of Winston-Salem; 17 grandchildren; his dear mother, Elizabeth Williams of Winston-Salem; six sisters, Betty Johnson, Janie Brown, Martha Reynolds, Judy (William) Pratt, Christine Williams, Elvira Robinson, all of Winston-Salem; three brothers, McArthur Williams, Lyndell Williams, Randolph Williams, all of Winston-Salem; four uncles and four aunts; two brothers-in-law, Ricky Crawford of Detroit, Mich., and Dale Cash of Winston-Salem; three sisters-in-law, Jonie Nicholson, Sandra Nicholson and Andrea (Minister June) Rowdy, all of Winston-Salem; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives and friends.

The funeral was held June 21 at 3 p.m. at Genesis World Outreach Center. Bishop Claude D. Thomas officiated. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery. Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

WILLIAMS

Ms. Mary Elizabeth "Plunk" Williams, 5680 Windy Hill Drive, Winston-Salem, passed away June 16 at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center.

She was born on Sept. 17, 1922, in Winston-Salem and attended Union Baptist Church. She was an avid traveler, member of the Piney Grove Senior Citizen Group and the Daughter of the Garden of Iris Temple, #220, I.B.P.O.E.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Beatrice Williams and Daniel Poole and a brother, Frank Williams.

She leaves to cherish her memory: two daughters, Ciesta W. Funderburk of Winston-Salem and Judith Williams "Tiny" of Brooklyn, N.Y.; six grandchildren, Sherman (Rosa), Audrey, Keith Funderburk, Sylvia (Charles) Bethea and Regina and Reginald Funderburk; a beloved and treasured grandson, Ah'King Williams; 12 great-grandchildren, 13 great-great-grandchildren; a loving cousin, Nimrod Harris of Clinton, Md.; and her care-giver, Carrie Lee Thompson.

The funeral was held June 21 at 1 p.m. at Union Baptist Church. Rev. Dr. Sir Walter Mack Jr. officiated. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery. Russell Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

CLARK S. BROWN & SONS FUNERAL HOME

727 N. Patterson Ave.
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101
(336) 722-8117

COWAN

Mrs. Emma C. Robinson, of 1156 Addison Ave., sadly announces the home-going of her oldest daughter, Ms. Lee Ethel Robinson Cowan of the home. Ms. Cowan passed away quietly on June 15 at the Moutos family's residence, her employer. She had an administrative background and graduated from Forsyth Technical Community College. She also attended the University of Texas at El Paso and studied history and business. She taught in the El Paso Public School System.

She is survived by: her mother; two sisters, Marcella Robinson and Cathany Robinson, all of the city; nephew, Kevin L. Robinson; niece, Princess L. Parks; great-nephews, Delmaro Parks, Trosean Richardson and Josh Howard; great-niece, Jewell Robinson; a devoted friend, Phebe Joyner of Rocky Mount, N.C.; other relatives and friends.

A memorial service was held June 21 at 10 a.m. at Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home Chapel. Rev. Samuel Cornelius officiated. Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

FEIMSTER

Mrs. Annie Mae Feimster, 9902 A. Gates Street, Fort Drum, N.Y., went on to be with the Lord June 1 at Kate B. Reynolds Hospice Home in Winston-Salem.

She was born Aug. 23, 1917, in Asheville, N.C. to the late Harvey and Mary Johnson. She was the wife of the late William Howard Feimster.

She is survived by: her son, O'Neil Durant of Macon, Ga., and four daughters, Barbara (David) Jones and Carolyn Crouch of Asheville, Cheryl (Ronald) Brides of California City, Calif., and Inza (Albert) Downing of Fort Drum, N.Y. She was blessed to enjoy 10 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren in various states around the United States.

The funeral was held June 4 at noon at Bethania AME Zion Church. Rev. Johnny Ruff officiated and Chaplain Major Albert L. Downing gave the eulogy. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery. Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

HAYWOOD

Mr. Berkley R. Haywood of 225 Barber Street, went to be with the Lord on May 24 at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center. He attended Forsyth County Public schools and retired from the WS/FC School System after 25 years of service. Mr. Haywood was born on Jan. 13, 1941, in Winston-Salem to the late Jerry and Katherine Gadsden Haywood. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, Gerald P. Haywood, and sisters Millie Miller and Agnes Lanier.

He leaves to cherish his loving memories: his wife of 43 years, Evelyn L. Haywood of the home; a son, Berkley R. Haywood, Jr., of Tamuning, Guam; two sisters, Francis H. Gray and Betty Smith, both of Winston-Salem; three brothers, Jerry (Delicia) Haywood, Clyde Haywood, both of Winston-Salem, and Oscar (Juanita) Haywood of Lexington, N.C.; one grandson, Torez Black; one sister-in-law, Edna (Willie) Keitt of Brooklyn, N.Y.; four brothers-in-law, Elester Smith of Winston-Salem, Luther (Mary) Livingston of Plainfield, N.J., Roger

(Clayreather) Livingston and Edward (Justine) Livingston, both of Orangeburg, S.C.; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

The funeral was held May 29 at 2 p.m. at Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home Chapel. Rev. Dr. Frederick W. Perry officiated. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery. Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

SHELF

Mrs. Hattie Beard Shelf departed this life on May 30 at the Kate B. Reynolds Hospice Home.

Mrs. Shelf was born on Aug. 26, 1921, to the late Wiley and Edith Beard. She was a native of Winston-Salem and one of eight children, all of whom preceded her in death. She was a longtime member of Friendship Baptist Church, where she was a member of the missionary and Sunday school departments. She was also a member of the Carver Senior Citizens Club and Daughters of Isis. Mrs. Shelf was employed for many years at Summit School in Winston-Salem.

Remaining to honor her memory are: a devoted nephew, Samuel (Dixie) Shelf of Winston-Salem; two nieces, Edith (Alfred Ward) Beard and Nancy (Joe) Venable of Greensboro; devoted friends, Theodore McClennon, Janie Estes, Carintha Jordan, Hank and Ernestine Washington of Winston-Salem; and a host of other relatives and friends.

The funeral was held June 3 at 1 p.m. at Friendship Baptist Church. Rev. S.E. Tyndall officiated. Entombment followed at Parklawn Memorial Park and Mausoleum. Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.

YOUNG

Mr. Cozelle W. Young, of the Murdoch Center, Butler, N.C. was called to glory on June 15. Mr. Young was preceded in death by his parents, Jesse L. and Etta R. Young; sisters, Doris Y. McMurray and Ruth Y. Carter; and an aunt, Gertrude R. Woods.

He is survived by: a devoted niece, Glenda W. Cook; two brothers, John (Carol) Young and Lonnie R. Young, both of Winston-Salem; five aunts; three uncles; three nieces, Francena Hawkins, Cheryl (Samuel) McIlwain and Linda (Dr. Paul Lowe Jr.) Scales, all of Winston-Salem; four nephews, Bernard (Gloria) Scales Jr. Arthur Biting, John Young Jr. and Alphonzo Byrd, all of Winston-Salem; and many great nieces, nephews, cousins and devoted caretakers.

A graveside service was held June 19 at 1 p.m. at Evergreen Cemetery. Rev. J.D. Ballard officiated. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery. Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.



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VAUGHN

Lee Alma Henrietta Vaughn, 81, was called home June 19 from the Kate B. Reynolds Hospice & Palliative Care Center.

Ms. Vaughn was born March 5, 1923, and was the youngest daughter of William M. and Mammie (Fields) Vaughn.

Very early, her loving parents instilled in Lee Alma the importance of always putting God first in her life. With their guidance and support, Lee Alma dedicated her life to her God, her family and her community.

Lee Alma accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal savior at an early age. She was a devoted and faithful member of Grace Presbyterian Church (USA) in Winston-Salem. Until her declining health, she was an active member and served as a deacon and elder.

She received her elementary and high school education in the schools in Winston-Salem. She graduated from Barber Scotia Junior College in Concord, N.C., and in 1944, she obtained her B.S. degree in social studies and religious studies from Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte. She began her post-graduate studies at the University of Connecticut and received her master's degree in education from N.C. A&T State University in 1957.

While a student at Johnson C. Smith University, Lee Alma was one of 11 young women to charter the Gamma Lambda undergraduate chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. She was a founding member of the Oxford Henderson alumnae chapter and was active in the Winston-Salem alumnae chapter of her beloved sorority. In 2003 she achieved one of Delta Sigma Theta's highest milestones by receiving her lifetime membership status.

Following in her mother's footsteps, Lee Alma became an educator. She began her career teaching social studies and religion in both Burlington and Oxford, N.C. She returned to her native home of Winston-Salem to continue and eventually complete her teaching career. She retired in 1979, having imparted her appreciation of history and civics to countless high school students for 33 years. Her love of civics and citizenship extended beyond the classroom. For many years, voters in the 14th Street precinct observed her watchful eye as she worked the polls on Election Day.

In addition to her love of politics, Lee Alma enjoyed a good game of bridge. As a member of the Kings and Queens Bridge Club she traveled with club members and competed in and won many bridge tournaments. Even in her pastime in her later years, Lee Alma could be seen enjoying a good hand of solitaire.

Lee Alma was a devoted sister and aunt, raising her three nephews and providing guidance and support for their children. She enjoyed caring for them and spending time talking and listening to them when they would stay or visit.

Her love of extended family made Lee Alma a self-made historian, keeping a family tree of the descendants of the Vaughn family. Lee Alma and her family history were instrumental in organizing the first "Cousins" family reunion. Until her health prevented her, she continued to help plan and attend the annual reunion, which has been held in many states.

Lee Alma was preceded in death by her parents, William and Mammie; one brother, Robert Andrew; and two sisters, Angeline Bailey and Willie Mae Mullen.

She leaves to cherish her memory: two sisters, Ella Belle Tillman and Margaret V. Alexander, both of Winston-Salem; three devoted nephews, Mayor William Vaughn Bell (Judith) of Durham, Charles T. Hodges (Metter) of Charlotte and Cyrus W. Alexander III (Cecelia) of Nashville, Tenn.; five great-nieces, Tiffany Bell and Jade Hodges Ellerbe (Thomas), both of Charlotte, Anjanee and Kristen Bell, both of Durham, and Margaret Joi Alexander of Mt. Rainier, Md.; one grandniece, Janese Hodges of Charlotte; two great-nephews, William V. Bell II (Donna) and Brandon Hodges, both of Charlotte; special cousins and extended family, Haywood Vaughn, Mary Mitcham and Daisy Roddy of Winston-Salem and Gwendolyn Bell of Durham; and a host of other cousins, relatives and friends.

The funeral was held June 23 at 1 p.m. at Grace Presbyterian Church (USA). Rev. Samuel Stevenson officiated.

The Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Omega Service began at 12:15, followed by family visitation from 12:30 to 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to Grace Presbyterian Church.

The family wishes to acknowledge the staff at Oak Summit Nursing Center and the Kate B. Reynolds Hospice Care Home for the care and attention given to Lee Alma and her family and care-givers.

Hooper Funeral Home directors were in charge of the arrangements.