



Photo by Peeler

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRANTS - Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson Sr., second and third from right, hold gifts of gold wrist watches presented to them last

Saturday at reception by grandson Bryant Wilson. Others, left to right, are: John Wilson Jr., wife, Cora, and Silver Mount Baptist Church pastor Rev. W.F. Lee.

Wilson Celebrate Golden Anniversary

By James Peeler
Post Staff Writer

Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson, Sr., 71 and 66-years-old respectively, celebrated their GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY last Saturday, December 11, with a reception at the Greenville Community Center. The 7 until 10 p.m. affair was attended by approximately 150 relatives and friends.

The Reception in their honor was given by the couple's only son, John Wilson, Jr., his wife, Cora, and their children: Gail Feaster, 23; Bruce Scott Wilson, 21; Myrtle Annette Wilson, 17; Debora Elaine Wilson, 15; and Bryant Wilson, 8.

A program in honor of their 50 years of marriage included remarks from Rev. W.F. Lee, Mrs. Wilson's pastor at Silver Mount Baptist Church in Pineville, N.C.; a prayer and a song, "Just Keep On Praying," by Mrs. Willie Walker; remarks by Rev. T.R. Leak and his wife; the reading of a poem by their grandchild Gail Feaster; and a poem, written and read by their son John Wilson Jr.

The moving poem by their son:

"We Thank Almighty God,
For having brought us through.

He has worked unselfishly
for me as well as you.
For words I searched,
A few I did find.

To let you know,
what is on my mind.
For those of you that come,
It means you played a part.

I thank you all sincerely,
From the bottom of my heart.
To the couple that is honored,
They are the best I've had.

I congratulate them wholeheartedly,
My Mom and Dad.
Music for the occasion was
furnished by Silver Mount Baptist Church Choir.

Relatives attending the happy occasion included: George and Louise Wilson of Derita; Mr. and Mrs. George Bailey of Pineville, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Austin, Charlotte; Mr. and Mrs. Miles Barnette and son:

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Smith; Mrs. Marie Steele, Deloria Davison, and Daisy Cureton.

The Wilsons, who live at 1229 South Church Street, "Got lots of presents," according to their son, John Jr., whose son Bryant, presented the lovely couple gold wrist watches on behalf of his family.

Mr. Wilson is a member of Indian Hill AME Zion Church, Lancaster County, S.C. pastored by Rev. Clinton Stackhouse. He is a Class Leader, a member of the Vocal Choir, and former Chairman of the Trustee Board.

Mrs. Wilson is a member of Silver Mount Baptist Church, pastored by Rev. W.F. Lee. She is a member and Assistant Secretary of Humn Choir No. 1, and a member of Missionary Circle No. 2.

Mr. Wilson likes to hunt, sing, and watch baseball games - he is a former baseball player.

Mrs. Wilson likes to grow flowers, sew, and bake cakes and breads. According to her son, John Jr., "she baked 108 cakes one year."

Stevie Wonder's New Album Heads National Charts

After having been the first American artist's album to enter the best selling album trade chart in Billboard trade magazine at the number one position, Stevie Wonder's "Songs In The Key Of Life" has held that position for five consecutive weeks.

This accomplishment marks the longest maintained period that an album which entered the charts at the number one position has held it, topping the old record which was three weeks and held by European star, Elton John.

"Songs In The Key Of Life" also holds the number one spot on the other two music trade magazines - Cashbox and Record World.

Mrs. Bryant Awaits Ruling On Discrimination Case

RALEIGH - (CCNS) - Paul Keller, retiring Executive Director of the Johnston and Lee County Community Action Agency, and Mrs. Gloria Bryant, a former employee, are both awaiting the results of an investigation by the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission (EEOC). But each hopes for a different outcome. The investigation stems from events leading up to and including Mrs. Bryant's dismissal last December as Director of Community Development for the Agency, a post the young Black woman had held for seven years.

Specifically, Mrs. Bryant charges Keller and the Agency with having fired her, "in retaliation for my attempts to get a salary adjustment, which violates Section 704(a) of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964." Section 704(a) of Title VII makes it illegal to discriminate against any person because he or she has made a charge, testified, or participated in any manner in an investigation under Title VII. "I am seeking reinstatement with full back pay, damages and attorney's fees," said Mrs. Bryant, contacted at her home in Raleigh.

This story, as Gloria Bryant tells it, began back in April, 1975 when she learned quite by chance that several employees in her department, including herself, were being paid substantially less than "white males at the same rank and with the same experience." She wrote a confidential memo to her immediate superior, Deputy Director of the Agency Leon Penny, requesting "that the situation of the salary be adjusted in accordance with the principle of 'equal pay for equal work done.'" On November 13, 1975, the Board voted Mrs. Bryant a \$2000.00 a year raise. The next day, November 14, Mrs. Bryant recalled, "Leon Penny gave me my first bad performance evaluation in seven years."

Matters came to a head one month later on December 15, the day Mrs. Bryant was scheduled to receive her first pay check including the controversial raise. She received instead a check for the usual amount and a letter from Keller firing her without notice.

"I have no doubt that Keller harassed and fired me because I participated in the Board hearing," Mrs. Bryant asserted. "Everything points to the fact that it was retaliation for the issues I raised... Several times he (Keller) tried to force me into insubordination, but I sidestepped it and that made him angry."

Shortly thereafter Mrs. Bryant took her salary case to the Agency Board of Directors, asking that her salary be

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Bryant claimed, "violated my right to an immediate hearing." The Committee overruled Keller, recommending that she be reinstated but its report was not taken up by the Board of Directors until April, two months later. "This delay again denied me due process within the Agency's own remedies," Mrs. Bryant said.

Contacted in Charlotte, James Borden, EEOC investigator in charge of Mrs. Bryant's case said that he was "not permitted under law to discuss the status of the case," nor even to indicate when a final ruling might be made. If the EEOC rules against the Agency, then it is legally bound to go to court on Mrs. Bryant's behalf, but she indicated that she would go to court even if the EEOC decision went against her. "I feel very strongly about this issue," she said.

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CAKE MIXES 2.10 ANN PAGE