

Obituaries

Shrine club leader Donald Lee Willetts

Donald Lee Willetts, 53, died Wednesday, December 2, 1992, in New Hanover Regional Medical Center.
Born in Southport on September 18, 1939, he was a son of Harold and Elizabeth Willetts of Bolivia. He was a member of J. H. McCormick Lodge #874, A.F. & A.M., Mobile, Ala., the Sudan Temple Shrine, Brunswick County Shrine Club, the Royal Order of Jesters, past captain of Sudan Thunderbolts, past chairman of both the National Crippled Children's Golf Tournament and the Hundred Million Dollar Club. He was a U. S. Air Force veteran.

Survivors, in addition to his parents, include his wife, Becky S. Willetts of the home; two sons, Scott Willetts of Bolivia and Perry Willetts of Scotts Hill; a brother, William Harold (Bill) Willetts of Bolivia; a sister, Marsena Maschino of Bolivia; and a grandson, Brandon Scott Willetts.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Chapel of Brunswick Funeral Service, Shallotte, by the Rev. Avery Lumsden and Steve Norris. Burial was in the Willetts Cemetery, Winnabow, with Masonic rites accorded by Shallotte Lodge #727 A.F. & A.M.

Memorials may be made to the Sudan Temple Crippled Children's Fund, P. O. Drawer 490, New Bern, NC 28560.

Brunswick native Hollis Edison King

Hollis Edison King, 63, died Thursday, December 3, 1992, in a Columbia, S. C., hospital after an illness.

Funeral services were held Saturday in Waters-Powell Funeral Home Chapel. Burial was in Mount Hope Cemetery.

King was born in Brunswick County, a son of the late William Hardee and Mary Lee King. He was a veteran of the U. S. Army, serving during the Korean Conflict. King was employed with the Maintenance of Way Department of the Seaboard Coastline Railroad. He was a member of First Baptist Church and the Hampton Masonic Lodge.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Lois Anderson King of Florence, S. C.; two sons, Hollis Edison (Eddie) King, Jr., of Columbia and David Alan King of Florence; five sisters, Mrs. Edgar (Sarah) Little of Elizabethtown, Mrs. Tom (Lois) Rabon of Winnabow, Mrs. J. C. (Ann) Byrd, Mrs. James O'Neil (Margot) Richardson, and Mrs. E. L. (Eula Mae) Potter, all of Wilmington; and a grandson.

Mrs. Laura Roughton, 90, of Southport

Mrs. Laura Augusta Roughton, 90, of Southport, died Thursday, December 3, 1992, at Brunswick Cove Convalescent Center, Leland.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday at Peacock-Newnam Funeral Home with the Rev. Wayne Trexler officiating. Interment followed in Northwood Cemetery.

Serving as pallbearers were Walter Aldridge, George Washburn, A. F. Gavin, Lewis Hardee and O. W. Carrier.

Mrs. Roughton was born August 31, 1902, in Tyrrell County, a daughter of the late Alfred W. and Sadie West Barnes. She was a retired beautician, having worked for many years at Gilbert's Beauty Shop in Southport, a member of Southport Baptist Church, AARP, Southport Garden Club, and was a volunteer at Doshier Memorial Hospital and the flea market.

Survivors include a son, Edgar W. Roughton of Marietta, Ga.; a brother, Lee Barnes of Greenville; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Katherine Southard.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Southport Baptist Church Building Fund.

A Peacock-Newnam service.

Elsie K. Tansey, formerly of Ocean Trail

Mrs. Elsie Katoll Tansey, 96, formerly of Ocean Trail Convalescent Center, died Thursday, December 3, 1992, at Autumn Care of Shallotte.

Mrs. Tansey was born March 30, 1896, in Marinette, Wis., and moved to this area in 1985. She was a retired department store clerk and a member of the United Methodist Church in Marinette.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Audrey Szinkewicz of Spring Hill, Fla.; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

A Peacock-Newnam service.

Rites for Luna Harrison White of Denton

Luna Harrison White, 82, of Denton died on November 29, 1992, at Mountain Vista Health Park after a lengthy illness.

Mrs. White was born April 10, 1910, in Davidson County to Mose and Betty Cody Harrison. She was the retired co-owner of White's Tin Shop in Thomasville and was a member of Mount Zion Wesleyan Church and the Faithful Workers Sunday school class. She was married to Fred V. White, who died in 1979.

Mrs. White is survived by a son, Marion T. Fine of Yaupon Beach; a step-son, Charlie White of Welcome; three daughters, Ruth Fine Santomauro of Supply, Candi White and Dianne Hutchens, both of Denton; two brothers, Pat and Marvin Harrison, both of Lexington; a sister, Mrs. Oneal H. Smith of Lexington; four grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held November 30 at Mount Zion Wesleyan Church near Thomasville and burial followed at Mount Zion Wesleyan Church cemetery.

Sailor gets his sea legs back, learns about Smalltown USA

By Marybeth Bianchi
Feature Editor

Able to stand tall and sail off into the sunset, Don Johnson believes he has a lot to be thankful for this holiday season.

The 42-year-old dental technician from San Antonio, Texas, sold his business, bought a 30-foot catamaran and set sail November 10 from Maryland, headed southward along the Intracoastal Waterway.

Sailing down the Alligator River toward Beaufort he twisted his knee while attending the mainsail. The water was rough and a docking line slipped off the boat and became entangled in the propeller. As he worked to free the line, he strained his knee further.

"I guess I did the final insult to my

'I've been shown a lot of kindness, but nothing like this. Maybe I should have expected it. I was told ... the best thing was the people along the way.'

Don Johnson

knee," said Johnson, who at the time was unable to straighten his leg. After spending the night near Wrightsville Beach, he struggled to Southport Marina where he left his boat in search of medical attention. Dr. Keith Reschly referred him to orthopedic surgeon John Azzato.

"He examined my knee and said I'd need surgery," Johnson said.

The problem that faced the sailor is that in giving up his business he also gave up his health insurance coverage which would have paid for the operation.

Azzato offered to do the procedure at a minimal cost, but couldn't get the hospital to agree to do the same. Johnson was facing a bill of more than \$5,000.

That's the end of the trip, Johnson thought at the time. He figured he'd have to haul his boat out of the water and get back to work.

"I couldn't walk. I was hobbling around. I needed to have it done, but I didn't have the money. That's all there was to it," Johnson said.

As he weighed his options, Azzato showed up at his boat and said he had made arrangements at SurgCare in Wilmington so the arthroscopic surgery could be done on an outpatient basis at no cost to Johnson. He would only have to pay for the physician's work.

Driving a van borrowed from Azzato, Johnson headed to Wilmington the day before Thanksgiving, expecting to be back on the boat that night. The doctor, however, didn't

Hope Harbor 'gift'

A gift idea for that person who has everything is a donation that will help abused women and children in Brunswick County.

Donations in honor or in memory of an individual can be made in any amount to Home Harbor Home, P. O. Box 230, Supply, NC 28462.

A holiday card will be sent to the individual, or to the family of the individual, who is honored.



Dr. John Azzato (left) came to the rescue of an injured sailor, Don Johnson, and arranged for arthroscopic knee surgery at a reduced cost because he had quit his job to sail down the East Coast and was without health insurance. Johnson was surprised at the kindness Azzato and others have shown him.

think Johnson should spend the night alone, so the manager of the facility invited him to her home for Thanksgiving dinner with her family.

"The way I've been treated around here has been so phenomenal," Johnson said. "I've been shown a lot of kindness, but nothing like this. Maybe I should have expected it. I was told by the people in Solomon (Maryland) the best thing (about the trip) was the people along the way."

Rested and ready to sail on to Florida, where he plans to spend the winter and possibly settle down, Johnson admits the trip and his experiences are making him more philosophical about life.

"I've learned a lot. I've tried to become more kind myself and more trusting of strangers. Living in a big city like I did, you can miss a lot if you don't take that first step," he said.

"The only reason I got treatment was because Dr. Azzato arranged it. That's why I'm so grateful to him. If he hadn't been interested it wouldn't have happened."

A sailor himself, Azzato said he came to Johnson's aid "because the guy was changing course." After giving up his business to do something he always wanted to do, the former dental technician was reassessing his actions, wondering whether or not he had done the right thing.

"He was actually thinking of jumping back in the fire," Azzato said. To prevent that, the surgeon

found a way the sailor would keep on going.

"If I find a little town where I can leave the boat and find a job, I'd be happy," said Johnson, who hopes to have his girlfriend join him in Florida. "I don't mind living simply."

The Grape Vine
by Jim Hinkson

How to close a bottle of wine - settled hundreds of years ago - is open to question again because of problems with natural corks sometimes ruining good wine.

One California winery has started bottling some of its wines with a synthetic cork made of cellulose that looks like real cork: it can be imprinted and opens with a corkscrew. Another major winery is considering screw tops with plastic or nylon stoppers.

And in response to concern about lead residue from lead capsules around the corks, at least one Austrian winery is switching to plain paper capsules.

Something new on wine labels, first in Europe and then in the U.S., is "lot marking", indicating the wine's production lot. It's expected to ease recalls in case of occasional problems.

The new watchword in wine is "value" as vintners hope to widen the enjoyment of wine. Quality wines are priced between \$7 and \$10 are selling especially well.

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Views On Dental Health
Larry Hemby, D.D.S.

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If you have a tooth that should be crowned to save it, you will probably want your dentist to use the best and longest lasting material available as long as it's within your budget. One of the finest materials available is porcelain because of its strength and durability as well as its appearance. In one technique, porcelain is fused with a strong metal to increase its strength. Once in place, it can withstand the hardest biting forces without danger of fracturing.

A porcelain crown, as in all tooth crowning procedures, will require several visits to prepare the tooth and to fit the crown onto the restored tooth. Once the crown has been casted and the porcelain fused, it will be properly shaped and colored to match your other teeth to insure both a good match as well as good chewing efficiency. It should serve your needs well for many years, providing you maintain good oral hygiene habits at home and have regular dental checkups. If you need a tooth crowned, ask your dentist about the advantages of porcelain.

Prepared as a public service to promote better dental health. From the office of:
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The family of Annie Mae Watts is deeply appreciative of the friends who shared the loss of their beloved Mother, Grandmother, Friend and Director. We'll miss her love and guidance. Thanks to you all

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