

OBITUARIES



CLYDE McLEAN

Pioneer TV weathercaster Clyde McLean died at about 5:40 p.m. Aug. 12th in a Charlotte hospital after a lengthy battle against lung congestion and multiple diabetic complications. He was 61 years of age.

McLean had worked at WGNC in Gastonia, WIS in Columbia, S.C. and at WBT in Charlotte, before moving into WBT in 1951 as one of the first television weathercasters. Soon after, friends and fans affectionately dubbed him "Cloudy" McLean, he remained the Carolinas' best known TV weatherman until his 1981 retirement caused by health problems.

McLean was also widely respected for his versatility in on-air assignments for WBT and WBT, with duties which at times ranged from radio classical music program narration to country music shows on TV, and from auto racing to election returns and public affairs interviews.

McLean is survived by his wife, Barbara.

OSCAR McNEELY

Funeral services for Oscar Lee McNeely, 48, of Route 5, who died Saturday in Rutherfordton, were conducted Tuesday at 3 p.m. from New Camp Creek Baptist Church of which he was a member.

Rev. Herman Pendleton, Rev. George Leigh, and Rev. Scott Smith officiated and interment was in the church cemetery.

Mr. McNeely was a native of Cleveland County, a foreman with Champion Contracting Co.

Surviving are his parents, Roy and Floice Jolley McNeely of Shelby; his wife, Jenene Patterson McNeely; one son, Rickie Dean McNeely of Shelby; one daughter, Samantha McNeely of the home; two brothers, Buren McNeely of Kansas City, Mo. and James McNeely of Shelby; five sisters, Elsie Bridges, Myrtle McNeely and Lorene Beaver, all of Kings Mountain, Dot Robinson of Gastonia and Joyce Welch of Shelby.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

FLOYD T. PAYNE

Funeral services for Floyd Taylor Payne, 75, of 145 Ark St., who died Saturday in the Kings Mountain Hospital, were conducted Tuesday at 2 p.m. from the Chapel of Harris Funeral Home by Rev. Jessie Bailey and Rev. James Sanders, interment following in Grover Cemetery.

A native of Cherokee County, N.C., he was a retired textile supervisor and son of the late Bailey S. and Ethel Fleming Payne.

Surviving are his wife, Bernice Drinnon Payne; two sons, Gerald Payne of Kings Mountain and Harold Payne of Jacksonville, Fla.; two brothers, Bob Payne of Maryville, Tenn. and J.W. Payne of Grover; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was a member of Macedonia Baptist Church.

ROBERT H. LEWIS

Funeral services for Robert Hunter Lewis, 75, of Cherryville Highway, who died in Gaston Memorial Hospital Saturday, were held Monday at 2 p.m. from the Chapel of Sisk-Butler Funeral Home in Bessemer City.

Rev. Doug Painter officiated and interment was in Westview Gardens.

Mr. Lewis was a native of Lincoln County, son of the late C.C. and Florence Hance Lewis. He was a retired textile worker.

He was husband of the late Bonnie Ashe Lewis.

Surviving are two sons, Robert Lewis of Kings Mountain and Gary Lewis of Bessemer City; four daughters, Betty Martindale of Cherry Point, Judy Price of Winston Salem, Joann Miller of Kings Mountain and Beth Wentz of Stanley; three brothers, Everett and Clarence Lewis of Stanley and William Lewis of Dallas; four sisters, Betty Kiser of Crouse, Dare, Crain, Connie Brooks and Lucy Kelso, all of Gastonia, 11 grandchildren.

CLYDE KENDRICK

Funeral services for Clyde Lawson Kendrick, 89, of Route 1, Brookfield Dr., Grover, who died Thursday

morning at home, were conducted Saturday at 11 a.m. from Pleasant Hill Baptist Church.

Rev. Eddie Grigg and Rev. Wray Barrett officiated and interment was in the church cemetery.

Mr. Kendrick was a native of Cleveland County, retired farmer, and son of the late Lawson Irvin and Penola Camp Kendrick. He was a member of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church.

Surviving are his wife, Olie Rippy Kendrick; a daughter, Elaine Biggers of Grover; two brothers, J. Y., Kendrick of Grover and Tom Kendrick of Shelby; a sister, Lizzie Lee Dedmon of Shelby; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Cleveland County, 201 W. Marion St., Shelby, N.C. 28150.

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Fire At Margrace Mill Causes \$500,000 Damage

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building," said Mrs. Bunch. Four firemen were overcome by heat and smoke inhalation but no one was injured. The Bunches credited firemen with doing a "miraculous job in saving the rest of the plant and the whole neighborhood from a disaster."

The fire alarm went off at 8:16 p.m. Tuesday night and firemen with the Kings Mountain Fire Department had already cut through the fence at the Margrace Mill and cut off a gas line which could have engulfed the whole area before the Bunches were aware the two-story building was on fire. A police officer working traffic at John Gamble Football Stadium, site of the Dupin Crusade, saw the flames above the treetops and summoned the local firemen who called in firemen from Oak Grove, Grover, Chestnut Ridge, and Bethlehem Fire Departments. City police, aided by state troopers, sealed off the

Margrace area but not before residents at the Crusade left the stadium and ran home to see if their houses were on fire.

Mrs. Bunch said when she and her husband left their Grover Road business, Bunch, Inc., they could see the fire above the treetops. "We thought the whole village was on fire," she said.

At times the blaze reached 1,000 feet in the sky, according to Mrs. Bunch, and she said that all residents in the area were "terrified the whole place was going up."

James Moore, a resident of Marigold Street, said it was one of the worst fires he had ever seen.

Mrs. Bunch said the fire spread quickly but that luckily the wind was not blowing.

Bill Ware, a fireman with the Kings Mountain Fire Department, who operates the pumper, didn't leave the pumps all night. Fire burned through the ropes on a fire door at one of the buildings, the door fell and shut the fire off from an adjoining building.

The burned building was empty, said Mrs. Bunch, but adjoining buildings, which were saved, houses equipment, warehousing and a machine shop. The burned building used to house a yarn dye house, slashers, and a laboratory when the mill operated as Margrace Mill. Many former employees of the old mill live on the Margrace Village.

Quilters Guild Meets Thursday

The Foothill Quilters Guild will meet Thursday night at 7 p.m. in the Cleveland County Office Building.

Patti Cline from the Quilters Gallery in Charlotte will be featured speaker and will show quick quilted projects.

Visitors are welcome to join members at the meeting.



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