

Ollie Harris Has Held A Public Office For Over 40 Years

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and was employed there until 1947 when he came to Kings Mountain and opened his own business, Harris Funeral Home.

Harris is proud of his two children, Ollie Harris Jr. of Houston, Texas and Ms. Becky Hambright of Kings Mountain and his four grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Harris graduated from Gupton College of Embalming in Nashville, Tenn. and became a licensed embalmer

in 1935.

He doesn't speak much of his war record but Ollie Harris was in some of the worst fighting of the big war. He was at Bastogne which was encircled by the Germans. This was one of the big hot spots of the war Ollie received the Bronze Star while serving during the Battle of the Bulge with the 65th Field Hospital as surgical technician and Staff Sergeant in 1944.

He's been an active Democrat all his life, serving

also on the Cleveland County Democratic Executive Committee and a past chairman of East Precinct.

Harris recalls vividly many of the 1,000 plus calls he answered as Cleveland County coroner, many from natural causes, others from foul play and accidental causes.

Harris assisted in the organization of Vetrans of Foreign Wars in Shelby and was its first elected commander. He served as state president of the N.C. Cor-

oners Association, state president of the N.C. Funeral Director's Association, state president of the N.C. State Board of Embalmers, Commander of the American Legion and Frank B. Glass sPost 9811 VFW, president of Kings Mountain Lions Slub, president of Kings Mountain Chamber of Commerce, president of Kings Mountain Country Club, president of the KM Red Cross chapter and a trustee of Gardner Webb College. He has been a city volunteer fireman since

1960 and before that was a member of Shelby's Volunteer Fire Department in 1934.

Due to his leadership in mental health, he received the Valand Award, the outstanding legislator award in the field of public health by the N.C. Association of Health Departments and the outstanding legislator award by the N.C. Health Care Association.

In the N.C. Senate he's served on a number of impor-

tant committees, including chairman of the Human Resources committee and vice chairman of the appropriations committee on human resources among others.

It's somewhat of a mystery to his friends as to how he finds enough hours in the day to do all he has done. Harris says he makes time for his friends. Sevice to the living, that's his aim. Ollie Harris' kind is a vanishing breed.

Kings Mountain Herald

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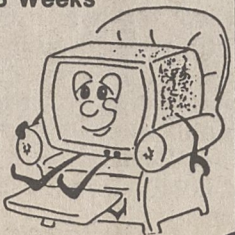
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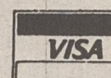
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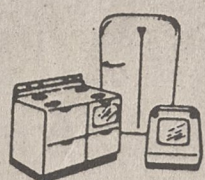
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