

Obituaries

ELIZABETH B. THOMAS
SHELBY - Elizabeth Beatty Thomas, 72, of 627 Ware Rd., died January 6, 1996 at Cleveland Memorial Hospital.

A native of Cleveland County, she was the wife of Bernie Garrett Thomas and daughter of the late J. W. and Ollie Barrett Beatty. She was retired from Mauney Hosiery Mill in Kings Mountain and a member of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. She and her husband celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary April 26.

Surviving, in addition to her husband, are two sons and daughter-in-law, Keith and Vickie Thomas and Bernie G. Thomas Jr. of Shelby; one daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Don Allen of Kings Mountain; one brother, Carl Beatty of Kings Mountain; three sisters, Arlee Lail, Hazel Singleton and Eunice Toney, all of Kings Mountain; and 10 grandchildren, Andy, Phillip and Toni Allen, Gerry Andre, Garrett, Dana, Seth, Wesley and Andrea Thomas and Michelle Tolbert; and one great-granddaughter, Ashley Allen. She was preceded in death by two brothers, Therman and Junior Beatty.

The funeral was conducted January 7, 1996 at 2 p.m. at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church by Rev. Mike Butzberger, Rev. Wray Barrett and Rev. Glenn Walker. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, 2243 Pleasant Hill Church Rd., Shelby, 28150.

AVIS C. HAMBRIGHT
BLACKSBURG, SC - Avis C. Hambright, 72, 1617 Antioch Road, died January 4, 1996 at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte.

A native of Alexander County, NC, she was the wife of Thomas A. Hambright Jr. of the home. She was a member of Antioch Baptist Church.

She is also survived by her son, Jerry Hendren of Tuscon, AZ; two daughters, Ann Hambright of Belmont and Janet Hambright of Charlotte; two sisters, Mary Lee Sipes of Statesville and Lucille Patterson of Hiddenite; five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Vernon Craig Monday at 2 p.m. at Antioch Baptist Church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

MIRIAM E. SIMPSON
Miriam Euliss Simpson, 75, of 708 Groves St., died January 4, 1996 at Cleveland Memorial Hospital.

A native of Alamance County, she was a homemaker and wife of W. B. Simpson. She was a member of First Baptist Church. She was the daughter of the late A. Von and Leona A. Moser Euliss.

Surviving, in addition to her husband, are one son, W. B. "Bill" Simpson of Kings Mountain; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted January 6, 1996 at 3 p.m. at First Baptist Church by Dr. John Sloan. Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church, 605 W. King St., Kings Mountain, 28086.

HAROLD PAINTER
GROVER - Harold Dean Painter, 58, 200 Mullinax Drive, died January 4, 1995 at Cleveland Memorial Hospital.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late Jimmy Lee and Lela Bryant Ledbetter. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and a member of Cherokee Street Baptist Church, Kings Mountain.

He is survived by his wife, Doris Dover Painter; three sons, Michael Painter, Johnny Painter and Brian Painter, all of Grover; a brother, J.D. Painter of Kings Mountain; two sisters, Dorothy Moore and Faye Hughes of Kings Mountain; and eight grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Gene Leigh and Herman Greene Tuesday at 3 p.m. at Cherokee Street Baptist Church. Burial was in Canaan United Methodist Church Cemetery, Kings Creek, SC.

Local graduate to receive degree

Angela M. Thompson Trochessett of Kings Mountain completed degree requirements in December from Appalachian State University in Boone.

Gospel sing Sunday at Allen Memorial Church
Allen Memorial Baptist Church Grover will sponsor a gospel singing Sunday at 7 p.m.

The featured group will be the Chapel Grove Quartet of Gastonia. The public is invited.

GALE PLONK
Mrs. Gale Walraven Plonk, 88, of 401 Downing Dr., wife of Zeb O. Plonk, died January 9, 1996 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

A native of Pennsylvania, she was the daughter of the late Isaac and Loretta Walraven. She was a retired secretary for Baltimore Gas Company and a member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church.

Surviving, in addition to her husband, are two sons, Donald C. Plonk of Merritt Island, Florida and Glenn W. Plonk of Severna Park, MD; one daughter, Jane Plonk Sims of Chattanooga, TN; nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be conducted Friday, January 12, 1996, at 11 a.m. at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church by Dr. James Dougherty. Burial will be in St. Luke's Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 201 N. Piedmont Ave., Kings Mountain, 28086.

HERBERT H. CAMP
COWPENS, SC. - Herbert H. Camp, 66, of 106 Cook St., died January 7, 1996 at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center.

A native of Kings Mountain, he was the son of the late Lem and Elizabeth Lovelace Camp.

He was retired from Duke Power/Catawba Station and was a member of the Cowpens Church of God. He served in the US Army during World War II.

Surviving are four sons, Mike Camp, Kevin Camp and Mark Camp, all of Gastonia; and Danny Camp of Lincolnton; two daughters, Linda Camp of Cowpens and Bonnie Camp of Charlotte; 10 step grandchildren; 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Earle Camp and Ben Camp, both of Kings Mountain.

The funeral will be conducted January 11, 1996 at 3 p.m. in the Chapel of Gordon Mortuary. Rev. Bill Guiton will officiate and burial will be in Oak Grove Baptist Church Cemetery in Kings Mountain.

The family is at 114 Deer Ridge Road in Gaffney, SC.

GRACE SMITH HARNEY
GASTONIA - Grace Elizabeth Smith Harney, 72, of 605 E. 12th St. Apt. H., died January 3, 1996 at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

A native of Kings Mountain, she was widow of Dan M. Harney and was a homemaker. She was the daughter of the late John W. and Nell Huffstickler Smith.

She was a member of Fellowship Christian Church.

Surviving are two daughters, Diane Bumgardner of Cherryville and Julia Livengood of Gastonia; one sister, Polly Queen; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The memorial service was conducted January 5, 1996 at 1 p.m. at Fellowship Christian Center by Rev. Leonard L. Bumgardner.

MATTIE BOLIN
Mattie Turner Bolin, 79, of 706 Sipes St., died January 4, 1996 at home.

A native of Cherokee County, SC, she was the daughter of the late Hook and Lettie Bell Turner. Widow of Nicodemus Bolin, she was a retired textile employee and a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church.

Surviving are six sons, Marvin Bolin, Lawrence Bolin, Erskine Bolin, Herman Bolin, Richard Bolin and Kenneth Bolin, all of Kings Mountain, and one daughter, Margie Blanton of Kings Mountain; five sisters, Lizzie Sisk and Carrie Grigg, both of Kings Mountain, Lois Ivey and Julia Mae Appling, both of Shelby, and Jasper Black of Gaffney, SC; 20 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted January 7, 1996 at Harris Chapel by Rev. Charles Surratt and Rev. Larry Brubaker. Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

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

POTTER

From 1-A

He was recently selected as Teacher of the Month at Kings Mountain High School.

His classroom is decorated with the works of students, who have mounted huge pictures of the various Presidents they have researched during the semester and various individuals in African American history.

A native of St. Louis, Mo., Potter didn't like school when he was a little boy. Soccer was his love, however, and he started enjoying the sport, new to Kings Mountain High, when he was five years old. He played soccer in high school and attended college on an athletic scholarship for two years, then graduated from the University of South Carolina where he met the love of his life, his wife, Pat Durham Potter, formerly of Kings Mountain.

"We dated at the soccer field and Pat has become quite good herself and loves to coach," he says.

Potter has used his love for the sport to instill in his students that they can have fun and learn at school and succeed in life. The reading program he initiated at North School is entitled, "Read for Success."

When the Potters aren't working they are coaching kids teams at Cleveland County Greater Soccer Association. Nine girls' teams for ages 6-13 participated last year and he and his wife coached three of them. Their three girls also enjoy soccer and they are hoping that Pat's parents, Dr. and Mrs. T. G. Durham, and Pat's two sisters, Julie and Sallie and their families and her brother, Casey, will take up the sport.

Potter, who has coached for 10 years, came to KMHS three years ago and has been in the system for seven years, moving from the Junior High and Middle Schools. He also coached a local team while a student in college and worked for three years in Conway, SC as a teacher and coach before moving to Kings Mountain.

His African American Studies class centers around the reading

SNOW

From 1-A

"Most people were cooperative but when there are near-blizzard conditions and when the storm was a record one from Georgia to Massachusetts we were plenty lucky," he said.

Moss said he had not recalled a storm when the wind chill factor was so low in this area, although he recalled working in a big snow in 1982 and a good snow in 1993.

"I would say this is a record snowfall for us because it was a good six inches of the white stuff in Kings Mountain," said the veteran city employee.

Former Senator J. Ollie Harris recalled that the big snows in Kings Mountain were in 1960 when King Winter dumped the white stuff on the area every Wednesday during the month of March.

"We didn't get dug out from one until another hit us," he said.

Snow started falling in the Kings Mountain area Saturday afternoon but then the precipitation turned to sleet and freezing rain, then snow again. The snow continued off and on all day Sunday and by Monday the mixture of ice and snow equaled hazardous driving unless drivers had chains, four wheel drive vehicles or trucks loaded down with heavy wood or in some cases their garden tractors.

Douglas International Airport, 30 miles south of Kings Mountain, and bus stations were at a standstill, with hundreds of travelers sleeping in the terminals.

Cleveland County Emergency Services reported to the scene of numerous accidents and at least one fatality was reported. A five-year-old child died in Shelby and the child's father and another driver were injured.

One sledder was reportedly injured on Center Street. Another sledder had a near miss on Oakland Street when he hit the back tire of a parked city truck. Luckily for the boy, the truck was parked.

program. In his government class, written reports are required.

The Potter family includes Meghan, 12, Lesley, 10, and Susie, 7. Meghan is a student at the Middle School and Lesley and Susie attend North School. Pat Potter is a night supervisor in the Oncology department at Gaston Memorial Hospital.

"I Want my students to relate their studies to real life situations and block scheduling has given us the chance to create, to keep our classes from being boring and to let our students read every two weeks on Friday to students at North School," he says.

Potter started the reading program three years ago in his class but block scheduling adds a new dimension - more time.

"It was difficult to read stories written in the black dialogue so we started reading stories we liked and now the kids go to the library and select the books they want to read, it's great," he said.

"The kids learn from the books by Black authors," said Potter who admitted that at first his students lacked the self confidence to go into a classroom and read to another student, a perfect stranger. "Now when those Little Sisters and brothers faces' light up you can see the difference that a half hour or so with them means to both my students and to their new friends," he said.

"Making a difference is what life is all about."

SCHOOLS

From 1-A

Jack Hamrick, chairman of the Shelby City School board, Tommy Greene, chairman of the Cleveland County School Board, and Hawkins of Kings Mountain were meeting at the Shelby City School offices Wednesday along with Supt. Dr. Bob McRae of Kings Mountain, Dr. Earl Watson of Cleveland County and Dr. Steve Curtis of Shelby Schools.

"We plan to look at what each board of education has chosen as educational opportunities for the whole county and to develop the agenda for the February '99 meeting to which the public is encouraged to attend in Rooms 1138 and 1139 at Cleveland Community College," said Hawkins.

"We expect 100 percent partici-

pation from all board members at that meeting and a large attendance from the general public," said Hawkins.

The local school board will discuss the agenda during its all-day work session January 26 at Central School and at that time will gather any additional data that may be requested by the other two systems in the county.

"We hope to have open dialogue on funding and educational opportunities," said Hawkins.

Donna Clemmer, public relations director for the county schools, said that the three boards are likely to talk about ways that all three boards have cooperated in projects that benefit all school children in the county, including transportation, vocational education and exceptional children.

Clemmer said it's likely that at the joint meeting the boards will look at other areas that each board can target in the future to benefit all three school systems.

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