

Obituaries

ALDA WILLIAMS

TAYLORSVILLE - Mrs. Alda Cloninger Sells Williams, 75, Forest Acres Lane, died Thursday, February 26, 1998 at her residence.

A native of Gaston County, she was the daughter of the late Ethel Goldsmith Cloninger and John Cloninger, and the wife of William Robert Sells Jr. and the late Daniel Harold Williams. She was a former member of Western Avenue Baptist Church and was employed by Carolina Mills and J.P. Stevens Co. She attended Cleveland County Schools.

In addition to her former husband, she is survived by her son, William Robert "Bill" Sells III of Statesville; grandson, William Robert Sells IV of Statesville; granddaughters, Leslie Brown, Tracy Sells and Jaden Sells of Statesville and Kelly Daugherty of the home; brothers, Bill Cloninger of Shelby, Ken Cloninger and Harold Cloninger of Kings Mountain, Don Cloninger of Mooresville, Sam Cloninger of Gaffney, SC, John Cloninger of San Antonio, Texas, and Jerry Cloninger of Marion, Ohio; sisters, Jennie Norris and Grace Broome of Kings Mountain and Frankie Strand of Oclair, Wis; and great-grandchildren, Tyler and Sam Daughterty, Cordie and Wil Brown, Brandon Chase Sells, and Troy and Morgan Sells. She was also preceded in death by her sisters, Mae Flowers and Ann Cloninger.

The funeral was conducted by Dr. James D. Cartin at 2 p.m. Sunday at Western Avenue Baptist Church. Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery, Kings Mountain.

Memorials may be made to Western Avenue Baptist Church, 1206 Museum Road, Statesville, NC 28677.

Nicholson Funeral Home, Statesville, was in charge of arrangements.

LYDIA DOVER

SPARTANBURG, SC - Lydia Conner Dover, 89, White Oak Manor, formerly of Kings Mountain, died February 28, 1998 at White Oak Manor.

A native of Cleveland County, she was the daughter of the late Mack and Julia Navy Conner and stepdaughter of the late Mary Ethel Davis Conner. She was the wife of the late Sam Dover. She was a retired textile worker.

She is survived by several nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was conducted by the Rev. Mitchell Pruitt at 4 p.m. Tuesday at Mountain Rest Cemetery, Kings Mountain.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

HAZEL SEXTON

SHELBY - Hazel Wilson Sexton, 94, 2615 Oak Grove Road, died Saturday, February 28, 1998 at White Oak Manor in Kings Mountain.

A native of Mexia, Texas, she was the daughter of the late Archibald and Tennessee Railey Wilson, and widow of the late Marcia Claude Sexton. She was preceded in death by her brothers, Bill, Morris, Victor and Railey Wilson; sisters, Grace Phelps and Janie Wilson; grandson Tobe Sexton; and son, Marcia Claude Sexton Jr.

She was a retired public school teacher, having taught in Oklahoma and North Carolina for 33 years. She was a member of the Shelby Church of Christ, Theta Conclave Kappa Kappa Iota, volunteer for many years at the Life Enrichment Center in Shelby, and a member of N.E.A., D.E.A., and A.A.U.W.

She is survived by her son, Bill Sexton and wife Avadell of Lawton, Oklahoma; daughters and sons-in-law, Mona and Elliott Johnson of Shelby and Nona and Walter Sellers of Kansas City, MO; brothers, Arnold Wilson of Oakdale, ILL, and Terry Wilson of Andrews, TX; nine grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Terry Graves at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Shelby Church of Christ. A graveside service will be held at a later date at Sunset Memorial Gardens in Lawton, Oklahoma.

Memorials may be made to the Church of Christ, 845 W. Warren St., Shelby, NC 28150, or Life Enrichment Center, P.O. Box 2381, Shelby, NC 28150.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

BELINDA LOGAN

GROVER - Belinda Owens Logan, 36, 1840-B South Battleground Avenue, died March 2, 1998 at Cleveland Regional Medical Center in Shelby.

A native of Baltimore, MD, she was the daughter of Clyde E. and Violet Guffey Owens of Kings Mountain. She was a graduate of Kings Mountain High School and attended Wingate College. She was a member of Love Valley Baptist Church and a former member of Grover Rescue Squad where she was former Member of the Year. She was office manager of Grover Medical Clinic.

In addition to her parents, she is survived by her husband, Mark Logan of Grover; daughter, Pamela Dele Logan of Bryson City; brothers, Norman Owens of Kernersville, Harold Owens of Anderson, SC, Vic Owens of Raleigh and Don Owens of Lowell; and sister, Sue Denton of Gastonia.

The funeral will be conducted by the Rev. Barry Philbeck at 3 p.m. Thursday at Love Valley Baptist Church. Burial will be in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Love Valley Baptist Church Building Fund, Bethlehem Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

MARY WHITE

EARL - Mary Lee Sparrow White, 83, 617 Crow Road, died March 2, 1998 at her residence.

A native of Cleveland County, she was the daughter of the late Vernon Sparrow and Sallie Morrison Sparrow. She was married to the late Hood Graham White. She was retired as a quiller at Margrace Mills and was a member of David Baptist Church.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Hilda and Jack Borders of Earl; sons and daughters-in-law, Jackie and Nancy White of Shelby, Jerry and Becky White of Kings Mountain, and Jim and Wanda White of Kings Mountain; sisters, Pearl Sparrow of Shelby and Lula Finley of Gaffney, SC; 12 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Allen Davis and David Philbeck at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Cleveland Funeral Services Chapel in Shelby. Burial was in Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery, Kings Mountain.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Cleveland County, 951 Wendover Heights Drive, Shelby, NC 28150.

Cleveland Funeral Services, Inc. was in charge of arrangements.

MYRTLE WILSON

BESSEMER CITY - Myrtle Eleanor Long Wilson, 89, 565 Sunnyside Shady Rest Road, died February 27, 1998 at home.

A native of Gaston County, she was the daughter of the late William Alexander and Carrie Fraley Long. She was the wife of the late Nelson D. Wilson and mother of the late William Nelson Wilson Sr. She was formerly employed by Danoca and Comar Industries. She was a longtime member of Long Creek Presbyterian Church, Kings Mountain, where she was a former youth leader and member of Women of the Church.

Survivors include her daughters and sons-in-law, Becky and Joe Bridges and Sue and Ken Unnasch, all of Bessemer City; daughter-in-law, Frances Bridges Wilson of Bessemer City; grandchildren, William Nelson Wilson Jr., Robert and Benjamin Wilson, Mike Bridges, Matthew Unnasch and Deborah Smith, all of Bessemer City, Melissa Curtis of Franklin, Rebecca Briones of Jacksonville, Florida, and David Unnasch of Gastonia; and 18 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Benjamin Williams at 2 p.m. Monday at Long Creek Presbyterian Church, Kings Mountain. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Long Creek Presbyterian Church, 701 Long Creek Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086, or to Hospice of Gaston County, PO Box 3984, Gastonia, NC 28053.

Sisk-Butler Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

JUSTIN GOWAN

BLACKSBURG, SC - Justin Mitchell Gowan, 19, 502 West Pine Street, died Wednesday, February 25, 1998 at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center, Spartanburg, SC after a brief illness.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of Mildred "Mickey" Estes Gowan of the home and Roger Lee Gowan of Lattimore. He is also survived by his brother, Jeremy Gowan of the home; his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Betty Estes of the home; and his paternal grandmother, Mrs. Willie Gowan of Chesnee, SC.

He was a member of Buffalo Baptist Church, Blackburg, and was a graduate of Blackburg High School. He was a student at Bob Jones University. He was a freelance photographer and worked with The Blackburg Times, and he also worked with Cyrus Clark Co. He was a certified EMT and a Paramedic, was an Eagle Scout, and was Assistant Scout Master of Troop 145 in Gaffney, SC.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Vernon Craig, Barry Philbeck and Ricky L. Scruggs at 3 p.m. Saturday, February 28 at Buffalo Baptist Church. Burial was in Clingman Memorial Gardens.

Pallbearers were Ray Pettit, Mitch Harris, Steve Farrish, Derek Greer, Josh Parker and Jim Hefner.

White Columns Funeral Service was in charge of arrangements.

THELMA HUDSON

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Thelma Bruner Hudson, 88, 40 Open Lane, formerly of 439 Bay Street, Mount Carmel, TN, died Wednesday, February 25, 1998 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

A native of Scott County, Va, she was the daughter of the late Henry and Rosie Lee Arnold Bruner, and wife of the late Walter L. Hudson. She was a member of Pleasant View Baptist Church, Kingsport, TN, and a former employee of Borden Mill of Kingsport, TN. She was a domestic for many years at Ridgefields, Kingsport, TN.

She is survived by her sons, Dewey Edward Hudson of Kingsport, TN, and Leroy Hudson of Mount Carmel, TN; daughter, Kathleen Goodman of Kings Mountain; brother, Luther H. Bruner of Baileyton, TN; sisters, Callie E. Bruner of Kermet, VA, and Stella Kate Cody of Peoria, IL; 10 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and seven great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. James Adams and Homer Roller at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 1 at Hamlett-Dobson Downtown Chapel, Kingsport, TN. Burial was in Church Hill Memory Gardens, Church Hill, TN.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

TONY HUGHES

PARIS, AR - Tony Eugene Hughes, 54, died Wednesday, February 18, 1998 at the home of his son, Jorge E. Hughes of Fort Smith.

He was the son of Jessie Reames Hughes of Paris and the late William G. "Bill" Hughes. He was also preceded in death by his sister, Debbye Hughes, and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. William Gordon Hughes of Kings Mountain.

He was a former school teacher and a member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Paris.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by three sons, Jorge and Dr. Juan Hughes, both of Fort Smith, and William Hughes of Honolulu; two grandchildren, Tony and Jessica Hughes of Fort Smith; and very special friends, Fred and Coleen Kiser of Kings Mountain.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, February 21, 1998 at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Paris with burial at Oakwood Cemetery in Paris under the direction of Roller Funeral Homes of Paris.

Memorials may be made to St. Edward Hospice, P.O. Box 1700, Fort Smith, AR 72917 and to the Scholarship Fund of the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), P.O. Box 359, Paris, AR 72855.

CLIFF TATE

BESSEMER CITY - Wayne Clifford "Cliff" Tate, 81, 515 Absher Road, died February 25, 1998 at Gaston Memorial Hospital, Gastonia.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late Thomas and Edith Campbell Tate and husband of the late Virginia McSwain Tate. He was former owner and operator of the Snack Shack on Union Road in Gastonia. He was a veteran of World War II in the Army Air Corps where he received the Presidential Citation, and was a member of VFW Absher-Flowers Post 9337.

He is survived by his sons and daughter-in-law, Wayne C. and Marsha Tate, and Thomas C. Tate, all of Tallahassee, FL; daughters, Donna Rubenstein of Bessemer City and Judy Revels of North Myrtle Beach, SC; brothers and sisters-in-law, Tom and Janet Tate and Dexter and Margaret Tate, all of Kings Mountain; 14 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by Dr. Gene Ware at 1 p.m. Saturday at Sisk-Butler Funeral Home. Burial was in Gaston Memorial Park.

Pallbearers were Joey and Jon Ryall, Kelly Lowe, Danny Hall, Charlie Gibson and Tim Tutherford.

Sisk-Butler Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Tribute to Tony Hughes

To the editor:

Tony E. Hughes, 54, of Paris, Arkansas, died Wednesday Feb. 18, 1998 at the home of his son, Jorge E. Hughes, 3200 Ramsagate Way, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Tony was a "true gem," for he touched lives wherever he traveled. He was a person to be admired, respected and loved. His devotion to life and its experiences was unmatched. He loved life and life loved him back for the twinkle in his eyes and the sight of his smile were always comforting.

He cared and loved others far more than himself, a true testament to this are his three adopted sons from Medellin, Colombia, S.A.

The world and those who have had the privileges to know him have been truly blessed. For Tony was a unique and special person with many gifts and talents; "a jack of all trades and a master of a few," as he often joked.

He was a member of the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Paris, Arkansas and a fellow and foundation member of the Rolls Royce Owners Club. He enjoyed traveling through Europe, was a theater and symphony enthusiast; an exceptional artist, a previous school teacher of gifted children, a collector of fine antiques and exotic automobiles.

But with all of his talents and gifts, the one that has left a lasting impression has been his lov-

ing and caring heart, for he adored his three sons; and he was, is, and continues to be "The Wind Beneath Their Wings."

Papi, we love you and will miss you dearly but you will be in our hearts and minds as we continue with our journey of life. Thank you for the memories, the laughter and the tears. The life we've shared has been a blessed one. You shaped our destiny, you touched our hearts, and you showed us how to love and live life. We thank you, Papi, may you rest in peace in "The Kingdom of Heaven."

With love, your beloved sons,
Jorge, Juan and William Hughes

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