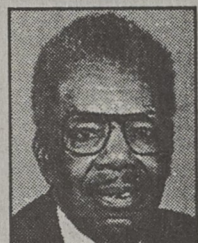


OBITUARIES

WILLIAM O. SMITH
KINGS MOUNTAIN - William O'Neal "Smitty" Smith, 73, 415 Belvedere Circle, died May 2, 2001 at his home.



A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late O'Neal Smith and Louise Roseboro Berry.

He was also preceded in death by his son, Larry Bernard Smith. He attended Flat Rock School in Fallston. He retired after 45 years of service with Martin Marietta Aggregates of Kings Mountain. He was a member of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church where he was a member of the Trustee Board, Laymen League and Sunday School Department. He was a member of the Good Neighbors Club of Belvedere Circle.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Mary Elizabeth Briggs Smith of the home; daughters and son-in-law, Annie Louise Smith Love, Joann Smith and Daniel Holland, Iris Rebecca Smith, Becky Smith Ross and Mary Alice Smith, all of Kings Mountain; sisters, Minnie Lee McClain of Kings Mountain, Cora Lee Roseboro, Christine Morris, and Bernice B. Petty of Shelby, and Rosa Mae Graham of Gastonia; 14 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. M.L. Littlejohn, Ernest Simmons, W.B. Ellis, and C.A. Feemster at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 6 at Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church. Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

J.W. Gill and Sons Funeral Home, Inc. was in charge of arrangements.

When You're Trying to Move Something Fast - Try Our Classifieds. 704-739-7496

JOHN W. MCCREE
GROVER - John Willie "Jay" McCree, 68, died May 14, 2001 at Southeastern Regional Medical Center, Lumberton.



A native of Loris, SC, he was the son of the late James M. and Daisy B. McCree. He was a 1951 graduate of

Compact High School and served in the United States Army. He attended Atlanta Funeral College and was co-founder of the Community Funeral of Fairmont, where he worked and supervised until his health failed.

He is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Ollie V. Lowery and Daisy B. Willis of Kings Mountain; two brothers, James McCree Jr. of Kings Mountain and Frank McCree of Fairmont; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

The funeral was conducted by Bishop Charles McDowell at 3 p.m. Friday at Community Funeral Home Chapel, Fairmont; and by Rev. Larry Dixon at 12 noon Saturday at Long Branch Baptist Church, Grover.

Interment was in Long Branch Baptist Church Cemetery.

JOE ANDERSON
MOUNT OLIVE - Jesse Joseph "Joe" Anderson, 90, 724 Club Knolls Road, died May 19, 2001.

He was retired from Kemp Furniture with 41 years of service. He was a member of Salem Advent Christian Church and The Woodmen of the World.

He is survived by his daughter, Joyce A. Cole of Fayetteville; sons, Charles Anderson of Rocky Mount and Glenn Anderson and wife, Glenda, of Kings Mountain; sisters, Addie Mae Anderson of Goldsboro and Sudie Basden of Dudley; 11 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at 2 p.m. Monday at Tyndall Funeral Home in Mount Olive. Burial was in Wayne Memorial Park.

Memorials may be made to Kitty Askins Hospice Center, 107 Handley Park Court, Goldsboro, NC 27534.

MAYNARD DEATON
MAIDEN - Maynard Deaton, 60, 311 East Main Street, formerly of Kings Mountain, died May 19, 2001 at his home.

A native of Cleveland County, he was the son of the late Claude and Lona Belle Jenkins Deaton. He was also preceded in death by his brothers, Jack Deaton and Ettra Deaton, and a sister, Geneva Deaton. He was a Baptist.

He is survived by his daughter, Sonya Deaton of Grover; brothers, James Deaton and Clarence Deaton of Kings Mountain and Stoy Deaton of Blacksburg, SC; sister, Helen Owens of Kings Mountain; granddaughter, Heather Deaton of Grover; nieces, Cynthia Lee, Libby Johnson and Barbara Sisk; nephews, Tim Payne, Roger Payne and Scott Payne, and numerous other nieces and nephews.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Alan Sailors and Rusty Elliott at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Ollie Harris Memorial Chapel. Burial was in Poplar Springs Baptist Church Cemetery, Shelby.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

WILLARD ELLIS
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Willard Thomas "Doug" Ellis, 79, 325 Lake Montonia Road, died May 20, 2001 at the Brian Center, Salisbury.

A native of Cherokee County, SC, he was the son of the late Marion Lamar and Katie Ellis. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army with service during World War II. He was retired from Sadie Cotton Mill.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Isabelle Wallace Ellis; stepson, Jim Griffin and wife, Lola, of Kings Mountain; stepdaughters, Jane Hunter and husband Gary of Cheraw, Kay Oliver of Kings Mountain, and Diane Duncan and husband Tommy of Spartanburg, SC; brothers, Marvin Ellis of Blacksburg, SC and Fred Ellis of Cowpens, SC; sister, Dorothy Moore of Blacksburg, SC; eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was conducted by the Rev. Don Capell Wednesday at Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Sisk-Butler Funeral Home, Bessemer City, was in charge of arrangements.

VENUS C. WILSON
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Venus Cornell Wilson Sr., 100, 214 Roy Bell Road, died May 16, 2001 at Cleveland Regional Medical Center, Shelby.



A native of Cherokee County, SC, he was the son of the late Adolphus and Irene Smith Wilson. He was married to the late Willie Mae Mathis Wilson.

He was also preceded in death by one daughter, Sarah Ann Wilson Johnson; and his wife, Channie B. Wilson.

He was a member of Eskridge Grove Baptist Church. He was retired from Duke Power Company.

He is survived by his sons and daughters-in-law, Billy and Sallie Wilson of the home, Cornell Jr. and Doris Wilson and L.G. and Sarah Wilson, all of Shelby; daughter, Evangeline Hunt Massey of Charlotte; son-in-law, Sam Johnson of Charlotte; sisters and brother-in-law, Ida Wray, Gladys Roberts, and Geneva and David Jamerson, all of Shelby; 19 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren, and six great-great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews, relatives and friends, and special friend Mrs. Virginia Mathis of Statesville.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. C.D. Montgomery, Dean Wray, and Lillian McDonald at 11 a.m. Saturday at Eskridge Grove Baptist Church, Shelby. Interment was in the church cemetery.

J.W. Gill and Sons Funeral Home, Inc. was in charge of arrangements.

JEANETTE SPEIGHTS
GASTONIA - Jeanette "Jean" Nixon Speights, 48, 4534 Tekoa Drive, died May 16, 2001 at her residence.

A native of Orangeburg, SC, she was the daughter of the late John Blair Nixon Jr. She was reared in Blacksville, SC.

She graduated Valedictorian from Blacksville High School in 1971. She attended Georgia Southern and the College of Charleston, majoring in English.

She is survived by her husband, Samuel J. Speights Jr.; mother, Pauline White Nixon of Blacksville, SC; sons, Jonathan S. Speights and Matthew N. Speights of the home; daughter, Heather A. Speights of the home; and brother, John Blair Nixon III of Barnwell, SC.

A graveside service was conducted by the Rev. Charles Surret at 11 a.m. Friday at Evergreen Cemetery in Belmont. A memorial service was held Friday at 7 p.m. at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Kings Mountain, where she was a member.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Gaston County, P.O. Box 3984, Gastonia, NC 28053.

Gospel concert set at Midway Baptist

The Melody masters Quartet will be in concert Sunday, May 27 at 11 a.m. at Midway Baptist Church, 2782 Fairview Drive, Gastonia.

DR. LAURENCE MUENCH
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Laurence Walter Muench, MD, 64, 310 Downing Drive, died May 16, 2001 at Cleveland Regional Medical Center, Shelby.



A native of St. Louis, MO, he was the son of the late Albert Frederick and Virginia Kueter Muench. He grew up in Evanston, IL where he became an Eagle Scout.

He graduated from Evanston Township High School, where he was a national finalist in The Westinghouse Science Talent Search and where he later was inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame.

He was an Illinois Scholar at Trinity College, Hartford, CT, where he was captain of the swim team and graduated with a B.S. Degree, Phi Beta Kappa. He earned the MD degree at Washington University, St. Louis, MO, and served a rotating internship at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, and a residency in surgery and anesthesiology at Washington University, St. Louis, MO.

He served in the Vietnam War as a flight surgeon in the U.S. Air Force, with rank of Captain, and was based in Okinawa.

He practiced anesthesiology in Denver, CO, Colorado Springs, CO, Sioux City, IA, Kansas City, MO, and as Chief of Anesthesiology at Kings Mountain Hospital. He was certified by the American Board of Anesthesiology, was a member of the American Society of Anesthesiologists, the American Medical Association, the NC Medical Association, and the Cleveland County Medical Society.

He was a member of Kings Mountain Rotary Club, a former member of Kings Mountain Kiwanis Club, and a member of Trinity Episcopal Church, where he served as treasurer, vestry member, and a Licensed Lay Leader. He was a member of the Gaston Choral Society.

He is survived by his wife, Esther Moulthrop Muench; sons, Jeffrey E. Muench of Philadelphia, PA, James Frederick Muench and daughter-in-law Frances Guthrie Muench of Columbia, MO; daughter, Jennifer Lynn Muench Laney and son-in-law Neill McCauley Laney of Franklinton; brother, Dr. Karl Muench of Miami, FL; sister, Ruth Ann Muench Williams of Evanston, IL; and grandchildren, Nolan Muench and April Muench of Columbia, MO.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Ken Gillikin and Harwood Smith at 3 p.m. Saturday at Resurrection Lutheran Church.

Memorials may be made to Trinity College, 300 Summit Street, Hartford, CT 06106, Trinity Episcopal Church, 303 Phifer Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086, or The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, 1311 Mamaroneck, New York, NY 10605.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

GERRY WERNER
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Geraldine "Gerry" Kramer Werner, 85, Beaulieu Convalescent Center, Newnan, GA, formerly of Kings Mountain, died May 20, 2001 at Beaulieu Convalescent Center.



She was a native of Minnesota and a long time resident of St. Louis Park. She was the daughter of the late Augustus E. and Elsie Rafort Kramer and wife of the late Willard D. Werner.

She was a Certified Professional Secretary and was retired from Lithium Corporation of America. She was active in social and civic organizations including Professional Secretaries and Mid Carolinas CPS Society in Gastonia and Charlotte. She was an active member of Central United Methodist Church, Kings Mountain, where she taught the Daughters of Wesley Class for more than 30 years.

She is survived by her son, Glenn Werner and wife June Fisher Werner of Newnan, GA; daughter, Gail Werner Hegdahl and husband Ronald of Peabody, MA; grandchildren, Kimberly Hegdahl Trimble and husband Ransom of Medford, MA; Michael Werner and wife Ann of Savannah, GA; Eric Hegdahl and wife Kathleen of Wantagh, Long Island, NY; Tracy Werner Wilson and husband Thomas of Villa Rica, GA; great-grandchildren, Lori Werner and Hailey Hegdahl; and step-grandchildren, Ashley, Erica and Jeremiah Davis.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Harrison Hinson at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Central United Methodist Church, Kings Mountain. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Central United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 37, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 or to the charity of the donor's choice.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

DORIS SISK MARTIN
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Doris Sisk Martin, 49, 400 Tate Terrace, died May 15, 2001 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

A native of Cleveland County, she was the daughter of the late Carl W. "Pud" and Geneva N. Mills Sisk. She was also preceded in death by her sister, Kathy Canipe, and brother Bruce Sisk.

She was a member of Christian Freedom Baptist Church. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her son, Jonathan Trent Allen and Donna Bolton of Gastonia, and Chris Allen and Dede Carpenter of Shelby; sister, Patsy Williams of Kings Mountain; and grandchild, Trey Allen.

A memorial service was conducted by the Revs. James Billings and Robbie Moore at 3 p.m. Thursday at Oak View Baptist Church.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

The answer is close to home.

No Closing Cost*

Get a Home Equity Loan to help...

- Pay off Credit Cards
- Consolidate Debt
- Fund Education
- Take a Dream Vacation

The best place to get a home equity loan is close to home with us. We place a high value on your friendship and on your home. We'll give you an interest rate you'll be comfortable with. Come see us. Home equity loans... We do them well.

Whatever you do, do it well™

*Limited Time Offer

Bessemer City • 704-629-3906
Gastonia • 704-865-1233

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
HomeTown Banking Since 1874

Kings Mountain • 704-739-4782
Shelby • 704-484-6200

Caring for the elderly or disabled at home?

- **Caring For The Mentally Confused**
Tuesday, May 15
6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- **Caring For People With Limited Mobility Or Who Are Bedridden**
Saturday, May 19
10 a.m. - Noon
(This class repeats from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.)
- **Planning Ahead For End-Of-Life Decisions**
Tuesday, May 29
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Space in these classes is limited. To reserve your space call 704-730-5400. This instructional series is sponsored by Kings Mountain Hospital, The Life Enrichment Center, the N.C. Cooperative Extension and the Community Ethics Education Task Force.

Kings Mountain Hospital
Carolinas HealthCare System
www.carolinashealthcare.org
708 King Street • 704-730-5400