

OBITUARIES

VIOLA H. McSWAIN
SHELBY - Mrs. Viola Hayes McSwain, 92, a resident of White Oak Manor, died June 17, 2001 at Cleveland Regional Medical Center.

A native of Cleveland County, she was daughter of the late Thomas and Elizabeth Hardin Hayes and wife of the late Wade Thomas McSwain.

Mrs. McSwain was retired from Ora Mill Company where she was a winder. She was a member of Flint Hill Baptist Church.

She is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Johnny "Sonny" and Mildred McSwain of Polkville; daughter and son-in-law, Glenda and Davis Bonner of Matthews; two grandsons, Jeff McSwain and Tim Vinesett; three granddaughters, Lisa Trice, Wendy Fisher, Barbara Buckles; seven great grandchildren; one great great grandchild. A daughter, Sue Ford Barton, preceded her in death, as well as 12 brothers and sisters.

Rev. Keith Dixon officiated a funeral service on June 19, 2001 at Flint Hill Baptist Church. Interment followed at Cleveland Memorial Park.

Clay-Barnette Funeral Home of Shelby was in charge of the arrangements.

HERMAN D. ALLEN
SHELBY - Mr. Herman Daniel "Pop" Allen, 81, of 2220 S. Lafayette Street, died June 16, 2001 at Cleveland Regional Medical Center.

A native of Cleveland County, he was son of the late Charles Lester and Jessie Dover Allen.

Mr. Allen was retired from Hoechst Celanese where he was Production Operator. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. He was a member of Zoar Baptist Church and the Fidelis Sunday School Class.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Vernie Jones Allen of the home; daughter and son-in-law, Kaye and Jim Upton of Shelby; son and daughter-in-law, Roland and Ellen Allen of Shelby; brother, Gene Allen of Shelby; sisters, Irene Hunt of Ellenboro, Ruby Hamrick of Boiling Springs, and Mae Wesson, Pauline Philbeck and Mary Faye Bridges, all of Shelby; four grandchildren, Angela and Steve McKee of Grover, Kelly Upton of Charlotte, Emily Allen of Ventura, California, Bryan Allen of Raleigh; three great grandchildren, Mariah Kay McKee, Marcus Logan McKee, and Austin Kelly McKee.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by six brothers, Charles Allen, A. V. Allen, Harvey Allen, Carl Ray Allen, Donald Jay Allen, and Deaver Allen.

Dr. Marvin Gobble officiated a funeral service on June 19, 2001 at Zoar Baptist Church. Interment followed at Cleveland Memorial Park.

Memorials may be made to Baptist Children's Home of N.C., P.O. Box 338, Thomasville, NC 27361; or to "Together We Build" at Zoar Baptist Church, 1740 S. Lafayette Street, Shelby, NC 28152.

Clay-Barnette Funeral Home of Shelby was in charge of the arrangements.

RUPPERT SIMMONS
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Ruppert Simmons, 95, of 601 Groves Street, died June 18, 2001 at White Oak Manor, Kings Mountain.

A native of Banks County, Georgia, he was son of the late Johnny and Rosie Broome Simmons and husband of the late Alice Lane Simmons.

Mr. Simmons was a retired dairy farmer and member of Eastside Baptist Church, Kings Mountain.

He is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Ervin and Sadie Simmons of Kings Mountain; daughter and son-in-law, Monzell and Bobby Moore of Kings Mountain; brothers, Floy Simmons of Toccoa, Georgia, Burch Simmons and Bud Simmons, both of Cornelia, Georgia; sisters, Betty Hard of Mt. View, California, Winnie York and Gertrude Chitwood of Virginia, Ruth Kaufman of Georgia, Geraldine Marcus of Demorest, Georgia, and Lillie Mae Maxwell of Cornelia, Georgia; six grandchildren; seven great grandchildren; and one great great grandchild. A daughter, Wordie Lee Shed, preceded him in death.

Rev. Buddy Williams and Rev. Ansel Center officiated a funeral service on June 20, 2001 at Ollie Harris Memorial Chapel.

Interment followed at Mountain Rest Cemetery in Kings Mountain.

Harris Funeral Home, Inc. of Kings Mountain was in charge of the arrangements.

RICHARD E. JONES
GAFFNEY - Mr. Richard Edward Jones, 42, of 101 Short Alley, died June 16, 2001 at Upstate Carolina Medical Center.

A native of Kings Mountain, he was son of Edward and Peggy Strickland Jones of Kings Mountain.

Mr. Jones was employed at Peelers Rug. He was of the Baptist faith.

He is survived by wife, Gloria Jean Henderson Jones of the home; stepdaughters, Teresa Crowe and Linda Kay Henry, both of Gaffney; stepsons, Jimmy Dean Lewis and Roger Pruitt, both of Gaffney;

his parents; brother, Ernest Jones of Kings Mountain; sisters, Penny Perry and Lisa Jones of Kings Mountain; four step grandchildren.

Mr. Ashby Blakely officiated a graveside service on June 19, 2001 at Draytonville Baptist Church Cemetery, and interment followed.

Shuford-Hatcher Funeral Home of Gaffney was in charge of the arrangements.

DANNY L. McCLAIN
BOSTON - Mr. Danny Lee McSwain, 42, died June 8, 2001 at Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts.

A native of Kings Mountain, he was born December 31, 1958, son of Winslow and Betty McClain of Kings Mountain. He was a 1977 graduate of Kings Mountain High School.

He is survived by his parents; eight sisters, Clara Poindexter and husband Joe of New Haven, Connecticut, Maggie Mintz and husband Jamie of Detroit, Michigan, Doris Foster and husband Robert of Bradford, Massachusetts, Bernice McClain of Kings Mountain, Pamela McGee of Detroit, Michigan, Sandra Odems and husband Eric, Sheila Dawkins and husband Jonathan, and Sharon McClain, all of Kings Mountain; four brothers, Herman McClain of Detroit, Michigan, Johnny McClain of Charlotte, James McClain and wife Andrea of Gastonia, and Rodgerick "Frog" McClain of Kings Mountain; a host of other relatives, grandmother, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and friends, special cousins Christine Tate and Ruth Morris, and special aunt, Helen Gordon.

Rev. Andrew Rollinson officiated a funeral service on June 16, 2001 at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Kings Mountain. Interment followed in the church cemetery.

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

HELEN MCKEE
BURLINGTON - Helen Bridges McKee, 85, Twin Lakes Center, formerly of Kings Mountain, died June 13, 2001 at Alamance Regional Medical Center.

A native of Cleveland County, she was the daughter of the late Colin and Margaret Lee Bridges. She was the wife of the late Thomas Cone "Red" McKee. She was a member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, and was retired from the textile industry.

She is survived by her son, Dr. Michael McKee and wife Gail of Burlington; sister, Virginia Bridges and husband J.D. of Kings Mountain; and two grandchildren, Laura McKee of Atlanta, GA and Dr. Amanda McKee of Raleigh.

A graveside service was conducted by Pastor Ben Bishop at 4 p.m. Friday at Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Kindred Spirits, a wildlife rehabilitation and care center, P.O. Box 1222 Graham, NC 27253.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

ELIZABETH GILL
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Mrs. Elizabeth Gill, 75, of 221 Watterson Street, died June 9, 2001 at her residence.

A native of Grover, NC, she was born September 9, 1925, daughter of the late David Dilson Williams and Sally Ellis Williams.

Mrs. Gill was educated at St. Peters Public School in Grover and Davidson High School. She was a member of Shiloh A.M.E. Church, Grover, and later joined Bynum Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church, Kings Mountain. She served faithfully as a member of the Kitchen Committee and was also a choir member and served on the Missionary Board.

She is survived by her husband, Samuel Gill of Kings Mountain; three children, Linda Harris of Phila, Thomas Roach of Phila and James Roach, Jr. of Shelby; son-in-law, George Harris of Phila; daughters-in-law, Anna Mae Roach of Shelby and Shiril Roach of Gastonia; six grandchildren; eight great grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends; special friend, Frances Brooks.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her first husband, James Williams Roach; a son, Billy Roach; and daughter, Silvia Roach.

Rev. Reginald McClean officiated a funeral service on June 15, 2001 at New Bynum Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church, Kings Mountain. Interment followed at Mountain Rest Cemetery, Kings Mountain.

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

ULYSSES G. WILLIAMS
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Ulysses Grant Williams, 78, Dilling Street, died June 14, 2001 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

A native of West Jefferson, he was the son of the late James O. and Rebecca Williams. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, and was retired from Summey's Building Supply.

He was also preceded in death by two brothers, Richard and Avery Williams; three sisters, Bessie Poindexter, Margaret Fisher, and Fallie Keever; and five grandchildren, Wayne Sanders, Tara Sanders Dennis Teague, Lacey Teague, and David Lamar Conner.

He is survived by his wife, Thelma Carroll Williams of the home; six children, Jerome Grant Williams and wife Judith, Dorothy Ann Sanders and husband Wayne Douglas, Savannah W. Clark and husband Bobby, Pamela Berryhill, Starlene Williams, and Randy Dean Williams, all of Kings Mountain; three sisters, Ruby Elam of Southpoint, Ohio, Bobbie Stewart of Taylorsville, and Pauline Rearden of Lawndale; 16 grandchildren, Jerri Craig of Kings Mountain, Jack Williams of Kings Mountain, Crystal Williams of Kings Mountain, Debra Williams Hullett of Kings Mountain, Stevie Sanders of Gastonia, Robin Sanders of Gastonia, Tonya Dodgen of Gastonia, Bennie James Teague

of Kings Mountain, Jesse Teague of Kings Mountain, Cody Teague of Kings Mountain, Amanda Carrigan of Kings Mountain, Pamela Cantrell of Salem, Danny Reid Conner Jr. of Kings Mountain, Amy Visonguard of Kings Mountain, Roger Lee Bell of Kings Mountain, and Richard Roseberry of Dallas; and 38 great-grandchildren.

A graveside service was conducted by the Rev. Timmy Whitaker at 3:30 p.m. Sunday at Mountain Rest Cemetery. Pallbearers were Bennie James Teague, Richard Eugene Roseberry, Danny Conner, Jack Williams, Paul Visonguard, and Daniel Graig.

Carothers Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

INPANH PHOUVANAY
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Inpanh Phouvanay, 40, 106 Fox Trot Lane, died June 12, 2001 at her home.

A native of Nakham, Laos, she was the daughter of the late Phanmaha Phonemaha. She was a member of Centerview Lao Mission Baptist Church, Belmont. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by her husband, Inpone Phouvanay of Kings Mountain; son, March Phouvanay of Kings Mountain; daughter, Shannon Phouvanay of Kings Mountain; father, Khao Phonemaha of Nakham, Laos; brothers, Somkhit Phonemaha and Lith Phonemaha of Nakham, Laos; and sisters, Sompong Phonemaha and Koun Phonemaha, both of Nakham, Laos, and Kone Phonemaha of Milford, CT.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Judson Lennon and Bounleth Koulamith at 11 a.m. Saturday at Ollie Harris Memorial Chapel.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Cleveland County, 951 Wendover Heights Road, Shelby, NC 28150 or Centerview Lao Mission Baptist Church, 2300 Acme Road, Belmont, NC 28012.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

JESSE E. ROBINSON
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Jesse Eugene Robinson, 83, formerly of Front Royal, VA, died June 13, 2001 at Hospice at Wendover, Shelby.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army. He was a procurement officer for NASA.

He is survived by his wife, Louise Duty Robinson of Kings Mountain; sons, Jesse M. Robinson and wife Carol of Rockville, MD and Jeff E. Robinson and wife Karen of Charlotte; grandsons, David Robinson and wife Ashley of Kings Mountain, Greg Robinson and wife Holly of Kings Mountain, and Christopher Robinson of Charlotte; great-granddaughter, Morgan Robinson; and great-grandsons, Miles Robinson and Pierce Robinson.

A memorial service will be held for the family.

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Gateway sign project informs travelers coming through area

By BEN LEDBETTER
Staff Writer

Travelers through Interstate 85 in Cleveland County will soon see signs guiding them to Kings Mountain's National and State parks.

As part of the gateway project, two signs will be placed on both north and south bound I-85 for the parks, with additional signs on the ramps, and on N.C. Highway 161.

The \$7,951 signs will be at exit 8 on the interstate. National and state parks involved in the Gateway are Kings Mountain National Park, Crowders Mountain State Park and Kings Mountain State Park.

City of Kings Mountain Mayor Rick Murphrey said the city has asked that Highway 161 be the road that connects all the parks in Kings Mountain.

But the Gateway project will affect more than the parks. Murphrey said this project could steer more people downtown as well since motorists could come to both the parks and the city off of Highway 161.

"Hopefully that would revitalize the downtown area," Murphrey said. "You could have different shops that were related to the parks."

"The main theme of this is a partnership with all three

parks," Murphrey said. The gateway connection idea started when Crowders Mountain State Park purchased land which connected the two other area parks.

Kings Mountain National Military Park Superintendent Erin Broadbent said the gateway will make seeing all three parks easier.

"It's definitely going to benefit all four entities," Broadbent said. "It helps join all three parks together, and folks can come off and visit all three parks. It makes it easier on the visitor."

In a letter to North Carolina Senator Walter Dalton, Murphrey said the North Carolina Department of Transportation division office could install the signs but currently does not have the money to purchase the signs.

The gateway is a partnership between the City of Kings Mountain, Crowders Mountain State Park, Kings Mountain National Military Park and Kings Mountain State Park.

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