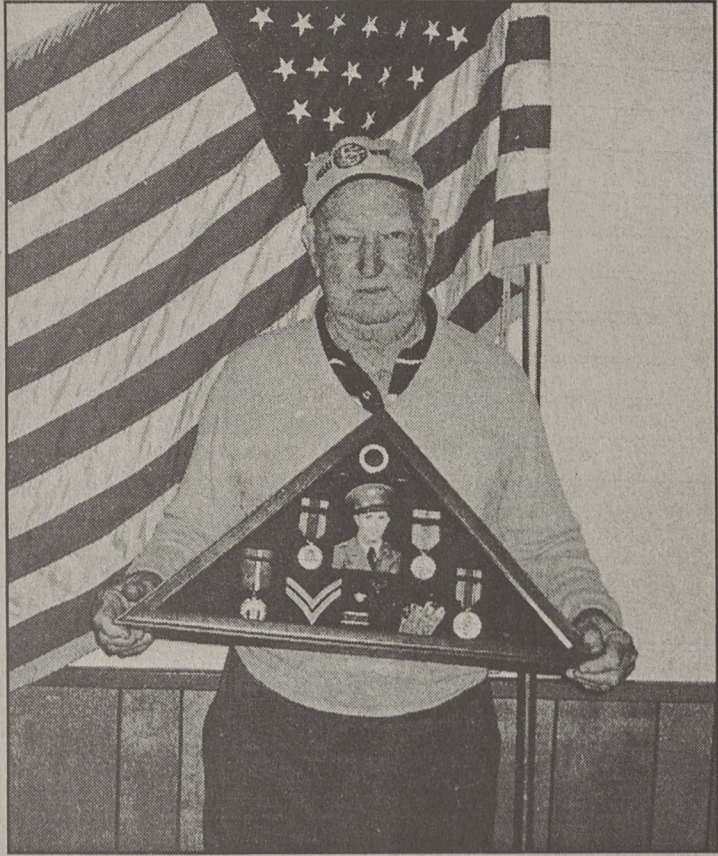


OBITUARIES



Clyde Whetstine and his World War II medals.

Whetstine given flag case for WWII medals

Clyde Whetstine was honored at a reception May 24 to recognize his World War II service in the Pacific Theater.

The reception was hosted by his niece, Diane Whetstine.

American Legion Post 155 Commander Claude Pearson presented Whetstine with a flag case medal display exhibiting his various medals. From 1942 through the end of the war in 1945, Whetstine served with the 5th Army Air Force, 380th Bomb Group, 531st Squadron.

Affectionately known as The Flying Circus, the 380th BG was the B-24 Liberator bomber group credited with turning back the Japanese invasion of Australia. After two years of operating from secret bases

in northern Australia, the 380th moved into the Philippines in February 1945. There, they joined the rest of the 5th Air Force in attacks on Formosa, Indo China, Japanese areas of the Philippines, and on China itself. In June 1945, the group moved to Okinawa to begin the attack on Japan proper. The Flying Circus, in their B-24's, made the longest bombing missions of WWII, to the oil refineries of Balikpapan, Borneo (200 miles further than the Ploesti mission in Europe) and to those at Surabaya, Java (as long as Ploesti).

The men of the 380th Bombardment Group were decorated many times for heroism in action, including two unit citations. Among the medals presented to Whetstine were the Philippine Liberation Medal, Asiatic Pacific Theater Campaign Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and the Victory Medal of WWII.

The son of Victor and Willie Adams Whetstine, Clyde was married to the late Mildred Moss. He has one sister, Nell Bridges of Kings Mountain; and three brothers, Jack Whetstine of Myrtle Beach, SC, Bill Whetstine of Kings Mountain, and the late Clarence Whetstine. All four brothers were involved in the war effort at the same time, one on the home front and the other three overseas.

AB SNOW
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Alice Betty "AB" Snow, 78, died May 31, 2003 at Duke University Medical Center following a severe illness that started in December.

She was the daughter of the late Paul and Lillian Mauney. The family moved to Kings Mountain when she was an infant.

She graduated from Kings Mountain High School in 1941 and received a BS degree in Secretarial Administration from the Women's College of Greensboro (now UNCG). She married Richard Maynard Snow in 1944. They lived in numerous locations throughout the U.S. and England while he was in the Air Force, then moved to Mount Airy when he retired. While there, AB began to take lessons in art and developed her artistic interest and talents.

The Snows moved to Kings Mountain in 1980 and later opened and ran a gallery and framing shop on Margrace Road. Mrs. Snow helped found the Southern Arts Society in 1984.

She was a member of First Presbyterian Church, where she participated in the choir, Women's Circle, and service and mission projects. She was a member of the Thursday Afternoon Book Club, the Guild of Charlotte Artists, and the Charlotte Art League.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Maynard Snow, and her daughter, Ann Snow Goes.

She is survived by her siblings - Jack Mauney of Tempe, AZ, Pauline Kellam of Charlotte, and Flem Mauney of Norco, CA; cousins Sue Ruddock of Charlotte, Bill Ruddock of Jackson, MS and Pat Sumrell of Pine Mountain, GA; three of her children, Linda Hofacker of Lexington, KT, Dick Snow of Efland, and Jerre Snow of Kings Mountain; six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at First Presbyterian Church.

Memorials may be made to the Southern Arts Society, the Southern Arts Society Scholarship Program, or the Southern Arts Society Depot Renovation Projects, in care of Southern Arts Society, P.O. Box 334, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

MARY PROCTOR SPENCER - Mary Frances McGinnis Proctor, 88, died May 31, 2003 at her home. She had been in declining health the last several years, and seriously ill for two months.

A native of Kings Mountain, she was the

daughter of the late Wiley H. and Minnie Carpenter McGinnis. She was a graduate of Kings Mountain High School, Appalachian State College, and received her LPN from Rowan Tech in 1973.

She earlier worked as a clerk for Montgomery Ward, then was a nurse at Rowan Hospital and later at the Lutheran Home in Salisbury.

She was a member of Calvary Lutheran Church and was a lifetime member of the Women of ELCA.

She is survived by her husband, Charles C. Proctor Sr., whom she married April 6, 1936; son, Charles C. Proctor Jr. of Manassia, VA; daughter Cynthia P. Russell of Salisbury; brother, D.C. McGinnis of Charleston, SC; six grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. David Nelson at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Calvary Lutheran Church.

Interment was in the columbarium of the church. Memorials may be made to Rowan County Heart Association, in care of Betty Brissson, 140 Regency Road, Salisbury, NC 28144 or to the charity of the donor's choice.

Lyerly Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

RUBY DIXON
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Ruby Lingerfelt Dixon, 82, 534 Bell Road, died June 1, 2003 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

A native of Gaston County, she was the daughter of the late John Frank and Lucretia Summers Lingerfelt and wife of the late Edwin D. Dixon. She was also preceded in death by her grandson, David Bryan "Toasty" Hardin.

She was a homemaker and a member of Long Creek Presbyterian Church.

She is survived by her daughter, Jackie D. Hardin and husband John of Kings Mountain; sister Iva L. Beam and husband Tom of Kings Mountain; grandchildren, Jacquelyn R. Treadway and husband Raymond of Kings Mountain and John S. Hardin and wife Pam of Herndon, VA; and great-grandchildren, Taryn Treadway and Ashley Hardin.

A graveside service was conducted by the Rev. Rick Holmes at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

MAUDE McSWAIN
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Maude Dengler McSwain, 83, 1708 Shelby Road, died June 1, 2003 at the home of her friends and caregivers, Mr. and Mrs. William Heavner in Clover, SC.

A native of Ashland County, PA, she was the daughter of the late Charles Elmer and Elizabeth Lenora Rhea Dengler and wife of the late Spurgeon Eugene

McSwain. She was a retired secretary for Margrace Mills and bookkeeper for Phifer Hardware. She was a member of First Presbyterian Church.

She is survived by her great niece, Teresa Bell of Kings Mountain; and sisters-in-law, Juanita Goforth of Kings Mountain and Jeanette M. Jensen of Virginia Beach, VA.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Dean Smith at 4 p.m. Wednesday at Ollie Harris Memorial Chapel. Burial was in Bethlehem Baptist Church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to First Presbyterian Church Bus Fund, P.O., Box 1188, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

JAMES PANTHER
GROVER - James Grady "Whitey" Panther, 95, 1046 Lavender Road, died May 29, 2003 at White Oak Manor of Shelby.

A native of Cherokee County, SC, he was the son of the late Charlie Columbus Panther and Fannie Mae Love Panther and husband of the late Minnie Verdine Bivins Panther. He was also preceded in death by sisters Edna Black, Veola Leford and Ovelia Vaughn, and brothers Gusse, Archie, McKinnley and J.B. Panther.

He was retired from Minette Mill in Grover and Lily Mill in Shelby.

He is survived by his sons and daughters-in-law, James Richard Panther and Roswitha of Grover and Austin Lee Panther and Peggy of Shelby; daughter and son-in-law Margaret Lucille Smith and Harold of Shelby; brother Floyd Panther of Gastonia; sisters Irene Blanton of Shelby and Dessie Johnson of Dallas; eight grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Troy Harris at 11:30 a.m. Saturday at Clay-Barnette Funeral Home Chapel, Shelby. Interment was in Cleveland Memorial Park.

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

Clay-Barnette Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

JUNIOR LANCASTER

GROVER - Junior Franklin Lancaster, 77, 1306 Long Branch Road, died May 29, 2003 at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem.

A native of Spartanburg County, SC, he was the son of the late William Bus Lancaster and Lillie Louella Mason and husband of the late Olivia Trakas Lancaster. He was also preceded in death by brothers W.W. Lancaster, James Mitchell Lancaster, Arthur Lancaster and C.K. Lancaster, and sisters Helen Hodge and Ethel

Whitt. He worked at Firestone for 23 years and was a Camp Ranger for Pioneer Girl Scouts. He was a member of Golden Valley Methodist Church. He was a founding member of the Chapel Grove Volunteer Fire Department in Gastonia, and was a member of the Cherry Mountain Volunteer Fire Department in Bostic for eight years, where he served as chief for six years.

He is survived by his wife, Viola Harris Lancaster of the home; sons and daughters-in-law, William Frank and Rosetta Lancaster of Bostic, Roy Michael and Cynthia Lancaster of Rockwell, Roger and Pam Trammell of Blacksburg, SC, and Ronald and Linda Trammell of Covington, GA; daughters and sons-in-law Joyce Lancaster and Rick Southard of Grover, Dianne and Chris Vallee of Canada, and Sandra Sisk of Ellenboro; brothers and sister-in-law, Ervin Lancaster of Spartanburg, SC and Charles and Gladys Lancaster of Bessemer City; 23 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at 11 a.m. Monday at Clay-Barnette Funeral Home Chapel. Burial was in Pisgah ARP Church Cemetery, Gastonia.

Clay-Barnette Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

GLEENDA IVEY

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Glenda Kaye Ivey, 60, 552 Waco Road, died May 31, 2003 at her home.

A native of Gaston County, she was the daughter of the late Robert Coleman Stroupe Sr. and Elsie Ione Lockridge Stroupe.

She was a member of First Wesleyan Church. She was a teacher's assistant at Bethware Elementary School for 28 years. She was a member of the North Carolina Teacher's Assistants Association, where she served as treasurer. She was a surviving cancer patient.

She is survived by her husband, William Ivey of Kings Mountain; brother Robert Coleman "Bobby" Stroupe Jr. and wife Doris of Lowell; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Mike and Mary Ivey of Kings Mountain; niece Lisa Parker of Kings Mountain; and grandchildren Allison Ware Houser and Derek Lindsay Ware.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Don Williams at 4 p.m. Tuesday at First Wesleyan Church. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to American Cancer Society, 500 East Morehead Street, Suite 211, Charlotte, NC 28202.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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Kings Mountain Weather Report

(Compiled by Kenneth Kitzmiller)

| | May 28-June 3 | Year Ago |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Total precipitation | 2.33 | 1.01 |
| Maximum 1 day | 2.21 (3rd) | .50 (30th, 31st) |
| Month of May | 11.18 | 1.56 |
| Year to date | 41.85 | 18.47 |
| Low temperature | 52 (29th) | 65 (28th, 29th, 31st) |
| High temperature | 84 (31st) | 93 (3rd) |
| Average temperature | 67.9 | 77.6 |

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Hogue returns from Iraq duty

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Christopher W. Hogue, son of Julia A. and Dennis Hogue of Kings Mountain, recently returned from a nine-month deployment while assigned to the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit based in Camp Lejeune.

4,000 Atlantic Fleet Sailors and marines deployed aboard the ships of the USS Nassau Amphibious Ready Group who participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Hogue is a 2000 graduate of Kings Mountain High School. He joined the Marine Corps in September

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