

# OBITUARIES

**YVONNE BRODNAX**  
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Yvonne Brodnax, 83, 310 Scotland Drive, died April 7, 2005 at the Hospice Facility in Shelby.

She was born in Urbana, Ohio, daughter of the late Albert and Altha Seely Ratcliff. She was also preceded in death by her sister, Lucille Queen.

She was a homemaker and a member of the First Wesleyan Church in Kings Mountain.

Proverbs 31:28 - Her children arise up, and call her blessed... (KJV).

She is survived by her husband, Walter Brodnax of Kings Mountain; sons Sam Brodnax and wife Peggy of Lilburn, GA and Scott Brodnax of Clover, SC; daughters Susan Kuban and husband Phil of Marietta, GA and Sheryl Meacham and husband Leland of Kings Mountain; brother Albert Ratcliff of Chicago, IL; grandchildren Leslie Kuban, Scott Kuban Michelle D'Angelo, Chuck Kaylor, Amy Brodnax and Becky Brodnax; and great grandchild Eleya D'Angelo.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Don Williams at 2 p.m. Sunday at First Wesleyan Church. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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April 23, 2005  
Time: 5:00 PM  
**Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church**  
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Shelby, NC 28150  
**Rev. M. DeWayne Mack, Pastor**  
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**REBECAH DIXON**  
PADUCAH, KY - Services for Rebecah Dover Dixon were held Sunday, April 10 at 2 p.m. at the Milner & Orr Funeral Home in Paducah, with Randy Holt officiating. Burial was in Woodlawn Memorial Gardens in Paducah.



Mrs. Dixon died at 12:45 p.m. Thursday, April 7 at her home. A native of Grover, Mrs. Dixon had also resided in Kings Mountain. She was a retired church organist after 27 years of service. She was also a relief organist and pianist for the senior adult choir for the Lone Oak First Baptist Church.

She is survived by her husband of 56 years, the Rev. Dr. Harley C. Dixon, her daughters, Deborah Clark and Waian Shuemaker of Paducah, her sons, Clint Dixon of Paducah, Mark Dixon of New York City, Kirk Dixon of Louisville, KY, nine grandchildren and one great grandson. She is also survived by a sister, Mary Ann Canipe, her brother James Dover, and her step-mother, Laura Dover of Grover.

**THEODORE BYERS SR.**  
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Theodore Byers Sr., 82, 513 Belvedere Circle, died Sunday, April 3, 2005 at his home. He was the son of the late Robert and Ola Byers. Mr. Byers loved bowling and was a member of many bowling leagues throughout the area. He retired from Ryerson Steel in 1989 and was a veteran of World War II.

In addition to his parents, his wife, Catherine Byers, preceded him in death.

He is survived by his daughter, Beverly Byers of Kings Mountain; four sons, Theodore Byers Jr. of Orange, NJ, Timothy Byers of Newark, NJ, Michael Byers of Charlotte, and Bradley Byers of Newark, NJ; one sister, Margie Walker

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of California; 13 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

A memorial service was held on Thursday, April 7 at 3 p.m. at Mt. Zion Baptist Church with the Rev. W.M. Sims officiating.

Withrow's Funeral Home, Inc. was in charge of arrangements.

**FRED MARCUS OWENS**  
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Fred Marcus Owens, 94, resident of King Street, died April 10, 2005 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

He was born in Kings Mountain, son of the late John Crayton and Rettie Whisenant Owens. He was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Martha

Crawford Owens, brothers Richard Owens, Charles Owens and Alex Owens, sister Geneva Black, daughter-in-law Margaret Swanson Owens, and son-in-law Robert Ramsey.

He was a farmer and the oldest member of Bethlehem Baptist Church. He is survived by his son, John Fred Owens of Camden, SC; daughters Louise O. Lynch and husband Dwain of Kings Mountain, Helen O. Ayscue and husband Bobby of Kings Mountain, MauDava O. Morton of Gastonia, Joyce O. Ramsey of Anderson, SC, Frances O. Herndon and husband Charlie of Lugoff, SC, and Pat O. Preston and husband Charles of Augusta, GA; sisters Maude McCarter and Mary Allen of Kings Mountain; grandchildren Beverly Moffitt and husband Steve, Lynda Quarles and husband Gordon, Mike Ramsey and wife Janet, Cindy Woodside and husband Sammy, Dean Preston and wife Candace, Ellinor BeVier and husband Craig, Ava Joyner and husband Eddy, Dona Carey and husband Scott, David Herndon, Jeff Herndon and wife Rhonda, Wesley Herndon and wife Shana, Elizabeth Rudy and husband Kevin, Marcus Owens and wife Robyn, Nicholas Owens and wife Rachel, Jamie Belcher and wife Charlotte, Scott Belcher, Daniel Ayscue and wife Gina, and David Ayscue and wife Brooke; and 26 great grandchildren.

The funeral will be conducted by the Revs. David Blanton and Lee Thomas at 2 p.m. Thursday at Bethlehem Baptist Church. Interment will be in the church cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Bethlehem Baptist Church "Building Fund," 1017 Bethlehem Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 or to Bonclarken, 500 Pine Drive, Flat Rock, NC 28731. Harris Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

**WILLIAM N. PODARAS**  
KINGS MOUNTAIN - William N. Podaras, 76, 717 Canterbury Road, died Friday, April 8, 2005 at his home. A native of Ocala, FL, he was the son of the late Steve and Bessie Lee Whisenant Podaras. He was founder and pastor of Gospel Assembly Church, Kings Mountain, where he was pastor for 40 years. His father, Steve Podaras, came to this country at age 17 from Sparta, Greece. William loved his Dad deeply and wanted to be just like him. He worked with his Dad in the restaurant business, and loved to cook.

After his Dad's death, William joined the Army. He served three years, with 11 months of active combat in Korea. These events would lead him to the ministry. He was a Sgt. First Class. Several years after returning home from the Army, William was saved in an Oral Roberts Crusade and later worked for Oral Roberts Ministries in Tulsa, OK. He married Bernice Speer Podaras. Her family were long time friends of the Podaras family and Pastor Fred Speer had helped William in his early Christian experience. He said that she was the prettiest girl he had ever seen.

After moving to Gastonia in 1963, William became General Superintendent of Danoca Industries for 5 years before going to the ministry full time. In 1964 he founded the Tabernacle for God, later re-named Gospel Assembly Church. He was also in Who's Who in NC in 1973.

He is survived by his wife, Bernice Speer Podaras of Kings Mountain; son William N. Podaras of Charlotte; daughters Darlene Knight and husband Steve of Gastonia, Janet Newman and husband Chuck of Cramerton, Sheila Hayes and husband Denis of Kings Mountain, Ruth James and husband Steve of Gastonia, Rebekah James and husband Billy of Gastonia, and Leah Hardin and husband Todd of Kings Mountain; brother Leon Podaras and wife Jewel of Melbourne, FL; sister Doris Westmoreland and husband Charles of Tulsa, OK; and 12 grandchildren.

A private interment will be held for the family. Memorials may be made to Gospel Assembly Church, P.O. Box 956, Gastonia, NC 28053. Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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**BELLE BUCHANAN**  
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Belle Katherine Frye Buchanan, 98, 1612 Fallston Road, Shelby, formerly of Kings Mountain, died April 11, 2005 at Willow Ridge Nursing Home, Rutherfordton.

She was the daughter of the late John and Mary Garland Frye and wife of the late Floyd Everett Buchanan. She was also preceded in death by brothers Arthur Frye, Ike Frye and Iss Frye and sisters Rettie Whitson, Cordie Gortney and Texie Harrell.

She was a member of Kings Mountain Baptist Church and was retired from Spruce Pine Mica Depot. She is survived by her daughters, Mary Davis and husband Gene of Shelby and Charlotte Jones and husband Ted of Kings Mountain; grandchildren Scott Jones and wife Tania, Kevin Davis and wife Teresa, and Randy Davis and wife Lorene; great grandchildren Ashley Davis Quinn and husband Ty, Meagan Davis, Kaitlin Davis and Harley Jones; sister-in-law Mildred Frye of Spruce Pine; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was conducted by Dr. Jeff Hensley at 4 p.m. Wednesday at Mountain Rest Cemetery. Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**CALVIN CRAWFORD**  
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Calvin Darrell Crawford, 66, 133 Midway Lake Road, died Saturday, April 9, 2005 at his home. He was born in Lincoln County, son of the late John and Bonnie Sprouse Crawford. He was also preceded in death by two brothers, John Stealy Crawford and Ramos Crawford.

He was a retired construction contractor, owner and operator of Triple C Mobile Home Park and Midway Lakes. He was a member of Christian Freedom Baptist Church. He loved to hunt and fish.

He is survived by his wife, Clara O. Crawford of Kings Mountain; sons Tony Curtis Crawford and wife Marcy of Kings Mountain, and Calvin "Keith" Crawford and wife Nicole of Kings Mountain; daughters Cathy Peadycord and husband Jack of Kings Mountain, Susan Proctor and husband Johnny of Kings Mountain, and Sharon Forbes and husband Jack of Kings Mountain; brother David Crawford of Cherryville; grandchildren Johnathan Crawford, Suzanne Rise Hunsinger, Norman Daniel "Bubba" Hunsinger III, Lauren Dana Forbes, Jack Thomas "J Thomas" Peadycord III, Calvin Keith "CJ" Crawford Jr., Bethany Crawford, and Tiffany Dawn Patterson; and great grandchildren Hannah Elizabeth Crawford and Hunter Kevin Morrison.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Mike Chambers and Buddy Williams and Jack Forbes at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Christian Freedom Baptist Church. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery. Memorials may be made

to Christian Freedom Baptist Church, 246 Range Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086 or to Hospice of Gaston County, 258 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia, NC 28054. Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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**ANNIE DAVES**  
CHERRYVILLE - Mrs. Annie Mae Gibson Daves, 90, 111 Harrison Road, died Saturday, April 9, 2005 at Carolina Care. A native of Cleveland County, she was the daughter of the late Clarence and Candice Anderson Gibson. She was preceded in death by her husband, William Martin Daves, sons Fred Daves and William Daves, grandson Todd Haskins, sister Mabel Gibson and brother Paul Gibson.

She was retired from Burlington Industries and formerly worked at Mauney Hosiere, Kings Mountain. She was a member of Cherokee Baptist Church, Kings Mountain. She is survived by her daughters, Lucy Morrow and Venise Webb, both of Cherryville, Patricia Haskins of Grover, Virginia Wales of Vale, Helen Ayers of Bessemer City; and 12 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Vince Hefner and David Day at 2 p.m. Monday at Cone Memorial Chapel of Carpenter's Funeral Home. Burial was in New Camp Creek Baptist Church cemetery, Kings Mountain.

Memorials may be made to the charity of the donor's choice. Carpenter's Funeral Home, Cherryville, was in charge of arrangements.

**WILLARD DOTSON**  
KINGS MOUNTAIN - Willard "Red" Dotson, 84, 812 Bethlehem Road, died April 7, 2005 at his home. A native of Rutherford County, he was the son of the late Frank and Maggie Rogers Dotson. He was also preceded in death by a brother, Dennis Dotson, and sisters Pauline Ernst, Ocie Thomas and Agnes Loizakes.

He was retired from Davis Electric in Greenville, SC. He was a member of Second Baptist Church, Kings Mountain, and served in the United States Army during WWII. He is survived by his wife, Jean Leming Dotson of Kings Mountain; sons Ronnie Dotson and wife Terri of Jemison, AL, and Steve Dotson of Kings Mountain; daughters Billie Keeter and husband Danny of Bostic, Angela Swofford and husband Donald of Kings Mountain, and Lisa Murray and husband Jerry of Grover; brother Tom Dotson of Cliffside; sister Marilyn McKinney of Grover; 10 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Mike Chambers at 3 p.m. Sunday at Christian Freedom Baptist Church. Burial was in Mountain Rest Cemetery. Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**Pete Moore, CEO**

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