

OBITUARIES

BILLY G. BATES

HENDERSONVILLE - Billy G. Bates, 75, of Hendersonville, died Sunday, October 21, 2007 at the Laurels of Hendersonville.

He was born in Converse, SC, son of the late Marcus Erwin Bates and Esther Brown Bates and had also resided in Kings Mountain prior to moving to Hendersonville many years ago.

Mr. Bates received his Associate degree from Gardner-Webb College, a Bachelor in Education from Wofford College, Master's in School Administration from UNC-Charlotte and Education Specialist (E.dd.) from Western Carolina. He was employed as an educator with the Kings Mountain School District and served as Superintendent of Hendersonville City Schools from 1978 to 1984.

He was a member of Lions International, the Kings Mountain United Fund where he served as both president and campaign chairman, was a former president of Kings Mountain Chapter N.C.A.E. and was an inductee in the Kings Mountain Sports Hall of Fame. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Hendersonville and was a veteran of the United States Army.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Betty Wise Bates; two daughters, Elizabeth Bates Harris and her husband Rev. Mark E. Harris of Charlotte; Laura Rebecca Bates Hodges and her husband Jerry L. Hodges, Jr. of Winston-Salem; a son, William Mark Bates of Hendersonville; two sisters, Jacqueline McIntyre of Weaverville and Ann Sanders of Greenville, SC; and grandchildren, Laura, John and Matthews Harris, and Hannah and Holly Hodges.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, October 26, 2007 at First Baptist Church of Hendersonville. Burial will follow at Shepherd Memorial Park. The family will receive friends from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, October 25, 2007 at the Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Billy G. Bates Scholarship Fund, Attn: John Bridges, Gardner-Webb University, Box 997, Boiling Springs, NC 28017. An online guest book is available for family and friends by visiting www.thossshepherd.com.

Thos. Shepherd & Son Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

MICHAEL STEVEN COBB

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Michael Steven Cobb, 59, 611 W. Gold St., died October 21, 2007 at his home.



He was a native of Cleveland County and son of the late Charlie and Eula Mae Oliver Cobb.

He was a heavy equipment mechanic. He was a member of Fairview Masonic Lodge and he served in the United States Army in Vietnam and Germany.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Rita Crawford Cobb of Kings Mountain; daughters Lori Taylor and husband Mark of Gastonia, and Sharon Carringer and husband Rusty of Kings Mountain; brothers Buddy Ronald Cobb of Washington, GA, Douglas Edward Cobb and wife Brenda of Winnsboro, SC and Mitchell David Cobb of Kings Mountain; sisters Helen Sisk and husband Dick of Kings Mountain, and Frieda Cobb of Kings Mountain; and grandchildren James Carringer, Sara Carringer and Logan Taylor.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Mike Chambers at 3 p.m. Wednesday, October 24, 2007 at Ollie Harris Memorial Chapel. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Fairview Masonic Lodge, Children's Orphanage, 600 College Street, Oxford, NC 27565 or Hospice and Palliative Care of Cleveland County, 951 Wendover Heights Drive, Shelby, NC 28150.

A guest register is available at www.harrisfunerals.com.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

DONIES MARSHALL EARLS

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Donies Marshall Earls, 67, 115-3 Battleground Road, went to be with the Lord on October 18, 2007 at his home.

He was a native of Cleveland County, son of the late Odell P. and Mary Jane Watts Earls. He was also preceded in death by his grandchild, Harley Danielle Moore, brothers Elvin P. Earls and Bobby Jackson Earls, and sisters Viola Jolley and Arie Lanier.

He was a former employee of Cherokee Insulation in Gaffney, SC. He was a Baptist.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret Hutchins Earls of Kings Mountain; son Michael

Scott Earls of Holden Beach; daughters Karen Frazier and husband Jeff of Henrietta and Connie Nelson of Kings Mountain; brothers Tommy Earls and Connie of Gaffney, SC and Robert Earls of York, SC; sisters Laura Jane Tessener and husband Curt of Shelby, Mary Lou Ramsey of York, SC, Elizabeth E. Spears of York, SC, Nellie E. Powell of Shelby, and Adale Shelito and husband Robert of Rock Hill, SC; and four grandchildren, Brandon Scott Earls, Whitney LaShay Earls, Allen Scott Lowery and Kalyn Lee Webb.

The funeral was conducted by the Rev. Stephen Sepko at 2 p.m. Monday, October 22, 2007 at Macedonia Baptist Church. Burial was in Grover Cemetery.

A guest register is available at www.harrisfunerals.com.

Harris Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

JAMES EDWARD GOFORTH SR.

SHELBY - James Edward Goforth Sr., 84, 1152 Buffalo St., died Friday, October 19, 2007 at Cleveland Regional Medical Center.

He was the son of the late Henry Grady and Fannie Lanier Goforth and husband of the late Sarah Annie Wilson Goforth. He was also preceded in death by three brothers and two sisters.

He was retired from Drexel Heritage Furniture of Shelby after 29 years of service and was a wonderful dad and is now with the Lord. He was a member of Northside Baptist Church where he was a former deacon.

He is survived by his son, James Edward "Eddie" Goforth Jr. of Shelby and his girlfriend Jackie Vickers of Hillsborough; and sister Ruby Holman of Newton.

A graveside service was conducted by the Rev. Neil Efiard at 4 p.m. Monday, October 22, 2007 at New Hope Baptist Cemetery, Earl.

Memorials may be made to Cleveland Pines Nursing Center, 1404 N. Lafayette St., Shelby, NC 28150.

A guest register is available at www.harrisfunerals.com.

Harris Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

JOHN ANDERSON ROSS

KINGS MOUNTAIN - John Anderson Ross, 87, 1255 Washington St., passed away Sunday, October 21, 2007 at White Oak Manor, Kings Mountain.

He was born in Mecklenburg County on May 5, 1920, son of the late William Anderson and Elizabeth McClure Ross.

He was a member of Westover Baptist Church and also the music director for many years. He was a WWII Navy veteran in which he served in the South Pacific. He retired from A & P Grocery Store and he also worked at Mountain View Farms.

Survivors include his wife of 66 years, Faye Huffstetler Ross of the home; sons Ronnie Ross and wife Debbie, Roger Ross and wife Cynthia, and Jeff Ross, all of Kings Mountain; grandchildren Ty, Andy, Cory and Josh Ross; and great-granddaughter Georgia Paige Ross.

The funeral was conducted by the Revs. Larry Haskins and Dale Angel at 11 a.m. Tuesday, October 23, 2007 at Greene Funeral Service - West Chapel, Gastonia. Interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery, Kings Mountain.

Pallbearers were Randy Christopher, Steve Bell, Alan Pate, and Ty, Andy and Josh Ross.

Memorials may be made to Westover Baptist Church, WMU Fund, 114 Westover Drive, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

Arrangements were with Greene Funeral Service - West Chapel, Gastonia.

LOCAL

Council to honor cops that made big arrest

City Council will honor Kings Mountain police officers who helped capture wanted criminal Daniel Keo Kung, the man whose picture had been widely publicized by "America's Most Wanted" at Tuesday night's 7 p.m. meeting at City Hall.

The resolution also honors members of the N. C. Highway Patrol and a K-9 officer with Gaston County Police who aided in the search and arrest.

ELLY MAE

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1960s were sometimes hard to come by, but she said she never compromised her principles.

The latter was the basis of her talk to the students. She said her purpose for coming to KMHS was to "be a blessing" and urged them to make good decisions by putting God first and seeking advice from Him.

She urged them to heed the words from Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

Using the example of a boy-girl relationship that can also be applied to all other areas of life, she urged the students to make a list of what's important to them, and if the boy, for instance, does not measure up to everything on the list, mark him off and eventually God will provide the right person.

"Make a commitment and make a list of things you want," she said. "Don't talk it over with a friend, talk it over with God. Once you make a commitment people will begin to come into your life. You'll find out what you're made of."

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