

OBITUARIES

Jay Biddix

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Jay Biddix, 71, 241 Putnam Lake Rd., went to be with the Lord on January 19, 2011 at Kings Mountain Hospital.

He was born in Cleveland County to the late Ross C. and Frances Hullender Biddix and also preceded in death by brothers Siemore Biddix and Ernest Biddix, and sisters Pauline Short and Bessie Childers.

Retired from A.B. Carter in Gastonia after 40 years of service, he was a member of East Gold Street Wesleyan Church where he served as Sunday school teacher for the Men's Sunday school class, usher, and vice-chairman of the local board for 20 years. He served in the United States Army in Korea during the Vietnam Era. He was a loving husband, father grandfather and brother.

Surviving are his wife of 48 years, Brenda Goodson Biddix of the home; daughter, Jayda Biddix Justus and husband, Brent of Richmond, VA; godson, Chip Wilson of Kings Mountain; brothers, Clarence "Fuzz" Biddix and wife Betty, J.W. "Nub" Biddix and wife Audrey, Earl Biddix and wife Rachel, and sisters Betty B. Hughes and Helen Biddix, all of Kings Mountain; brother-in-law Charles Goodson and wife Toni of Dacula, GA; two grandchildren, John Alexander "Jack" Justus and Graham David Justus; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was conducted Saturday, January 22 at 11 a.m. at East Gold Street Wesleyan Church. Rev. Daryl Lewis, Rev. Eddie Gray and Rev. Jim Perryman officiated and interment was in Mountain Rest Cemetery.

The family received friends Friday evening, January 21, from 6-8 p.m. at East Gold Street Wesleyan Church sanctuary.

Memorials may be made to East Gold Street Wesleyan Church, PO Box 875, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

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

Harris Funeral Home of Kings Mountain was in charge of arrangements.



at the Lincoln Nursing Center.

Born in Cleveland County, she was the daughter of the late John Lester and Nora Spurlin Caveny and was preceded in death by a son, Michael Alan Graham and by brothers, Harlen Caveny, Luke Caveny, Robert Caveny, Lester Caveny, and sisters, Lillian Spearman, Bertie Hamm and Velma Bolin.

Surviving are her husband of 64 years, Allen Graham of Kings Mountain; daughter, Sheila Graham Brown and husband Joe of Kings Mountain; daughter-in-law, Teresa H. Graham of Greensboro; brother, Pete Caveny of Kings Mountain; sister, Letha Sheppard of Blacksburg, SC; and granddaughter, Ashlie Anne Brown of Kings Mountain.

The funeral service was conducted Monday, Jan. 24, at 3 p.m. at Ollie Harris Memorial Chapel. Rev. Robert Wells, Rev. Terry Huffman and Rev. Billy Cooper officiated and interment was in Antioch Baptist Church Cemetery, Blacksburg, SC.

The family received friends from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. prior to the service at Harris Funeral Home.

Memorials may be made to Oak View Baptist Church, 1517 York Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.

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

Harris Funeral Home of Kings Mountain was in charge of arrangements.

Harris Funeral Home

Malinda Poole

GAFFNEY, SC - Mrs. Malinda Black Poole, 87 of Gaffney, SC, died Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2011 at Spartanburg Regional Medical Center of complications following a stroke.

Born August 6, 1923 in Gaffney, she was the daughter of Joseph A.T. Black and Ila Westmoreland Black and was also preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Edgar M. Poole Sr., a daughter, Malinda Poole, and a son, Dr. Mark J. Poole.

Surviving are four sons: Dr. Edgar M. Poole Jr. of Spartanburg, SC; Alan Poole of Eagle, ID; Dr. Benjamin C. Poole of Kings Mountain, NC and Philip Poole of Gaffney, SC; 21 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren.

A life-long resident of Gaffney, SC, Mrs. Poole graduated from Gaffney High School and Limestone College. She lived a life of service and love. She was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints and enjoyed singing in the choir as well as other church service in the children's Sunday school, the Women's Relief Society and the youth organization. She loved the Gospel and lived to share it with others.

Mrs. Poole taught algebra, held the office of Gaffney City Clerk and assisted in the daily operation of her husband's optometric practice. She also raised six wonderful children. She considered those children to be her life's work and was extremely proud of them, their families and their accomplishments. She also found great joy in genealogy and loved gardening. She was a capable, intelligent, resourceful woman and she will be greatly missed by her family and the Gaffney community.

A viewing was held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 701 W. Buford Street, Gaffney, Friday, January 21 from 6-8 p.m. Funeral services were held Saturday, January 22 at 1 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Bishop Brian Cox officiated, assisted by Elder Manfred Martin. Burial was in Oakland Cemetery. Grandsons served as pallbearers.

E-condolences may be made at whitecolumnsfuneralservice.com.

White Columns is serving the Poole family.

White Columns Funeral Service

Leon K. Smith, Sr.
KNOXVILLE, TN. - Leon K. Smith Sr., 89, of Knoxville, went to be with the Lord on Sunday, Jan. 16, 2011 in Raleigh, NC. He was son of the late Rev. Amziah and Daisy Smith and grew up in Kings Mountain and attended Kings Mountain elementary schools.

The funeral service was held Jan. 22, at 12 noon at Payne Avenue Missionary Baptist Church, interment following in South Memorial Park in Knoxville.

Edward Wilson
Mildred Wilson

KINGS MOUNTAIN - Double funeral services for Edward D. Wilson and Mildred Ledford Wilson will be held Saturday, January 29, 2011, at 11 a.m. at Oak Grove Baptist Church. Rev. Travis Northcutt will officiate and interment will be in Oak Grove Baptist Church Cemetery.

Edward Wilson of Philadelphia, Pa. passed in peace on Dec. 9, 2010. His loving wife, Mildred A. Ledford Wilson, originally from Kings Mountain, passed in peace on Dec. 21, 2007. She was the daughter of the late Jesse G. and Daisy Mae Ledford.

Surviving are their son and daughter-in-law Edward and Delores Wilson of Dav-

enport, FL; grandchildren Eddie, Jim, Diana, Lora, Joe and Brenda; and great-grandchildren, Stephanie, Brandon, Michelle, Tessa, Tori, Charles and Brooklyn.

Memorials may be made to The Alzheimer's Association, 378 Center Pointe Circle, Suite 1280, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701.

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

Harris Funeral Home of Kings Mountain is in charge of arrangements.

Harris Funeral Home

Blood drive, benefit

Volunteers of Patrick Senior Center will sponsor a visit of the Red Cross bloodmobile Friday, Feb. 25 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Senior center Conference Room I and will sponsor a hot dog sale from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the dining room. Tickets go on sale at \$5 for the hot dog plates beginning Feb. 1. The lunch includes two hot dogs, chili/slaw, chips, baked beans and cookie. The public is invited.

Stroke screening Feb. 8

Lifeline Screening will offer stroke screening on Tuesday, Feb. 8, at H. Lawrence Patrick Senior Center in Kings Mountain. Call 1-800-324-1851 for reservation and details. Stroke is a leading cause of death and permanent disability.

Senior Games Friday

The Gaston County Senior Games will be held at the Gastonia Adult Recreation Center, 519 W. Franklin Ave., on Friday from 10 a.m.-noon. Sign up for games and enjoy refreshments. Gladys Friday will present entertainment. Call Nicole Sain at 704-922-2163 for information.

Lutheran men to meet in Cherryville

The 88th annual convention of the North Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission (NCLMM) will convene at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5, at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1203 St. Mark's Church Road in Cherryville.

The convention will open with a communion service led by Rev. Robert E. Allen followed by the keynote speaker for the afternoon, Rev. Gary Weant. The theme for this year's convention is "Let Your Light Shine Before Men." Ned Jarrett, of NASCAR fame and a Lutheran, will be the keynote speaker for the banquet beginning at 6 p.m.

The Lutheran ministry includes distribution of over 40,000 Lutheran Men's Study Bibles, loans to mission congregations, scholarships to seminarians, distribution of devotional materials to military personnel, disaster recovery vehicles and equipment, support for youth and Scouting, and support for Lutheran men and their congregations in North Carolina.

The mission of the NCLMM, according to David Carlyle Beam of Cherryville, is "working and striving for all men to have a growing relationship with Jesus Christ through an effective men's ministry in every Lutheran congregation."

Weatherly will be missed



Lib Stewart
Staff Writer

Every time it rains and you turn on your windshield wipers, think of the late John Weatherly, who died Saturday.

His legislation in the North Carolina House of Representatives from Cleveland County made it a law to turn on a car's headlights when it's raining. And, of course, there was other legislation he was involved in but most of us who called him from time to time for news from his Raleigh office will remember that particular law. We also called him at home sometimes with questions and he always responded with answers.

Elected to the House of Representatives in 1988, his freshman term marked the end of Democratic domination for the first time since Reconstruction after the Civil War.

Prior to moving to Kings Mountain, he lived in Newton for a number of years and served on the Catawba County Board of Commissioners.

One of his attributes was that he enjoyed the fine service he gave to people from both parties. He served four terms in the House and in 2002 ran and came close to winning a Senate seat. As the North Carolina legislature convenes in Raleigh Republicans will again dominate the House and the Senate. He would have kept close tabs on them and offered advice when asked.

His funeral service will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. at Shelby Presbyterian Church.

John Weatherly was liked by all who knew him and was a gentleman.



John Weatherly

Representative John Weatherly: A Gentleman's Gentleman



Wayne King
Guest columnist

There are few who in my years of involvement in local, state and national politics that have made such an impression on me, and indeed, helped shape my philosophy and management style as the late John Weatherly. For it was under Representative John Weatherly that I had my first ever foray into the world of state politics while serving as a teenager as a North Carolina House Page in 1995, afforded by his sponsorship.

As I watched the men and women assemble from all across our state, there were indeed many who were kind, respectful and genuinely interested in the young people who were there serving. Of course, as is many times the case, I also got to observe some of the worst of characters and how they spoke to and regarded others.

John Weatherly was a man who carried himself in stark contrast to all of the others that I met there and not just because he was my local connection and indeed took upon himself to look after my well-being in Raleigh.

I can truly say that the man I observed was nothing less than a gentleman's gentleman.

The air with which he conducted himself, how he greeted everyone he came in contact with from the janitorial workers to those in high office, he was kind and generous to all. Truly, that is John Weatherly's legacy.

His resume, though he never made habit of offering it, reads like a modern day American hero.

He was a retired forester with Bowater Carolina and a past president of the Society of American Foresters, NC Division. He was a past Rotary Club president, and past member of the board of trustees of Catawba Valley Community College.

A United States Marine, a fighter pilot, an officer with the rank of Major who served in both WWII and Korea and a recipient of the Air Medal in 1944.

He was a former elder and teacher at Shelby Presbyterian Church and a former Boy Scout leader for over 30 years.

He served in elective office as a Catawba County Commissioner and then as a member of the North Carolina State House, serving at different times with his first term in the 1989-1990 session.

More than all of those years of decorated and noble service, his greatest accolade, in my opinion, is that through all of his life, he was a gentleman and a good friend to most if not all who knew him.

It is no wonder that John Weatherly was a loving husband, father and grandfather. He was a man of principle and gave respect and, it is my hope through this eulogy to extend to him the respect that he so deserved.

Those who knew John will miss him but we will all take comfort in knowing that his spark will live on in all the lives that had the opportunity to know him.

Pre-school screenings offered

Pre-school screenings for children who live in Cleveland County and will be four years old by Aug. 31, 2011 will be held by appointment Feb. 21-25 from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Office of School Readiness, 124 S. Post Rd., Shelby, beside the Food Lion and across from Cleveland

Community College. No makeup screenings will be offered.

For more information or to schedule a screening appointment call 704-476-8064 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. No appointments will be made after Feb. 11.



We invite you to visit our funeral home should you have any questions about a funeral service or advance planning.

We guarantee a quality service, at the best price, conducted in the most caring, personal, and professional manner.

Thank You, as always, for the opportunity to serve you and extend the special attention to the needs that you and your loved ones desire.

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