IX. MEMORIALS

LLOYD ROGERS APPLEGATE

August 15, 1926 – March 2, 2012

Lloyd Rogers Applegate was born in Toms River, NJ on August 15, 1926. He grew up and graduated from Toms River High School.

At the age of eighteen, Lloyd met his future wife, Joanne Buntain in the Forked River Presbyterian Church where he also accepted the Lord. He and Joanne were married in 1950. Lloyd and Joanne had one son, Gary L. Applegate in 1952. He was employed by the Toms River Newspaper as a reporter and soon after, a news editor. He also served as secretary and administrator of the Lacey Township schools.

Lloyd later left his position at the newspaper to answer the call which God had placed upon his heart. With the encouragement and support from his wife Joanne he went back to school full time and then on to seminary. He earned a BS in Education from Temple University and went on to Crozer Theological Seminary where he earned the degree of Master of Divinity. He then attended graduate school at Boston University School of Theology where he earned the degree of Master of Sacred Theology in Ecumenics and World Religions. While serving as the pastor at the Allentown church, he founded the Allentown Association of Churches. During that time he also headed the Ecumenical Office in the former Southern New Jersey Annual Conference. Lloyd always had a heart for civil rights and during a brief sabbatical, he served as New Jersey's first advisory specialist on school integration. He successfully desegregated the schools in Fairfield Township in Cumberland County, NJ. In 1986 he received the Bishop's award for outstanding work in the field of Christian unity. While he was the pastor at Hamilton UMC, he founded the Department of Pastoral Care at Jersey Shore Medical Center and was the first manager of the department. During that time he also served as Vice-president and then President of the NJ Council of Churches. He served as the chaplain of the Hamilton Fire Department as well.

Lloyd began running in his forties and then racing in his early fifties, completing five marathons. After retiring from full-time ministry, Lloyd and Joanne bought a home in Ocean Grove, NJ. He wrote and published various works including a book on Governor Newel, the Minor Prophets, a theological credo and a bare-bones grammar book, as well as many articles for various journals. His beloved wife Joanne passed away in 1997 after battling cancer for several years. Lloyd attributes most of his accomplishments and the success in his ministry to his wife Joanne and his son Gary, who supported him through the years. Lloyd always loved to sing and had a wonderful tenor voice which he used to sing in many church choirs and other choral groups. Lloyd returned as a parishioner to the Hamilton UMC and to the choir in 2001. On September 25, 2011 he married a long time friend, and member of the Hamilton UMC, Patricia Group. They enjoyed singing together in the church choir and other community choruses and participated in the visitation ministry also. Lloyd described his son as his best friend. They got together weekly to run and to visit. He enjoyed spending time with all of his family. Lloyd died of complications following surgery on March 2, 2012. At the time of his death, he was editor of the "Searchlight Journal" and the "Journal of Spirituality and Paranormal Studies".

Table of Contents

Lloyd is survived by his wife Patricia, son Gary, daughter-in-law Debbie, his grandchildren Diana Sierotowicz, Mark Applegate and Dawn Applegate, a brother Nelson, sister-in-law Gloria, niece Cheryl Kelly, and nephew Nelson.
Submitted by: Patricia B Applegate
Interment: Good Luck Cemetery, Lanoka Harbor, NJ

DORIS A. ATKINSON
October 15, 1925 - August 24, 2011

Doris A. Atkinson, widow of the Rev. Lawrence G. Atkinson, died on Wednesday, August 24, 2011 in Staunton, VA

MARY BANACH
December 27, 1935 – May 20, 2011

"*Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." – Jesus* (Luke 23:43)

Before blowing out the traditional candles at her recent birthday celebration, Mary is pictured re-affirming her life's passion for living life aglow with Gods' presence within.

She was a graduate of Eastern Bible Institute, now Valley Forge Christian College, where her husband, retired elder Richard Banach, was a classmate. For forty years (1958-1998) they were a pastoral team in the Assemblies of God (sixteen years), and the United Methodist Church (twenty-four years). Like most clergy spouses, she did it all: teaching and counseling, leading and participating in various committees, sharing her musical artistry, both instrumentally and vocally, praying for the sick, plus…..

Her interest in holistic healing as part of their pastoral care ministry, led to exploring a variety of modalities of the mind-body connection, all through the Biblical lens of our body being the temple of God. (I Corinthians 3:16). It resulted in being able to reach out and minister to a wide variety of people.

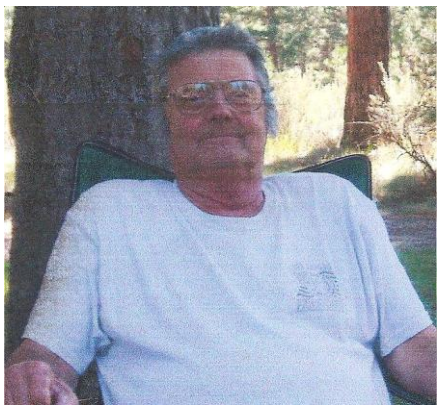
Table of Contents

As wild weather patterns increased in recent years, Mary became especially zealous in encouraging family preparedness for emergencies, both spiritually and practically. It came about from growing up in Massena NY, along with nine siblings, on her family's mostly self-sufficient dairy farm, where they provided most of their own vegetables, meat and poultry- year round! She, in turn, always loved gardening, and in recent years grew a lot of our own produce; always planting enough so she could make frequent trips to area food banks to feed the hungry!

Mary is survived by her husband of fifty-two years, Richard; her son John and his wife Karen; her daughter Carol and her two daughters Elizabeth and Jennifer. John's beloved teenage son, Christopher, predeceased her.

Submitted by: Richard Banach

WAYNE CHATTEN
February 27, 1943 – January 19, 2012



Wayne Chatten was a member of the the Delmont UMC. He filled the capacity of Lay Member At-Large to the Annual Conference, as well as being a Certified Lay Minister, a member of the Emmaus Community, and a volunteer fire fighter for the Delmont Fire Company for forty-two years.

Wayne loved the Lord with all his heart.

He is survived by his wife, Darlene Chatten; son Wayne Chatten Jr; daughter Donna Baldish; and 4 grandchildren.

Submitted by: Darlene Chatten
Interment: Leesburg NJ

BERNICE H. COLLINS
February 26, 1937 – September 11, 2011

Bernice H. Collins, wife of Retired Elder Leo B. Collins III, died in Williamsburg VA on September 11, 2011.

Table of Contents

JULIO DE SANCTIS, III
December 4, 1943 – September 9, 2011

"When the legend becomes fact, print the legend." Julio Vincent DeSanctis, III was born Dec. 4, 1943 in Millville, NJ, to Elsie DeSanctis and the late Julio DeSanctis, Jr. Julio passed away peacefully Sept. 9, 2011, in Bangor, ME, while surrounded by family after a nine year struggle with cancer.

Julio grew up with six younger sisters. He attended Vineland High, where he excelled in wrestling and was a bit of a trouble maker. He went on to achieve a Bachelor of Arts degree at his beloved West Liberty State College, WV. At West Liberty he continued his wrestling career. Julio received his juris doctor degree at the University of San Francisco, much to the dismay of a legion of district attorneys. He married his high school sweetheart, Joan Beverly Donohue. They recently celebrated their forty-fifth wedding anniversary.

Julio's wife, Joan DeSanctis is currently the pastor at Old Town UMC and Stillwater Federated Church in Old Town, ME, on appointment by the GNJC.

Julio began his law practice in the late 1960's in San Francisco fighting to end the Vietnam War before moving on to Atlantic City, NJ to help get narcotic addicts into rehabilitation programs instead of jail, long before such advocacy was common. The program known as NARCO still exists today as the John Brooks Rehabilitation Center.

Julio and Joan moved to Pittsburgh, PA, where Julio attended seminary and their son Julio V. DeSanctis, IV was born. Shortly thereafter the family made their way to Bangor, ME, where daughter Francesca was born. Julio's career could only be described as a ravenous desire for justice. After thirty-five years of defense work, his reputation for pugnacity and champion for the underdog is unparalleled.

Throughout his life Julio served the Lord right beside Joan, teaching Sunday School, counseling youth at his beloved New England Conference Camp Mechuwana, serving as lay member to both conferences at times, and NEJ Conference in 2000. On May 27, 2006, Bishop Devadhar gave Julio a Special Recognition plaque for his efforts on behalf of Eirene Immigration Center at the Asbury UMC in Camden, NJ.

We hope that everyone holds their memories of Julio DeSanctis as close to their heart as his family does.

Julio is survived by his wife Joan B. DeSanctis; son Julio V. DeSanctis, IV; daughter Francesca D. DeSanctis; mother Elsie DeSanctis; six sisters; and many nieces and nephews.

Submitted by: Joan DeSanctis

Table of Contents

ELAINE ANDERSON DEWART
October 1, 1920 – February 5, 2012

Born on Staten Island, New York on October 1, 1920, Elaine Anderson Dewart was the oldest daughter of Jeanette Baird Anderson and John Anderson. She and her sister, Margaret Anderson Barron, were part of a large extended family whose grandparents emigrated to the United States in the early 1900's. The Bairds were from Scotland and the Anderson-Morholts from Norway. As the oldest son in a Norwegian family, her father assumed the family name Anderson after his father Anders Morholt.

Elaine was very gifted musically and academically from childhood. She began piano lessons at six years of age and by the age of ten was playing the piano for Sunday Worship at Graniteville Methodist Church in Port Richmond. Soon vocal lessons followed and her rich soprano voice brought inspiration to worship services. At the same time Elaine became very accomplished in sewing and knitting and in the culinary arts. She graduated from Port Richmond High School at the age of sixteen, moving from there to a Staten Island secretarial school.

Forever the student, Elaine took courses at Fordham University in the Bronx which led to her employment in the social work department of the Salvation Army's New York headquarters. Her musical talents were acknowledged by the Salvation Army when she was asked to play the piano for the Duke and Duchess of Windsor and for Evangeline Booth, head of the Army. Elaine was very active in the Methodist Youth Fellowship on Staten Island and in the Jersey City District where she frequently sang at district youth rallies. In January 1945 Elaine and Jim Dewart, who was a conference MYF president, met at such a rally in Jersey City's Simpson Grace Methodist Church.

In July 1945 Elaine entered Brothers College, Drew University in Madison, NJ. There, on July 4 at a welcome party, Elaine met Jim Dewart again. He sat next to her on the arm of the couch as they talked non-stop for several hours. They became friends immediately. Elaine worked very hard to put herself through three years and two summers of college, serving as secretary to the Dean of Women, baby sitting, typing Masters' theses and term papers, and caring for another student who had a disability. On February 4, 1947 Jim proposed to Elaine on the porch of Faulkner House. They walked down the aisle together in May 1948 to receive their diplomas and on September 11, 1948 were married at Graniteville Church.

Elaine and Jim lived in an apartment on Green Avenue in Madison while Jim matriculated at Drew Theological School. A year later, Jim was appointed to Sergeantsville and Kingwood Methodist Churches in Hunterdon County. Elaine taught third and fourth grades in Baptistown for 2 years. On August 8, 1951 their son John was born at Doylestown Emergency Hospital and two years later their daughter Jamie was joyfully greeted by Elaine and Jim at the same hospital. Elaine was a stay-at-home mom thrilled to take care of the couple's children, including Diane born in May 1959, the last year of their appointment at Grace Methodist Church in North Plainfield. Elaine always delighted in decorating their homes, making clothes for herself and the children, and cooking delicious meals for family and friends.

Table of Contents

In 1965, Elaine went back to school earning an MA in Early Childhood Education at Kean University. She became director of a nursery school in Clark, NJ and later Director of the Early Childhood Education Program at United Cerebral Palsy in Union County while Jim served the Springfield Emanuel UMC. When Jim was appointed to Teaneck UMC, Elaine developed another of her talents passing a real estate exam with honors. Despite a busy life in real estate and in the Teaneck Church, Elaine helped to take care of her mother, was a very involved grandmother, sang in the church choir, and managed her home. There was also time to devote to Jim's parents who were in their eighties and always included in family activities.

Jim's last nine year appointment in Scotch Plains during which time a sanctuary was built, kept Elaine very busy. She went back to her secretarial skills, serving as secretary in Willowgrove and Fanwood Presbyterian Churches. By then her beloved family had grown to include three married children, and eight grandchildren, and in her retirement years, eight great-grandchildren. Elaine enjoyed crocheting afghans which by then had grown too many to actually count. In Scotch Plains, Elaine taught the high school church school class, became president of UMW, sang in the adult choir, and accompanied the organ on the grand piano. Jim's favorite saying about Elaine came from Proverbs 31, "Many women have done excellently but you surpass them all". In retirement Elaine played the piano for Friendly Seniors at Haddonfield UMC, returning to what she did at ten years of age.

Elaine was very limited in the last five years of her life but she loved her home and family. Her last two weeks were spent in the midst of the family she cherished and in the home she enjoyed. The day she came home from the hospital she said "I am so sorry" indicating the regret she felt that she could no longer take care of her beloved Jim and her family. When Elaine died her family stood around her bed and sang her favorite hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness". On February 9, 2012 , a Celebration of Life was held at Haddonfield UMC with Rev. George Morris presiding and family members participating in the liturgy.

She is survived by her husband Jim; her three children and their spouses: John and Elena Dewart, Jamie and Dennis Pedinoff, Diane and Kevin Clark; eight grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren, her sister Margaret and husband Jack, and their family members.

Submitted by: Jim Dewart
Interment: Hillside Memorial Cemetery, Scotch Plains, NJ

HILDA BLAKE DRUBACK

January 12, 1920 – October 31, 2011

Hilda Blake Druback was born on Jan. 12, 1920, in Kearny NJ. She married Edward Julius Druback on Jan. 1, 1942 and after her husband returned from World War II, they had two children.

While raising her children, she became active in the local garden club. That interest soon blossomed into a keen skill for flower arranging and a deep-rooted sense of wanting to protect the natural environment.

Table of Contents

In 1957, she and her husband opened Druback Florist in Madison. The business soon flourished and her floral design career became well-known when she won numerous floral design awards both nationally and internationally.

Hilda also worked diligently to protect one of New Jersey's great natural resources, the Great Swamp. Working through local garden clubs and the Business and Professional Women's Association, she played a key role in protecting and preserving this critical resource, eventually seeing it become the first National Wildlife Refuge east of the Mississippi River instead of being filled in to become New York City's fourth airport.

Hilda was very active in her church. She was a longtime member of the Chatham UMC, and represented the church as a lay member at the Northern New Jersey annual conference for years.

Never one to sit still, she decided to get her college degree from Drew University, Madison. She graduated with a degree in English literature and art history on May 17, 1980, at the age of 60.

She moved in 2008 to Hood River, Oregon, to be closer to her grandchildren, whom she loved dearly. In Hood River, she was a member of Asbury United Methodist Church.

Beloved by all, Hilda is survived by her sister, Lynn Zetterberg of Egg Harbor; her daughter, Diana Druback of Westerville, Ohio, and her son, Edward Druback and his wife, Lissa of Parkdale, Ore.; her granddaughters, Jennifer Druback York and Kathryn Blake Druback and step-granddaughter, Jessica Leigh Wienholt. She is predeceased by her husband, Ed; and by her brothers, Thomas Blake, Albin Blake, and Charles Blake.

Submitted by: Rev. E. Richard Knox

JACKIE LOU EVERETT

November 30, 1929 – February 7, 2012

Rev. Jackie Lou Everett passed away into God's loving and eternal care Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2012.
She was eighty-two years old.

Born and raised in Roebling, NJ, she lived there for sixty-one years and during this time she was a stay-at- home mom. She was a substitute teacher for six years, and also was employed by the Bank of Mid-Jersey Financial Corp. for ten years.

She graduated from Burlington County College and was a graduate of the Wesley Theological Seminary.

Pastor Jackie Lou moved to Westville in 1990 to serve the Westville United Methodist Church for ten years. She and her husband moved to Leisuretown twelve years ago when she became an associate pastor

Table of Contents

of Vincentown United Methodist Church. She also was an associate member of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference.

Daughter of the late Francis and Anne Shriner Dennis, and wife of nearly sixty-three years of the late William Linton Everett, she is survived by her three children, William L. Everett (Pat) of Grand Junction, Colo.; Lon Everett Sr. (Cindi) of Blounts Creek, NC; and Bethany Lou Everett and her fiancé, Richard. She is also survived by her grandchildren, William L. Everett Jr., Miranda Smith (Waverly), Desiree, Jacqueline and Elizabeth Everett, and Devon and Ian and their father, Jim Hull; her eight great-grandchildren, TJ, Brandon, Billy, Angelina, Selena, Katelynn, Dante, and Anastasia; and a brother, Charles Dennis. Pastor Jackie Lou also was a sister-in-law to Betty Ann Dennis, Marion and Joe Bock, George and Dot Everett, Richard and Shirley Everett, and Paul and Lorraine Everett. She is also survived by nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Obituary from the *Burlington County Times* of Feb. 9, 2012

Interment: Columbus Cemetery

ALAN F. GEYER
August 3, 1931 – November 28, 2011

Dr. Geyer was born on August 3, 1931 in Dover, New Jersey, where his father was a fourth-generation United Methodist pastor. He earned a B.A from Ohio Wesleyan University and Bachelor of Divinity and Ph.D. degrees from Boston University School of Theology. He became senior pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church in Newark, NJ in 1958, following his father's death in that position.
From 1960-65, he was professor and founder of the department of political science at Mary Baldwin College, Staunton, VA. From 1965-68, he was Director of International Relations for the United Church of Christ, based at the Church Center for the United Nations. In 1968, he became editor of *The Christian Century*, a weekly professional journal published in Chicago, IL. From 1972-1977, he was the Dag Hammarskjold Professor of Peace Studies and Political Science at Colgate University, Hamilton, NY, where he was founding director of the Peace Studies department.

From 1977 to 1987 he was the founding executive director of The Churches' Center for Theology and Public Policy, in Washington, DC, an ecumenical study center applying Christian values to public policy issues. From 1987 to 1996 he taught ethics and ecumenics at Wesley Theological Seminary in northwest Washington. From 1995 to 2005 he served the Washington National Cathedral in a variety of positions, including Canon Ecumenist and Canon Ethicist.

Dr. Geyer was the primary author of the 1986 statement on nuclear disarmament by the United Methodist Council of Bishops, *In Defense of Creation.* He participated in many capacities in the work of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA and the World Council of Churches. He attended three General Assemblies of the World Council of Churches: 1954, Evanston, IL; 1968, Uppsala, Sweden; 1983, Vancouver, Canada. He served for many years on the board of the Life and Peace Institute in Uppsala, Sweden.

Table of Contents

Dr. Geyer was the author or co-author of over twenty books, including *Piety and Politics* (1961), *The Idea of Disarmament: Rethinking the Unthinkable* (1982); *Redeeming the City: Theology, Politics and Urban Policy* (1982); *Lines in the Sand: Justice and the Gulf War (1992); Christianity and the Superpowers: Religion, Politics, and History* in *US-USSR Relations (1990)* and *Ideology in America* (1997), as well as innumerable journal articles. He was the primary author of the 1986 pastoral letter and foundation document by the Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church, *In Defense of Creation.*
Dr. Geyer was an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church, Greater New Jersey Annual Conference and active locally in Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church of Washington, DC, where he sang in the choir for twenty years. He was devoted to the music of Johannes Brahms and composed original Christmas carols annually for friends and relatives. His marriage to Joanne Goodnow Geyer ended in divorce.

Survivors include his wife of twenty years, Barbara G. Green of Bethesda, MD, children from his first marriage: Nancy K. Geyer of Washington, DC, Peter L. Geyer of Montpellier, France, David C. Geyer of Chevy Chase, MD and Philip Geyer of Frederick, MD; as well as twins from his second marriage: Christopher D.G. Geyer and Elisabeth F.G. Geyer, both of Bethesda, and five grandchildren.

KATHERINE SUSAN BAILEY GREEN

February 23, 2012

Katherine Susan Bailey Green died February 23, 2012 at Frazier Meadows Manor. She was ninety six years old.

Sue Green was a librarian, writer and teacher. She held positions in the Montclair, NJ school system and the Newark, NJ school system. In addition, she was the Director of Library Services for the East Orange Public Library. As an author, she made contributions to the World Book Encyclopedia, and wrote an illustrated children's book about the American Flag.

Sue was asked to be the director of the Library at the United Nations in NYC, and also at Princeton University, but turned down both positions as she did not want to be away from her family for extended periods of time, and both positions would require her to do so. She was an authority on Old English and Middle English, and wrote extensively about these forerunners to modern-day English.

As the wife of a Methodist minister, Sue Green was naturally involved in many areas of church life. She attended various organizations, taught Sunday school, held some functions at the parsonage and served as hostess. At the beginning of her married life, Marvin Green held a position as minister to a group of small parishes in the mountains of northern Georgia. This was during the end of the Depression.

Sue Green played an active role in helping to support the Hiroshima Peace Center, which was founded by K. Tanimoto who was an Emory classmate of Sue's husband, Marvin Green. Marvin was secretary /treasurer of this organization devoted to world peace after World War II and was written about in the book *Hiroshima* by John Hersey. Koko Tanimoto (Mr. Tanimoto's daughter) said that Sue and Marvin helped Mr. Tanimoto so much that he would not have succeeded otherwise. Sue, above all, was known for her gracious, loving and giving manner. She was gentle and kind.

Table of Contents

She was preceded in death by her husband of seventy-five years, the Rev. Dr. Marvin Wilson Green.

Survivors: sons, Phillip (Elena) Green, Atlanta; Wilson (Ann), Thornton; brothers, Phillip and Jimmie Bailey, Dalton, Ga.; grandsons, James Green, Boulder; Phillip Green, Atlanta; Jeffrey Green, Miami; and granddaughters Rebecca Green, Boulder; Nicole Green, Alexandria, Va.; and Alexandra Green, Atlanta.

Interment: Restlawn Memorial Park, East Hanover, NJ

Obituary from the *Independent Press* of Feb. 29, 2012

JOHN HANJIAN
September 19, 2011

Pastor, teacher, mentor, counselor, husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, friend – John Hanjian was also a man of quiet, gentle spirit, committed to the Lord in all he did, of strong work ethic, an excellent communicator with his wit and extensive vocabulary, and devoted to his family. He enjoyed times with others, introducing himself to strangers, all with a warm handshake, a twinkle in his eye, and his ready smile.

John was the second of three sons born to Levon (Leon) and Pailazou (Polly) Khandjian (Hanjian). His parents emigrated as young adults from their native Armenia to America, met here and married in this country and realized their American dream here.

The day after John graduated from N.Y.U. with a degree in Retailing, he was drafted in the U.S. Army and served in the Quartermasters Corps during the Korean War. He went on to earn NJ State Department of Education teaching certificates and a Masters Degree in Social Studies from Montclair University. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Drew University in 1968.

During his seminary years, John served as student assistant at the Berkeley Heights UMC and was student pastor for two years on the Everittstown-Pattenberg charge. He was ordained Elder in Full Connection in 1969 and served full-time pastorates in Milford, PA, Cokesbury, NJ Spring Valley, NY, Haledon and Lyndhurst, NJ.

In later years John taught English and Social Studies at Eastside High School in Paterson, NJ. John modeled his Christian faith for his students with his fairness, honesty, and with the understanding that most of his students were from backgrounds of poverty, broken homes and crime-ridden neighborhoods. Counselor and mentor, he sometimes became a surrogate father to those he taught. To his own children, he was a great example of a father with his helpful and timely advice.

John met Clara Elizabeth Shaterian at a Conference sponsored young adult weekend at Blair Academy. They were married fourteen months later on August 27, 1960 in the Sussex UMC. The couple celebrated

Table of Contents

their 52nd wedding anniversary while on evacuation from Hurricane Irene and just three weeks before John's death at the Shores at Wesley Manor in Ocean City NJ.

John retired from full-time work in 2000 and he and Clara purchased their retirement home in Cape May County. John put his lifetime skills and talents to good use. He and Clara co-led weekly Bible studies at two nearby churches. John also served communion at Macedonia UMC in Ocean City when their own pastor was away. He took up water color painting and pen and ink drawing and won awards for his work in art shows at the local senior center. Perhaps his greatest enjoyment, aside from his family, was trimming and sculpting the shrubs and trees on his property.

John's strong character was evident even in his final hours with his wife and three close friends at his side. John met his Lord with a gentle, final smile of peace and contentment on his face. We will endeavor always to keep the light of John's legacy brightly shining in our lives and in the lives of all he touched.

He is survived by his wife, Clara; son, Douglas Hanjian; daughter, Grace Hanjian Fallon; grandchildren, Samantha, Anna, and Jake; brother, Rev. Armen Hanjian; and several nieces and nephews. His older brother Haig Hanjian predeceased him in 2009.

Submitted by: Clara S. Hanjian, Douglas Hanjian, Grace Hanjian Fallon, Rev. Armen Hanjian
Interment: Fairview Cemetery, Westfield, NJ

GENEVIEVE (JEAN) HILL
June 9, 1937 – November 9, 2011

My wife Genevieve (Jean) M. Hill was born June 9, 1937 and died on November 9, 2011. Jean worked as a private secretary for The Curtis Publishing Company. She was a wonderful person who volunteered as my secretary for twenty years of our ministry. She enjoyed reading, camping, boating, and gardening. God blessed us with three children; Jeanie M. Voorhis, Harry Hill Jr., and Cynthia A. Myers. God also blessed us with fifteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

My wife Genevieve came from a family of ten children. She was the seventh child born. Her father, Joseph Fair died when she was thirteen years old. I met her shortly after that tragedy. Her mother, Genevieve had to go to work so she could support her family. My wife took over all the household duties and raised her three younger siblings. There are two brothers living; James Fair and Robert Fair.

Jean and I courted for five years prior to our marriage in 1956. We were married for twelve years when I was called into the ministry. We sold our new home in Gibbstown in order for me to attend college and seminary. We had three children prior to this endeavor. My wife was a marvelous person through this

Table of Contents

transformation. My salary in 1968 was $35,000 per year. My first student charge paid $3,500. It wasn't easy. Our family had to remain frugal for several years.

Jean was a beautiful person who lived a beautiful life. She was a beautiful wife, mom, grandmom, and great grandmom. She died a beautiful death and now resides in a beautiful place. Jean was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease seven years ago. In May of 2011 she was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease which made it difficult for her to walk or stand by herself.

I was blessed by being with her, holding her hand, when she died. I was singing songs to her, reading scripture, and praying. I told her it was okay to reach out and hold the hand of Jesus. "Don't worry about me, the children, grand and greats. I will make sure they are taken care of." I kissed her and she stopped breathing. A Holy hush came over the room. I felt the presence and power of God. It was so peaceful and quiet. I thanked God for being so merciful and gracious. He has given me peace which passes all understanding. Love is letting go and letting God!

I really miss her, but have the assurance that she is at home under God's everlasting arms. I also know that we will see one another in glory.

Submitted by: Rev Harry G. Hill
Interment: Seaside Cemetery, Marmora, NJ

CHARLES "CHRISTOPHER" HINNEN
December 4, 1945 – April 27, 2012

Known as Chris, Dad, Pop-Pop, Reverend Hinnen died on April 27, 2012 surrounded by friends and family. Described as a good, gentle man who was passionate about peace and justice, Chris was lovingly generous with his family and adored his six granddaughters. He truly made this world a better place through his ministry, making an impact in the lives of the people he served.

He received a Master of Divinity from Drew University Theological School in 1984. From 1982-2005, Reverend Hinnen served in local churches of the GNJAC including the Community Church of Roselle Park, Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Union City, Grace United Methodist Church in Kearny, and Waldwick United Methodist Church. He was active in the GNJAC on task forces and in mission, including serving on the boards of Church and Society and Ordained Ministry.

At his retirement ceremony last summer, Chris said that in all of his ministries, he was most proud of the work he did to raise support and awareness for people living with HIV/AIDS. In 1982, he learned about a so-called "cancer" that was affecting gay men. He immediately became active in ministering with people who at the time were considered "untouchable." After he was ordained an elder in 1987 with the United Methodist Church, Chris continued his work as an AIDS activist.

Table of Contents

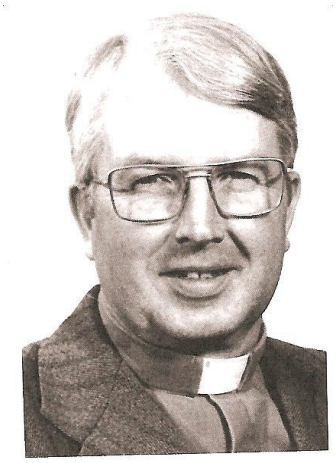
Chris' recent years were spent living in the Poconos. He traveled to Cuba, Costa Rica, South Korea, and Taize, France. Still guided by a heart for mission, last year he began volunteering with Habitat for Humanity. Occupy Wall Street rekindled his passion for social justice and he was very encouraged by the emerging movement. He visited Zuccotti Park a number of times, and among other actions, offered communion to the occupiers. In word and deed, Chris actively lived out the Gospel, doing his part to bring God's Kingdom to earth.

Chris is predeceased by his parents, Mary and Charles Hinnen; his wife, Linda Elmiger; and sister, Margee Hinnen Chapin. He is survived by his brother, Mark Hinnen; three children, Melissa, TJ, and Ben Hinnen; and six granddaughters: Cassie, Margee Liz, Natalie, Nicole, and Heaven Hinnen and Ananiah Green.

Submitted by: Melissa Hinnen

GENEVIEVE JENKINS
July 27, 2011

Genevieve Jenkins, widow of Rev. Frederick E. Jenkins, died on July 27, 2011.



WALTER C. JORDAN
September 15, 1931 – March 13, 2012

Walter C. Jordan, Retired Elder, died March 13, 2012.

He served churches in Montvale, Bergenfield, Hawaii (missionary), Haverstraw NY, Garnerville NY, Midvale, Trinity UMC in Clifton, Wharton, and Bernardsville. Walter then became a Special Education teacher at Columbia High School in Maplewood. He often "filled in" preaching on Sundays.

After moving to Heath Village Retirement Community in 1996, Walter continued preaching on many Sundays and for special services. He volunteered for many positions and served as a volunteer librarian for ten years. He especially enjoyed gardening. Walter and his wife Beverly had forty-three wonderful years together.

Walter is survived by his wife Beverly; son Robert D. Jordan and wife Erica; and granddaughters Rachel, Laura, and Abigail Jordan.

Submitted by: Beverly A Jordan

Table of Contents

LILLIAN M. KENYON
December 11, 1920 – February 14, 2011

Lillian Kenyon was born in 1920 and lived in Kearny her entire life. She had a great enthusiasm for everything she did, had a genuine compassion for people and lived by the motto, "Why Worry When You Can Pray?"

She was baptized and attended Sunday school at Grace United Methodist Church, was confirmed March 6, 1938, and married Arthur R. Kenyon on January 24, 1942. Reverend Dick Jones officiated.

Lillian loved her church and enjoyed fund raising by holding rummage sales, white elephants, cooking for the Kearny Optimists and working at the annual church fair. She served on numerous committees and held many offices including chairperson of the Trustees.

She was also active in the community, feeding the homeless, volunteering for over forty years in West Hudson Hospital, chairing various fundraisers for their building fund and serving as president of the Women's Auxiliary. Lillian was active in the PTA and also served as president.

Lillian was the Lay Member to Annual Conference for Grace Church for over thirty years and reluctantly gave it up when her health no longer allowed her to attend. She loved Conference.

She worked at Hahne & Co. as Manager of Customer Service for all of their stores and was the person who turned off the lights when they closed in 1989.

She loved to lunch with the girls, go to the theater and travel. Her last trip was to Ireland where she met family she had never known and visited the house her father was born in one hundred and twenty-two years ago.

Lillian was loved by many, lived a full life and died on Valentine's Day to keep a date with my father in heaven.

She is survived by a sister, Elizabeth J. Gant; daughters Linda and Pamela; son John (wife Diane); and three grandchildren, Jason, Matthew, and Ashley.

Submitted by: Linda Kenyon

Interment: Cremated

Table of Contents

ROBERT EDWARD KIRK
February 16, 1926 – April 20, 2012

Bob was born in Spring Lake, NJ, the son of the late George E. and Anna Reeves Kirk. His childhood was spent in Asbury Park, NJ, graduating from the high school there. His love for the Jersey shore continued after spending many summer vacations there.

Bob graduated from Upsala College in East Orange, NJ, and Drew Theological Seminary, Madison. He served as a student pastor to Vernon and, after being ordained, he was appointed to Walnut Valley UMC in Blairstown, Matamoras UMC, Roseland UMC, and Epworth UMC in Elizabeth. He served on the Conference Board of Pensions.

His interest in civic organizations led Bob to participate in the areas where he served. While in Matamoras, PA he was a member of the Port Jervis NY Lions Club, and later, the Lions Club in Elizabeth, serving as secretary. He was a member of Samaritan Lodge #98 F&AM for fifty-five years. He retired to Crossville TN, in 1989 where he pursued his interest in model trains.

Bob is survived by his wife of fifty-four years, Dorothy; son Robert Jr (wife Aideen); daughter Carol (husband Allen) Mollica; five grandchildren, John and Michael Kirk, Sara, Joseph and Craig Mollica (all of them very fond of their Pop-Pop); sister Helen K Maddox; and several nieces and nephews.

Submitted by: Dorothy Kirk

Interment: Cremation - Monmouth Memorial Park, Neptune, NJ

DOROTHY M. LIGHT
December 1, 2011

Dorothy M. Light, 80, of Mantua, died on December 1, 2011. Dorothy was born in Millville and she resided in Pitman & Woodbury before moving to Mantua in 2000. She first worked as a secretary in the Library Education Department at Glassboro State College, then as the administrative assistant to the superintendent of schools for the Moorestown School District. She retired as secretary in the Superintendent's Office of the Downingtown School District. For over fifty years she was a partner in her husband's ministry throughout South Jersey, Pennsylvania and Illinois. She also taught Sunday school and provided both vocal and instrumental music for worship for many years. She was a member of the Kemble Memorial United Methodist Church. She loved her Phillies.

Dorothy is predeceased by her granddaughter Kara; sister Volena Sheppard and brother Rev. Allison P. Weatherby.

She is survived by her husband of fifty-seven years, Rev. Warren Light; two sons, Rev. Warren Wesley (Caroline) Light, Esq. of Eugene, OR, and David Allison (Rose) Light of Tulare, CA; daughter Susan

Table of Contents

Marie (Richard) Martorano of Manahawkin, NJ and six grandchildren, Allison, Brenden, Rianna, Nicholas, Julia and Vanessa.

MARJORY K. MARKER
May 5, 2011

Marjory K. Marker, widow of the Reverend Charles W. Marker, Elder of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference, died on May 5, 2011.

MARIAN G. MARSHALL
July 30, 1922 – June 18, 2011

Marian "Skip" Marshall was raised in Shamokin, PA and graduated from Ursinus College with a B.S. degree in Chemistry. While at Ursinus, she met her future husband, the Reverend James W. Marshall, to whom she was married for over sixty-five years. A true partner to her husband, she was often at his side at various church activities and played an active part in the United Methodist Women. She was also known for the colorful Jello salads she provided to countless covered-dish suppers.

After her three sons were grown, Marian taught fourth and fifth grade science and social studies at Rutgers Preparatory Lower School where she was fondly known as "the insect lady' by her many students. Her family particularly remembers the summer we shared space in our kitchen with "Iggy", a three foot long iguana.

Marian enjoyed nature and being in the outdoors, particularly identifying plants, watching birds and catching insects for her classroom. She also enjoyed camping from New Jersey's High Point State Park to the Grand Canyon.

Upon retirement, she and her husband moved to Whiting, where both were able to enjoy and study the unique nature of New Jersey's pine barrens. Increased leisure time also allowed for enjoyable trips abroad to China, Britain, Switzerland, and Yugoslavia, to name a few.

Marion will be remembered by her family for her strong faith in God, a strong sense of right and wrong, and her steadfast love and support for her family.

She is predeceased by her husband, James W. Marshall. She is survived by their three sons, Kent, Peter, and Todd Marshall; and two sisters, Mae Grow and Shirley Stewart.

Submitted by: Kent Marshall
Interment: Richwood UMC Cemetery, Shamokin, PA

Table of Contents

MARK MC COMBS

December 16, 1963 – March 27, 2012

Pastor Mark McCombs of Plainfield, N.J., entered into heavenly rest on March 27, 2012, at the age of forty-eight. Mark was a Columbia High School health and physical education teacher. He died suddenly after a brief illness.

Besides working at the school district since 1999 and working as a football coach, he was also a very dynamic pastor, teacher, preacher and leader.

He will be greatly missed by his loving family, first lady, Roslyn McCombs; his beautiful children, Aaron, Jeremy, Calah and Destiny; one brother, David McCombs Sr.; sisters, Lois Hooper and Maria King, and a host of other loving relatives, his church family, and very dear friends.

Obituary from the *Star Ledger* of March 30, 2012

ESTHER J. MORGAN

October 8, 1909 – March 1, 2012

Esther J. Morgan, 102, widow of the Rev. Raymond G. Morgan, died March 1, 2012 after a brief illness at the Bishop McCarthy Residence of Vineland.

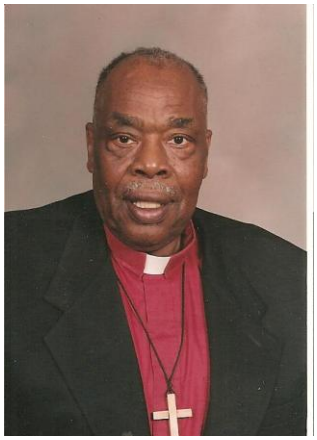
Born in Millville, she lived in the South Jersey area all of her life. Esther worked for the Millville Savings and Loan on High Street in Millville for more than twenty-five years. She served as the assistant treasurer of the bank for more than sixteen years. She was a lifelong member of the Trinity UMC and was very active at the church. Esther taught Sunday school for many years, and was a member of the Louisa Newcomb Sunday school class. She also was a longtime member of the Eastern Star Shekinah Lodge No. 82.

Esther is survived by her son, Raymond G Morgan Jr. and his wife Diana of Port Elizabeth; grandson Raymond, III and his wife Melissa; granddaughter Elizabeth Gandy; great grandsons, Joshua and Ryan; and many friends and family from the Bishop McCarthy Residence. She is predeceased by her husband, the Rev. Raymond G. Morgan Sr.

Submitted by: Raymond Morgan, Jr.
Interment: Eglington Cemetery, Clarksboro, NJ

Table of Contents

R. C. MUSGROVE
March 24, 1931 – August 23, 2011



R.C. Musgrove went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, August 23, 2011, after an extended illness. His family was at his side. He was born on March 24" 1931 in Trai Lake, Mississippi to the late Ike and Esther Musgrove.

R.C. was educated in the Egg Harbor City School system where he specialized in carpentry. His education continued at the Philadelphia and Burlington Community Colleges. When the Lord called him to deliver His word he continued his education at Wesley Theological Seminary and received his local pastor's license from Drew University.

On a blind date, he met and married the love of his life Evelyn Mary Ann Molock. To that union four boys were born: Richard Carl, David Wesley, Gene Oliver, and Ira Vaughn.

At an early age, R.C. became affiliated with the Mount Airey Baptist Church in Arcola, Miss. and the Church of God and Christ in Philadelphia. In 1977 he was born again and baptized at Tindley Temple UMC and became an active member of Trinity Chelten UMC under the pastorate of Rev. James L. McClendon. As a member he served in numerous capacities – Church Lay Leader, Chairperson of United Methodist Men and Council on Ministries; member of Finance, Worship, Administrative Board, Pastor Parish Relations, Education, Evangelism, Stewardship, and youth ministry committees. In 1991, R.C. rejoined the Church of the Good Shepherd as an affiliated member. In September 1992 he was appointed as the pastor of Mount Hope UMC in Salem, NJ where he served with great pleasure for ten years.

At the age of seventeen, he enlisted in the US Army and served for twenty-three years. During his tour of duty he performed various duties in the electronic field. After retiring from the Army, he was employed at the school district of Philadelphia as a television material assistant. A second retirement came in 1990 from the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard as an Electronic Fire Control Computer Technician.

R.C. leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Evelyn; two sons, David Sr. (Geralline), and Gene; three grandchildren, Tiffany, David, Jr, and Aniequa; daughter-in-law, Euzera; sisters Flora and Anne Marie; brothers, Rudolph (Jean) and Lyson (Eclester); Mother-in-law, Hazel Molock, and a host of sister-in-laws, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He is preceded in death by his sons, Richard and Ira; brothers, Early, TJ, and Curtis; and sister Lillie Mae.

Submitted by: Evelyn Musgrove
Interment: William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Wrightstown, NJ

Table of Contents

MIRIAM PARSELL
February 3, 1920 - December 4, 2010

Miriam Parsell, Retired Diaconal Minister, died on December 4, 2010.

QUEEN FERRELL PORTER
July 23, 1941 – June 2, 2011

Queen F. Porter was born on July 23, 1941 in Wake County, NC to the late Ernest and Esther Ferrell, the middle daughter of three girls. She graduated from James E. Shepherd High School.

She was a dedicated worker serving many capacities in excellence. She served Citibank for over four decades. She also served the United Methodist Women at both the conference and local levels. Black Methodist for Church Renewal (BMCR) also experienced the dedication of Queen's work ethic and outstanding service. She also served her family well.

Queen first began serving the Conference when we were then the Northern New Jersey Annual Conference. She served as the alternate delegate and then the delegate to the conference. She also served in this conference as an at-large delegate. Additionally, Queen worked with the registration team (now known as the registration packet team) with Jean and Dave Walters. When we became the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference Queen served as an At-Large Member and worked with the registration team leader Rev. Ed Rusk and other members.

There were a few times when Queen chose to pay her own way as a visitor to attend the Conference because she loved attending and being a part of the many discussions that took place. She loved meeting people, becoming re-acquainted with friends she did not see routinely, and of course, making new friends. Some may have thought Conference was boring, but not Queen. She viewed Conference as a learning opportunity.

When Queen was a member of Clair Memorial UMC, she was an active UMW member, a Sunday school teacher for the young adults, Financial Secretary, chairperson of Evangelism and Stewardship, and Worship Leader.

Table of Contents

Upon joining Franklin-St-John's UMC, she continued being active as president of the local UMW unit, as a member of the Andrew Workers, Women's Choir, Sanctuary Choir and as a Certified Lay Speaker.

Queen departed this life on June 2, 2011 leaving behind ex-husband Arthur Porter; sister Annie Vernell Harris (husband William); two daughters, Kimberly Fisher (husband Harry III) and Vanessa Porter-Moore (husband Ricky); 16 grandchildren, Isaac Porter, Grace Porter, Sarita Porter, Queen Porter, Elijah Porter, Dexter Porter, Harry Fisher IV, Muhammad Moore, Basirah Porter-Moore, Khadijah Porter-Moore, Aaliyah Porter-Moore, Ronald Porter-Moore, Farad Porter-Moore, Bryan Porter-Moore, Lillian Porter-Moore, and Al Porter-Moore; one great granddaughter, Kayla Porter and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She goes on to join her parents, grandparents, in-laws, sister, one great grandson, Darese Porter, a host of other relatives and friends, and Jesus. She will never be forgotten.

Submitted by: Annie Harris
Interment: Evergreen Cemetery, Hillside, NJ

H. WILLIAM ROUSSEAU
September 14, 1925 – June 17, 2011

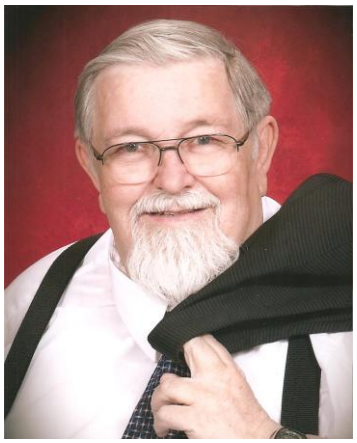
H. William Rousseau, Retired Local Pastor of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference, died on Friday, June 17, 2011.

Bill enjoyed serving the people in every one of the churches to which he was appointed, including Chambers UMC in Trenton, Windsor UMC, Magnolia UMC, Fieldsboro UMC, and Smithville UMC.

He is survived by his wife Josephine, and sons William C. and David B. Rousseau.

Submitted by: Josephine Rousseau
Interment: Brig. Gen. Wm. C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Arneytown

MERTON A STEELMAN III
July 2, 1945 – July 19, 2011



Mert was born and raised in Vineland, NJ. His father, Merton L. Steelman was a local pastor in the Southern NJ Annual Conference and was a great supporter of his son going into ministry. Mert graduated from Pheiffer University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology and from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary (now Palmer) with a Master

Table of Contents

of Divinity degree. He was ordained an Elder in the former Southern NJ Annual Conference.

He served in the ministry for forty-three years and, at the time of his passing, was the pastor of the Trinity UMC in Marmora NJ. His previous appointments were: Hamilton Avenue UMC in Trenton, Centre Square UMC, Bridgeport UMC, Hudson UMC in Pedricktown, Ebenezer UMC in Auburn, South Seaville UMC, Seaville UMC, Asbury UMC in Swainton, St. John's UMC in Turnersville (Associate), Broad Street UMC and Cumberland UMC in Millville, Belford UMC, Broadway UMC, First UMC in Salem, Allentown UMC, and Trinity UMC in Marmora. Mert found great joy in sharing his love of the Lord with the people in his congregations.

In addition to his love for the church, Mert loved our Conference camp – Mt. Misery Retreat Center (now Pinelands Center). He served there for one hundred weeks over a span of forty-eight years as a counselor and director of the Outpost Camp. The camping program was his passion and he loved it as did the campers who attended his weeks. Mert was Past Master of Monmouth Lodge #172 F. & A.M., Atlantic Highlands and supported the local lodges wherever he was appointed. He was an Eagle Scout and served in various local fire companies throughout his ministry.

Mert's life Scripture verse was: "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength" (Philippians 4:13). It is that Truth that carried him all the way until he went to the Lord – his courage, strength, and love will always be cherished by his family and friends.

Mert is survived by his four children, Paul M. Steelman (Heather) of Old Bridge NJ; Rev. Kimberly J. Wecht (Robert) of Columbus NJ; Jelyn R. Cook (Rich) of Ocean City NJ; and Kristin R. Blasko (Christopher) of Hellertown, PA; their mother Rev. Deborah A. Kauffman; seven grandchildren, Elena Sarah, Hannah, Joshua, Josiah, Angelina, and Austin; and Mert's step-mother Minerva Steelman. He is predeceased by his parents, Rev. Merton L. and Erma Steelman.

Submitted by: Kimberly Wecht
Interment: Siloam Cemetery, Vineland, NJ

WILLIAM B. THIELKING
June 16, 1929 - November 26, 2011

Rev. Thielking grew up in Atlantic City, NJ where he graduated from Atlantic City High School in 1947. He went on to graduate from Asbury College in 1951 and earned his Masters of Divinity from Temple University in 1954.

He was an ordained United Methodist Minister for over forty-four years in the Greater NJ Annual Conference. Rev. Thielking served as pastor in Margate, Millville (West Side), Camden, Somers Point, Glassboro, and Haddon Heights. In his retirement he served as an assistant pastor at First UMC in Millville.

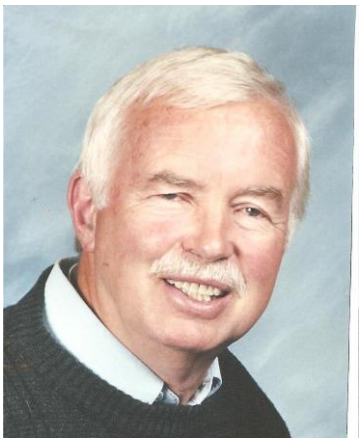
Table of Contents

Besides pastoring, he enjoyed being an amateur magician and was a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians and Kidabra. He also served as President of South Seaville Camp Meeting for ten years.
Rev. Thielking authored the book "Qintillius, the Star That Shone" which was published in 1974.

He is survived by his wife of fifty years, Mezzie Thielking (nee Lascarides); two daughters Holly Conaway (Glenn) of Mullica Hill and Kymberly Viden (Wayne) of Glassboro; and 5 grandchildren, Timothy, Bethany, Cole, Elise, and Katherine. He is also survived by his brother Norman (Sandra) of Arizona.

Submitted by: Mezzie Thielking
Interment: Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Millville, NJ

MAXWELL GEORGE TOW
April 21, 1934 – March 22, 2012



Maxwell George Tow was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on April 21, 1934 to Maxwell and Margaret Tow. He passed away peacefully on March 22, 2012 after thirty years of living with Parkinsons Disease. Max graduated from the University of Iowa with an ROTC scholarship. After a brief stint in the Army, he attended Drew University School of Theology and received a Bachelor of Divinity Degree in 1961. He was married to Geraldine (Geri) Van Houweling in 1957 in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Max was ordained in the Iowa Conference, then transferred to the New Jersey Conference and was appointed by the Bishop to serve as pastor of Christ UMC in Paterson, NJ. As a pastor in Paterson, he devoted himself to serving the needs of the community. This included working with others to establish structures within the community to provide meals, health care, social services, support for seniors, summer youth programs, and the improvement of poor living conditions in the city. He was the president of INCCA (Inner City Christian Action for Housing) which succeeded in building three hundred units of low-income housing. During this time he was an advocate for minority rights. He traveled to Hattiesburg, Mississippi to encourage African Americans to register to vote, and participated in many local protests on behalf of those whose rights were denied. He served the church and community of Paterson for twenty years before being appointed to Morrow Memorial Church in Maplewood, NJ where he served for four years. The Bishop then appointed him to a six year term as District Superintendent of the Raritan District. In 1989 Max and Geri moved to Deposit, NY and Max took a sabbatical year to write a book about his experiences as an inner city minister in Paterson, entitled "Grit and Grace", and to co-author a book about his professor at Drew University, Dr. Franz Hildebrandt, "Mr. Valiant for Truth". Max joined the Wyoming Annual Conference after his sabbatical, and was appointed to the Windsor UMC in NY, from which he retired after serving for five years. After his retirement, he was given the title of Pastor Emeritus.

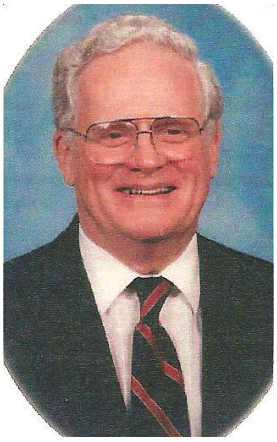
Max was an avid outdoorsman. He enjoyed hiking, canoeing, fishing, camping and sailing with his family and friends. He led canoe trips for Camp Aldersgate in NJ and Sky Lake Camp in NY. He also held a lifelong fascination with trains, stemming from his days working on the Crandic line in Iowa.

Table of Contents

Max was presented with the Distinguished Service award from Drew University School of Theology in 2006. In his lifetime, Max was a servant who acted justly, loved tenderly, and walked humbly with his God. His family and many friends have abundant wonderful memories of their life with this amazing man.

In addition to being survived by his wife, Geri, he is also survived by his four children; Eric Tow (Maryellen), Julia Landry (Jim), Stephen Tow (Deborah), Robert Tow (Alida); four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Submitted by: Geraldine Tow
Interment: Memorial Garden at Morrow Memorial Church, Maplewood, NJ



PAUL WILLEM VAN DER LOO
March 25, 1922 – November 24, 2011

The Reverend Paul Willem van der Loo, of Egg Harbor Township NJ, passed away November 24, 2011 with his family by his side. He was born Paulus Willem Marie van der Loo to Paulus Wilhelmus Josephus Marie and Wilhelmina Cornelia Sophia van Oestveen van der Loo in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, on March 25, 1922.

The family emigrated to the USA in 1927, settling in Philadelphia and later relocating to southern NJ, where Paul attended Vineland High School in 1939. He attended Drexel Institute of Technology (now University) School of Engineering. While employed at Owens Illinois Glass Company and later at E.I. DuPont de Nemours Company, he prepared and qualified for the designation of Approved Supply Minister in the United Methodist Church in 1947, marking the beginning of his pastoral career. He was a founder of the Bridgeton Christian School.

Paul and Christine Boice were married in 1942 in Bridgeton, having met to sing a duet at Trinity Methodist Church. For many years each would find great satisfaction as their musical talents would be used extensively in church music and in local choral performances, notably with the Melody Chorus. Dedicated Christians, the family always participated fully in local church life. Paul described vividly his specific conversion experience while attending a revival meeting at Central Methodist Church in Bridgeton in 1943.

He earned his B.S. in Education, followed by Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Sacred Theology from Temple University, while under appointment to serve in ministry to several small churches in the Southern NJ Annual Conference. He was ordained a Deacon in 1957, then an Elder in 1959 by Bishop Fred Pierce Corson. Paul was privileged to serve churches in these New Jersey towns, for a career of fifty-four years: Canton, Heislerville, Sharptown-Haines Neck, Oaklyn, Brooklawn, Mercerville, Woodstown, Gibbsboro, Westmont, Stratford, Erma, Petersburg, and Strathmere.

Table of Contents

Following his retirement from appointed ministry, Paul was called to the pastorate of the non-denominational Union Chapel by-the-Sea in Ocean City.

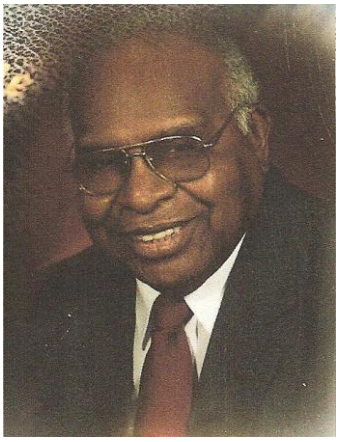
Paul was lively and energetic. He was a medal winning "miler" in high school and college. He led his troop of Boy Scouts as they hiked the Appalachian Trail. Home improvement projects were always welcome challenges to him. Philately (The Netherlands) and model railroading were lifelong interests. However, his deep contentment was always found in his ministry and when all his family and many friends gathered during frequent visits at the parsonages, and then later at his home in Ocean City, for much laughter, games and good food.

Paul was predeceased by his first wife, Christine (nee Boice) van der Loo. Surviving are his wife, Audrey (nee Carson) Smith van der Loo; daughters, Kathy Sheetz (Timothy), Constance Yost (James), and Marion van der Loo; four grandchildren, Sandra Wyllie, Lori Herson, Paul Yost, and Heidi Sray; and eight great-grandchildren. Also surviving are stepchildren, Donna Smith, Howard Smith, Terence Smith (Deborah), Gordon Smith; sister, Dorothea Scoble; and two step-grandchildren, Matthew and Stephanie Smith.

Submitted by: Audrey van der Loo
Interment: Overlook Cemetery, Bridgeton, NJ

SAMUEL L. WELCH

February 15, 1938 – January 6, 2012



Samuel Luke Welch, a retired Sergeant Major of Fort Dix and Vietnam War veteran, died on January 6, 2012. He was seventy-three years old. Born in Harlem, NY Sam attended Boys High School in Brooklyn and was a graduate of St. Leo University in St. Leo, FL. Sam and his family resided in Willingboro, NJ for over twenty-five years.

Sam Welch was a career Non-Commissioned Officer. He served his country with pride and distinction in the US Army, retiring after twenty-seven years of exemplary and dedicated service. He received numerous citations, ribbons, decorations, medals, promotions and honors for outstanding service in the performance of his duties. While in the Army, he rose in rank from Private to Sergeant Major. He spent one tour of duty in Vietnam, a tour in Korea (accompanied by his wife and sons), one tour in Heidelberg, Germany, and two tours in Zweibruecken, Germany with his family. His stateside assignments included multiple tours in Ft. Belvoir, VA and Ft. Huachuca, AZ. He believed in DUTY, HONOR and COUNTRY. He was committed to God, his family, and his soldiers and was a Lifetime Member of American Veterans (AMVETS).

Sam truly loved being a member of The Good Shepherd UMC in Willingboro, NJ where he fulfilled many functions. He proudly supervised the church's pantry for five years – helping those in need throughout Burlington County. In addition, Sam served as assistant tutor for the Church's VBS. Sam also served as president of the South Jersey Annual Conference United Methodist Men.

Table of Contents

He will be remembered as a strong but gentle, and ever so considerate, person who strived to treat others as he would like to be treated. Sam was a wonderful husband to his beloved wife of forty-five years, Monica. He was the adoring father to his two sons, Anthony and Cedric, and the beaming grandfather of Naimah Welch. Sam also was a loving father-in law to his daughter-in-law Victoria, and soon to be daughter-in-law Nicole, and proud uncle to both Dionne and Andre. Sam is survived by the entire Miller family – whom he treasured – descending from Camden, SC. He also leaves behind numerous extended family members and countless friends for whom he cared very deeply.

Submitted by Monica J. Welch
Interment: Lakeview Memorial Mausoleum, Cinnaminson, NJ

NAOMI "PAT" WESTOVER
June 13, 1940 – January 30, 2012

Naomi "Pat" Westover, Retired Associate Member of the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference, died on Monday, January 30, 2012.

Pat served the Port Colden, Changewater and Vernon UMCs before retiring in 2004.

ESTHER STONE WILSON
May 8, 1916 – April 28, 2012

Esther Stone Wilson, 95, passed away on April 28, 2012. Esther was born in Carlisle Springs, PA on May 8, 1916, the oldest daughter of Harvey W. and Clara E. (Hoy) Stone. She grew up in Carlisle, PA and was a graduate of Carlisle High School.

She is predeceased by her husband of over seventy years, Rev. David A. Wilson, Jr.; a son, David A. Wilson, III; sister, Mildred Barrock of Baltimore, MD; a brother, Jack Stone of Pennsville, NJ; her son, Robert S. (Debbie) of Dagsboro, DE; four loving grandchildren, Janice (David) Hunt of Haddonfield, NJ, David A (Kathy) Wilson, IV of Pitman, NJ, Susan W. (Larry) Quier of Suffolk, VA and Kimberly L. Wilson of Ocean City, MD; and eight great-grandchildren.

Obituary from the Courier Post of April 30, 2012

Table of Contents