

VIII. MEMOIRS

Our memoirs, which honor and remember with gratitude those clergy, spouses, and surviving spouses of the conference family who have died in this conference year, include deaths through June 1, 2011. The Conference Secretary wishes to thank the families of these faithful servants for

Rex Leon Ball



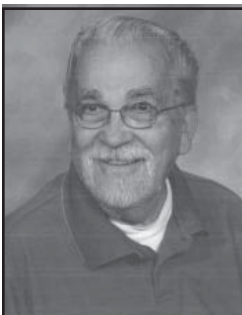
The Rev. Rex Leon Ball, an associate member of the conference, died Sunday, March 6, 2011, in Lynchburg, Virginia. He was 90. Born May 5, 1920, in Braxton County, West Virginia, he was the son of the late William Wirt and Iva Furby Ball. He was married for sixty-seven years to the late Myrtle Snyder Ball, who preceded him in death.

Rev. Ball was ordained Deacon in 1963 and was admitted as an Associate Member in 1972. He served Minnehaha Springs, Smoot, Earl, and Bramwell, prior to his retirement in 1982. Before entering the ministry, Rev. Ball worked in coal mines in West Virginia for twenty years. Upon retirement from the ministry, he served as a bailiff in the Nicholas County court system. He moved to Virginia to live nearer to his children and he attended Amelon United Methodist Church in Madison Heights, Virginia.

In addition to his parents and his wife, he was also preceded in death by a daughter, Ina Ruth McCloud, and a granddaughter, Sandra McCloud. He is survived by four children, Marion Freerks and her husband, Martin; Marty Bennett and her husband Tom Jarvis; Janet Davis and her husband, Tim; and Ronnie L. Ball; fifteen grandchildren; thirty-six great-grandchildren; seventeen great-great-grandchildren; former daughter-in-law, Jean Ball; and former son-in-law, Jim McCloud and his wife, Patty.

A funeral service was conducted on Thursday, March 10, 2011, at Whitten Monelison Chapel with the Rev. C. Douglas Pillow and the Rev. Glynn Coleman officiating. Memorial contributions were made to the Alzheimers Disease and Related Disorders Association of Lynchburg, VA, and the Monelison Rescue Squad in Madison Heights, Virginia.

Gary Lee Boyd



The Rev. Gary Lee Boyd, a part-time local pastor in the conference, died November 8, 2010, in Sistersville, West Virginia. He was 69. Born August 16, 1941, he was the son of Freda Ash Boyd and the late William Frederick Boyd. He married Connie Sue Waybright Boyd on June 20, 1966.

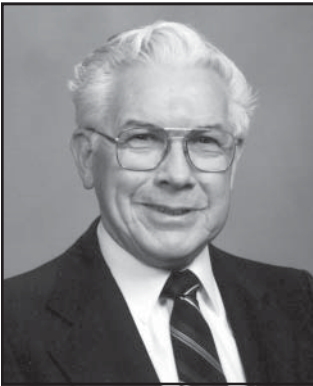
Gary graduated from Sistersville High School in 1959. He served in the US Navy until 1963. Prior to his call to ministry, he was an independent insurance agent. He completed the Course of Study at Duke Divinity School in 1993. He served on the district

Committee on Ministry and the District Buildings and Location Committee. He served the Friendly United Methodist Church in the Northern District for 22 years. He also served the Zion and Long Reach churches.

Gary is survived by his wife of 44 years, Connie Sue Waybright Boyd; sons, Anthony Scott Boyd and Eric D. Boyd; daughter, Denise Michelle Boyd; and grandchildren, Justin, Tessa and Donald Boyd. In addition to his father, Gary was preceded in death by an infant daughter, Annette Boyd, and brother, Robert Boyd.

A memorial service was held Saturday, November 13, 2010, at Friendly United Methodist Church with the District Superintendent Rev. David Erenrich and the Rev. Bill Dawson officiating. Rev. Erenrich presented the family with a United Methodist Memorial plaque. Interment was at the Friendly Cemetery. Memorial contributions were made to Journey Hospice and the Sistersville Ministerial Association.

Frank Brotherton



The Rev. Frank Brotherton, a retired local pastor, died Saturday, July 10, 2010, in Huntington, West Virginia. Born September 27, 1921, in Jackson County, West Virginia, he was the son of the late Robert Ford and Tressa Mae McCollum Brotherton. He was married to Gracie E. "Jean" Chapman Brotherton, who survives him.

Frank was a U.S. Navy veteran who served during World War II. He retired from the former Houdialle Industries. After his retirement, he became a local pastor, serving at Mt. Olive, Davis-Bowen, Cox's Landing, Z-Warner, and St. Mary's Medical Center in the Pastoral Care Department, before he retired.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two daughters, Vicky Jo Cupp, and her husband, Tommy, and Sheila G. Cupp and her husband, Rex; five grandchildren, Kelly, Tomi Dawn, Renee, Rex David, and Andy, who helped care for him and was his constant companion; 13 great-grandchildren; one brother, Don Brotherton; three sisters, Celestine Keenan, Carolyn Dornon, and Emma Chapman.

A funeral service was held on Monday, July 12, 2010, at Chapman's Mortuary in Huntington, with the Rev. Jerry Ryder and the Rev. Ed Hood officiating. He was buried at Ridgelawn Memorial Park with Veterans Honor Guard Post 16 conducting military graveside rites. Memorial gifts were made to the Emogene Dolin Jones Hospice House.

Rondal C. Browning



The Rev. Rondal C. Browning, an elder in the conference, died June 30, 2010, in Point Pleasant, West Virginia, at the age of 79. Born December 8, 1930, in Frametown, WV, he was the son of the late Carl and Myrtle (Teets) Browning. He married Ann Carol Browning and she survives him.

Rondal graduated from Gassaway High School in 1949, and completed the Conference Course of Study in 1956. He graduated from West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1960 with a degree in Bible and received his Master of Divinity from METSO in 1964. Beginning in 1951, he served Burnsville, Reedy Billings, Circleville-Riverton, Harrison, Benton Plankton, Ohio, Lavalette Mission, Harner Chapel-Jones, Sophia-Mabscott, First Welch, Poca-Faith, and Point Pleasant Good Shepherd. After his retirement in 1994, Rondal further enjoyed his passion for woodworking, which can be seen by many throughout the Mason United Methodist Church.

In addition to his parents, Rondal was preceded in death by a sister, Nola James. He is survived by his wife, Ann Carol Browning; daughters, Juanita Browning and Marie Bishop; step-daughters, Sherry Epple and her husband, John, and Valerie Hickman; a grandson, Jeff Bishop; great-grandchildren, Zachary, Hunter and Dylan Bishop; step grandchildren, Braden Gray, and Jonna and Danielle Epple; brother, Rev. Melvin "Duke" Browning; sisters, Norma Snyder and Bonnie Ferguson; and many nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, July 3, at Mason United Methodist Church with Rev. Scott Knowlton and Rev. Melvin "Duke" Browning officiating. Burial was in Sunrise Memorial Gardens. Memorials were received for Mason United Methodist, Good Shepherd United Methodist, Bellemead United Methodist and Heights United Methodist.

Donald Lee Cale

The Rev. Donald Lee Cale, an elder who was on Honorable Location, died May 15, 2011, in Uniontown, Pennsylvania. He was less than 2 weeks from his 90th birthday.

He graduated from Uniontown High School in 1939 and Asbury College in 1943. During World War II, he served as the civilian Methodist Chaplain for the Pentagon, and in that capacity founded what is now the Fairlington United Methodist Church in Fairlington, Virginia. Following the war, he attended Westminster, Union, and Drew seminaries. He was ordained a deacon in 1949 and elder in 1950. He received full membership in the West Virginia Conference in 1960. He served churches in New York, Virginia and Pennsylvania before coming to West Virginia. In the conference, he served Charlton Heights and Bramwell, before taking Honorable Location in 1965. He moved to North Carolina where he opened

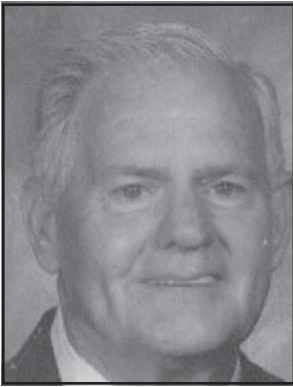
an auto transmission repair business. He also enjoyed playing the violin and other pursuits ranging from water well drilling to auto repair.

Following a series of strokes which left him incapacitated in 2005, he moved to his boyhood home of Uniontown, Pennsylvania, to be near his sons.

He is survived by two sisters, Patricia and her husband, Samuel Sink, and Rev. Jean Arthur; four children, David Cale and his wife Lillian, Eric Cale and his wife Cynthia, Kathleen Faiz and her husband Jim, and Donna Anderson and her husband James; four grandchildren, Lt. Michael Anderson, Charles Cale, Dr. Olivia Cale Henson and Dr. Robert Cale; and several great-grandchildren.

A service of Christian burial was held at the Free Methodist Church in White House, Pennsylvania. Memorial gifts were received by the White House Free Methodist Church.

Billy Cornell



The Rev. Billy Cornell, associate member of the Annual Conference, died June 30, 2010, in Ashford, West Virginia. A son of the late Howard and Nola Cornell, he was born April 5, 1925, at Spencer, West Virginia. He was married to Mary Victoria Cornell for 63 years and she survives him.

A veteran of World War II, Billy served in the Navy from 1942-1946. He attended Morris Harvey College and completed the Course of Study at Duke. He retired from Dupont Belle plant after 36 years of service. He was a Mason.

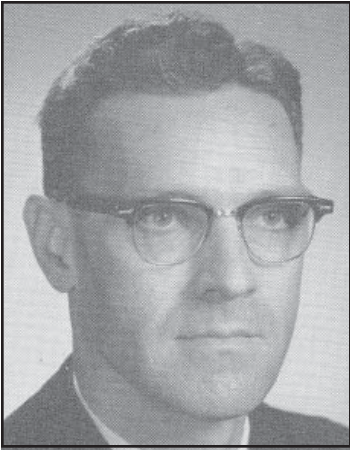
He served as a part-time local pastor for many years before becoming an associate member of the conference in 1992. Beginning in 1988, he served full-time at Meadow Bridge and Ansted-Victor Charge. Following his retirement

in 1995, he served Van.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three daughters, Beverly Hess and her husband Jeffrey, Pamela Lankford and her husband Bruce, and Renee Weaver and her husband Greg; one son, Vincent and his wife Angela; seven grandchildren, Ed Carson, Jessica Morris, James Evan Hammond, Natalie Hess, Elizabeth Hammond, Tyler Cornell and Collin Cornell; three great-grandchildren, Brittany Douglas, Trevor Carson and Gavin Douglas; three brothers, Gerald, Jim, and Ted Cornell; and one sister, Betty Perry. He was preceded in death by one brother and two sisters.

A service was held Saturday, July 3, 2010, at Christ Church United Methodist, Charleston, with Bishop William Boyd Groves, District Superintendent Dr. Edward Grant, and Dr. Randall Flanagan officiating. He was buried at the Sunset Memorial Park, South Charleston. Memorials were made to Van United Methodist Church.

Marvan Given Frame



The Rev. Marvan Frame, a retired elder in the conference, died July 5, 2010, in Charleston, at the age of 84. Born June 7, 1926, he was the son of Norman Benton Frame and Mintie Caroline Hamric Frame. He was married to Mary Elizabeth Frame for 58 years and they had five children.

Rev. Frame was a graduate of Gassaway High School in the class of 1944. He was a WWII veteran, serving in the U.S. Army Air Forces in American Theatre of Operations. He graduated from Morris Harvey College in 1951 with an AB degree in English and history. He did graduate work in Christian Education at Scarritt, and completed his Master of Divinity degree in 1955 at Vanderbilt University Divinity School. He was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Letters from West Virginia Wesleyan College and was a Master Mason.

He was ordained a deacon in 1954 and an elder in 1955. He served as associate pastor at Wesley, Morgantown; Trinity, Charleston; Barrett; Clay-Lizemores; Mason; Grace, Keyser; Spruce Street, Morgantown; St. Paul's, Nitro; and as the Beckley District Superintendent from 1968 – 1974. He retired in 1991.

During his time as a district superintendent in Bishop Wertz's cabinet, he ministered to survivors and families affected by the Buffalo Creek Flood disaster. In the conference he served on the Board of Missions, Board of Ordained Ministry, and Board of Governors of Pastor's School.

Following retirement, he remained active in the community. He was elected founding president of Charleston Police Department's Neighborhood Watch Coordinating Committee, a position he held for nine years, during which time the program expanded to numerous cities. He also served in a retired capacity at Elizabeth Memorial UMC in Charleston, and as a volunteer chaplain at Thomas Memorial Hospital.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by four sons, James N. Frame and his wife Leslie, Paul Frame, Peter Frame, Jon Frame and his partner Felipe Sanchez; one daughter, Miriam Tinsley and her husband David; grandchildren Benton Frame, Noelle Frame, Lily Frame, Kaitlyn Tinsley, Hannah Tinsley, and Jennifer Tinsley.

A memorial service was held Friday, July 9, at Elizabeth Memorial, with the Rev. Frank Shomo officiating. Rev. Frame's body was donated to the West Virginia Anatomical Board through the West Virginia University Human Gift Registry to be of service in the training of future health care providers. Memorials were received by Elizabeth Memorial United Methodist, Charleston.

Merle Francis Frank



The Rev. Merle Frank, a retired elder in the conference, died on September 7, 2010, in Sandusky, Ohio, at the age of 83. Born March 16, 1927, he was the son of the late Walter D. and Dottie Weaver Frank. He was married to the Rev. Karen Frank, also an elder, for nearly 31 years.

Merle graduated from Grafton City High School in 1945. He enlisted in the U.S. Army during World War II and served in post-war Japan. In addition, he served in the Marine Corp Reserves. He graduated from Salem College in 1956 with a degree in Humanities. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Duke University in 1960. He was ordained deacon in 1958 and elder in 1960. In the conference, he served Spelter, Lost Creek, and Salem churches, as well as Macedonia in North Carolina. In 1966 he became the chaplain at the Clarksburg VA Hospital, and in 1978 was the chaplain at the Huntington VA Hospital until

his retirement in 1990.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, gardening, woodworking, and driving his tractor. He was especially fond of his cats and dog.

In addition to his wife, Karen, he was survived by a daughter, Jeanette Budde and her husband Paul; a sister, Betty Drennan, and nephew, Brian Drennan, as well as several other nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Marion; a sister, Mary Lee; and a niece, Rebecca Drennan.

A memorial service was held on Thursday, September 9, 2010, at the Adams Funeral Home in Sidney, Ohio, with the Rev. Dr. Keigh Wagner presiding. Memorials were received for Burlington Children's Home.

William Sheffey Hart



The Rev. William S. Hart, a retired elder in the conference, died Wednesday, December 22, 2010, in Charleston. He was 71. A son of the late Sheffey B. Hart and Anna M. Hart, who survives him, he was born October 14, 1939. He was married to Chessie Pearl Davis Hart on June 2, 1962, and they had three children.

A graduate of Charleston High School, Rev. Hart received his B.A. degree from Morris Harvey College in 1962, and the Master of Divinity at Drew University in 1966. He transferred into the conference and was ordained an elder in 1966. He served charges in Pennsylvania while in seminary.

In the conference he served Canaan Circuit, Coalwood, Gassaway, St. Johns, Chelyan-East Bank, Buffalo Creek-Accoville, West Liberty, North Street-Fulton, Kadash Chapel, Wheeling Charge, Short Gap and Wesley Chapel. He retired in 1988.

He was a member of the Chelyan Masonic Lodge, Civil Air Patrol Reserves and an avid fan of West Virginia University football and basketball. He was a fifth great-grandson of John Hart, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

He is survived by his wife, Chessie; his mother, Anna; two daughters, Kathy Hart and Maggie McCarthy and her husband, Rory; a son, William Hart, II, and his wife, Leah; a sister, Beverly Bisbee; a brother, Robert N. Hart and his wife Sallie; three aunts, an uncle; eleven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, as well as many nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, December 28, 2010, at Barlow-Bonsall Funeral Home with the Rev. Monty Brown officiating. He was buried at Mountain View Memorial Park, Charleston. Donations were received by the American Diabetes Association.

Cyrus E. Holly



The Rev. Cyrus E. Holly, a part-time local pastor in the conference, died August 30, 2010. He was 58. Born November 21, 1951, in Oak Hill, he was the son of the late Lacy Estil Holly and Wanda G. Perry Holly. He was married to Amy Constance “Connie” Criss Holly for 35 years and she survives him.

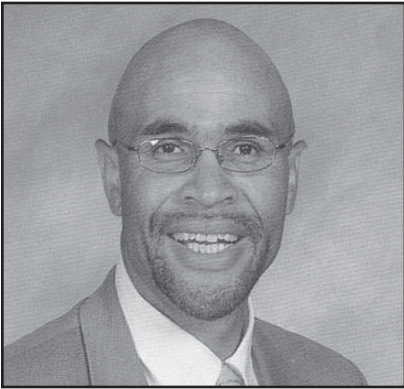
He was a 1969 graduate of Mount Hope High School where he was an all-state defensive lineman. He worked for many years as a carpenter, miner, heavy equipment hauler, and postal carrier before obtaining a teaching degree from Concord College in 1989. He received a Masters Degree in Special Education from Marshall University in 2001. While an educator in Fayette County for 23 years, Cy coached football and track. In 2000, he became a coach for the middle school’s Fellowship of Christian Athletes. It was through this experience that he felt a call to pastoral ministry. He served Harvey Chapel UMC, where he had been an active member for many years, as a lay speaker and Sunday School teacher. He named the service of the church as his most treasured accomplishment.

Cy was devoted to his family and friends, and brought joy wherever he was. He embodied the scripture, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith,” (II Timothy 4:7).

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two daughters, Michelle Leigh Holly and Jessica Renee’ Holly Floyd and her husband, Bret; two grandchildren, Jordyn Holly Floyd and Noah Bret Floyd; a sister Susan Holly Olson and her husband, Roger; a brother, Lacy E. Holly, Jr., and his wife, Vicki; and many uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

A funeral service was held on Thursday, September 2, at the Tyree Funeral Home in Oak Hill, with the Rev. Jessie Parker and the Rev. Dr. Charles Miller officiating. He was buried at High Lawn Memorial Park.

David Edward Jasper



The Rev. David E. Jasper, an elder in the conference, died Sunday, October 24, 2010, in Charleston at the age of 52. The son of the late Rev. Philip and Elsie Mae Jasper, he was born on November 12, 1957, in Fayetteville.

David graduated from Collins High School in 1976 where he captained the boys basketball team and was co-player of the year. He attended Fairmont State College on a basketball scholarship and graduated in 1980 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Duke Divinity School in 1983. He was ordained a deacon in 1982 and an elder in 1985.

He served John Wesley in Lewisburg, and Kee Street and New Century in Princeton. He was the superintendent of the Mon Valley District from 2000 – 2008, serving as dean of the Cabinet. He was serving Morris Memorial UMC in Charleston at the time of his death.

Rev. Jasper also served as a trustee at West Virginia Wesleyan College, and on a number of boards and committees within the conference. He was elected as a delegate to General and Jurisdictional Conferences in 2004 and as a delegate to Jurisdictional Conference and a reserve delegate to General Conference in 2008.

He enjoyed sports, particularly golf, which he played with friends and church members. He was an enthusiastic fan of the Washington Redskins.

While David had no children of his own, he raised his brother and sister, Troy and Nicole, as well as nephews Phillip and John and nieces, Johnnette, Valarie, and Gabrielle, and grand-nephew Pepper.

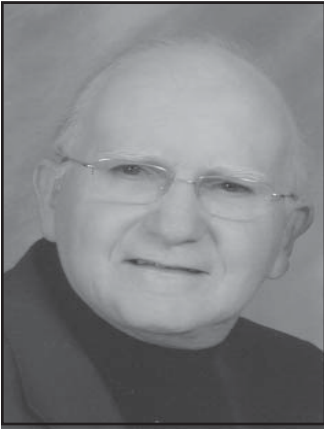
He was survived by eleven brothers, Philip and his wife Delores, Robert and his wife Brendolyn, Ronald, Mark and his wife Renee', Mordecai and his wife Ebone, Frederick, Jeremiah and his wife Michaela, Bryant, Chaun and his wife Sonya, Jhaun and his wife Margie, and Sean Troy; four sisters, Amelia and her husband Doug, Valerie, Ethelyn, and Nicole; three aunts, Roxanna Smith, Corinthia Hawkins, and Nazimova Hopkins; one uncle, Howard Randall and his wife, Junie; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his grandparents, Bessie Cox-Randall and Richard Randall, and two brothers, John and Anthony.

One of David's favorite sayings, that he truly believed, is "God is Good, All the time; All the time, God is Good."

A celebration of David's life was held on Saturday, October 30, 2010, at Morris Memorial United Methodist in Charleston with many clergy colleagues present. His brothers, Jeremiah, an elder in the conference, and Mordecai, also a minister, participated in the service, as well as Bishop Ernest S. Lyght. He was buried in the Sunset Memorial Park, South Charleston. Memorial gifts were made to the Thomas Jasper Scholarship Fund and the Central Conference Pension Initiative of The United Methodist Church.

Harry Randolph Kidd, Jr.



The Rev. H. Randolph Kidd, Jr., a retired elder in the conference, died July 5, 2010, in Huntington at the age of 72. Born April 16, 1938, in Bluefield, he was the son of the late Harry Randolph Kidd, Sr., and Donna Farley Hicks Kidd. He married Mary Kathleen "Katie" Francisco on August 7, 1965, and they had two sons.

A graduate of Bluefield High School, Randy earned a B.A. degree from Berea College in 1960. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Duke Divinity School in 1963. He was ordained a deacon in 1961 and an elder in 1963. He served Bland Street as Associate; Coalwood; Charlton Heights; Rainelle; Kee Street, Princeton; Bruce McDonald, Man; Ronceverte; Clendenin-Brawley; and Westmoreland before his retirement in 1997.

In addition to his wife of nearly 45 years, Katie, he is survived by his sons, Kevin Andrew and his wife, Jenifer, and Brian Edward; and one grandson, Maxwell Benjamin Kidd.

A memorial service was held Thursday, June 8, 2010, at Crossroads United Methodist in Huntington, with the Rev. David Cartwright and the Rev. William DeMoss officiating. He was buried in Monte Vista Park Cemetery, Princeton.

Richard Dave Ogden



The Reverend Richard D. Ogden, a retired associate member of the conference, died Monday, January 31, 2011, in Buckhannon at the age of 68. Born July 18, 1942, he was a son of the late Willis Earl and Sylvia Josie Hawkins Ogden. On December 26, 1962, he married Roselyn Ann Clark who preceded him in death on December 1, 2009.

He served in the U.S. Army for 8 years. He received an Associate degree from Salem College in 1979. He was ordained a deacon in 1977 and was granted associate conference membership in 1980. He served Doddridge, Durbin, Leivasy, Bethel, Swanton-Kitzmilller, St. Paul's in Point Pleasant, Pettyville, East Elkins, Hundred-Rush Run, and New Haven before his retirement in 2004. Following retirement, he served South Buckhannon, where he was serving at the time of his death.

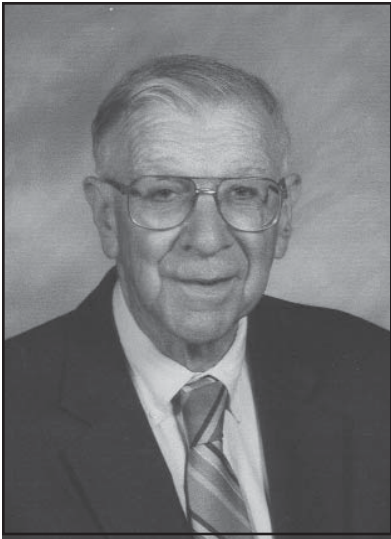
He was a Washington, DC, police officer for six years and was Chief of Police for Gassaway, WV, and Burnsville, WV. He was a member of the Osiris Temple of Wheeling and the Upshur County Shrine Club, and was a Master Mason in Parkersburg # 3 Lodge.

He was a skilled carpenter and enjoyed hunting and fishing.

He is survived by one son, Richard E. Ogden and his wife, Lisa; one granddaughter, Leslie Ogden; one grandson, Matthew Ogden; two sisters, Dolores Kasten and LeVaughn Ward, and many nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Howard and Joseph Ogden and one sister, Martha Ogden.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, February 5, 2011, at Poling-St. Clair Funeral Home in Buckhannon with the Rev. Dr. Ken Ramsey, district superintendent, presiding. He was buried at Mt. Olive Cemetery in Hinkleville, with Masonic graveside rites and the WV Army Military Honors.

G. Frank Plybon, Jr.



The Rev. G. Frank Plybon Jr., a retired elder in the conference, died October 16, 2010, in Parkersburg at the age of 81. Born in Huntington on Aug. 28, 1929, he was the eldest son of the late Rev. George Franklin Plybon, Sr. and Bertha Gill Plybon. He was married to Mary Marsha Clark Plybon for 44 years and they had two daughters.

He was a 1947 graduate of Union High School in Monroe County, received a B.A. in Music from Morris Harvey College in 1951, and the Master of Divinity degree from Duke Divinity School in 1954. He was ordained a deacon in the West Virginia United Methodist Conference in 1952, an elder in 1954 and served St. Luke's in Craigsville; Franklin and Mt. Zion in Pendleton County; Calvary in Keyser; and Seventh Street in Parkersburg before his retirement in 1995. In retirement he served Rosemar in Parkersburg and was currently serving the Smithville Charge comprised of Bethany, Bethel

Chapel, Burnt House, King Knob, and Smithville. He also served as a pastoral assistant to the district superintendent and had been active in the Washington United Methodist Church between appointments.

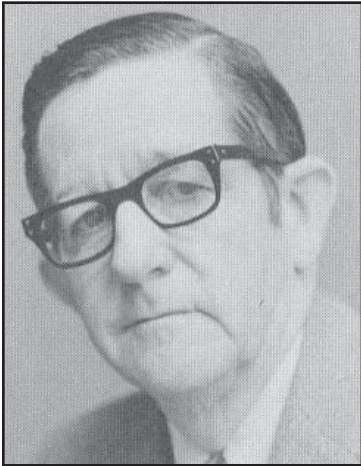
Rev. Plybon participated in many community organizations. He was a charter member of the Franklin Ruritan Club. He was also a charter member of the Craigsville Lion's Club and in May of 2010 attended their 50th year celebration. He was a member of the Parkersburg Lion's Club. Frank along with four others held monthly services at the regional jail and Bible study and services at the Wood County jail.

Frank will be remembered for his many loves: love of his Lord, love of people, love of his ministry, love of his family, love of music, history, trains, Parkersburg High School and West Virginia University football, Bob Evans Restaurants and his gift of humor. Frank will also be remembered as a man who lived a life he preached every Sunday: Kingdom living.

He is survived by his wife, Marsha; his daughters, Rachel Beach and her husband, Bob, and Leanna Prater and her husband, Craig; four grandchildren, Reagan Prater, Emily Prater, Sam Beach and Bob Beach; one sister Betty Howard and her husband, Jim; two brothers, John Plybon and his wife, Joan, and Ben Plybon; and several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews. Frank also is survived by Georgie Mae Biser and Charles "Chip" Bolyard, who were like children to him. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister-in-law, Marlene Greynolds Plybon.

A celebration of life service was held on Tuesday, October 19, 2010, at the Washington United Methodist Church, with District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Ken Krimmel, the Rev. David Calvert, and the Rev. Joe Hatcher officiating. He was interred in the Chapel at Pleasant View Memory Gardens, Martinsburg. Memorial donations were made to UMCOR, the American Bible Society, and Gideons International.

Gordon Charles Roth



The Rev. G. Charles Roth, a retired elder in the conference, died May 29, 2011, in Raleigh, North Carolina at the age of 90. Born May 4, 1921, in Parkersburg, he was the son of the late Richard Harold and Christian Lemley Roth. On February 28, 1942, he married Mary V. Riffle, and they had three daughters.

A 1938 graduate of Parkersburg High School, he received a degree in economics from West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1949. He earned his Master of Divinity degree from Garrett Biblical Seminary, Northwestern University, in 1953. He served several churches in Illinois while attending school. He was ordained deacon in 1952 and elder in 1953. Within the West Virginia Conference he served Belinton Circuit, Central in Buckhannon, Moorefield Circuit, Athens and campus minister at Concord College, St. Paul's in

Nitro, Simpson in Moundsville, Good Shepherd in Grafton, and St. Andrew's in Parkersburg, before retiring in 1986. He and his wife stayed in the Parkersburg area after retirement until 2003 when they moved to Raleigh to be near their daughter.

Rev. Roth was an advocate and spokesperson from the pulpit for civil rights. He was a kind and gentle spirit who loved all people, especially children.

In addition to his wife of 69 years, Mary, he was survived by their daughters, Mary Ann White and her husband, Jack, Patricia Baxter Hayden, and Chris Urso and her husband, Bennie; seven grandchildren; twelve great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews and his sisters, Beatrice Harrison, Helen Ruble and Genevieve Cross.

A memorial service was held at Millbrook United Methodist with the Rev. Tom Dunlap, a colleague and friend from West Virginia, and the Rev. Ray Whitman officiating.

Margaret “Peig” Roohan Schmitz



The Rev. Margaret “Peig” Roohan Schmitz, a retired elder in the conference, died July 21, 2010, at the age of 82. She was born February 5, 1928. She married Clifford W. Schmitz, Jr., on June 9, 1949, and he preceded her in death on August 17, 2009, after 60 years of marriage. They had one son.

Rev. Schmitz received her B.A. degree from Converse College in 1949 and her Master of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary in 1984. She transferred to the West Virginia Conference from Baltimore Conference in 1987. She was ordained an elder in 1990. She served Maybeury-Elkhorn, Hundred-Rush Run, Gauley Bridge-Boomer, Upper Kanawha and Pleasant Hill before retiring in 1998.

She is survived by her son, John A. Schmitz and his wife, Nancy Jacobs, and their son, Evan Jacobs Schmitz.

A memorial service was held August 7, 2010, at Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church in Calhoun County.

Clarice J. Daniel Smith



The Rev. Clarice J. Daniel Smith, a retired local pastor, died Friday, October 15, 2010, in Upper Glade, West Virginia, at the age of 76. Born August 16, 1934, in Saxon, she was the daughter of the late Arthur and Annabelle Stevens Milam. She married the Rev. Gerald T. Daniel, who preceded her in death on January 14, 1996. They had five children. She later married John Smith, who survives her.

After her first husband retired from ministry in 1991, she served Hacker Valley Charge and Camden-Cowen. She retired in 2000. She was a member of the United Methodist Women, a member and past matron of the Order of the Eastern Star, Chapter 165, Camden on Gauley, and Rebekah Lodge Number 105, Cowen.

In addition to her husband, John, she is survived by her children, a daughter, Teresa Ritchie and her husband, Mike; sons, Randall Daniel and his wife, Marilyn, Phillip Daniel and his wife, Renee, Gregory Daniel and his wife, Leslie, and Gerald Daniel and his wife, Sarah; step-children, Leonard Smith and his wife, Lori, Robert Smith and his wife, Pam, and Loretta Price and her husband, Dave; one brother Arthur Milam; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; eight step-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents and her first husband, she was preceded in death by a brother, Richard Milam, and sisters Lois Harper, Betty Lang, and Naomi Harper.

A funeral service was held on Monday, October 18, 2010, at Morris Funeral Home, Cowen, with the district superintendent, the Rev. Mark Flynn, and the Rev. Phil Hickman officiating. Memorial gifts were made to Trinity United Methodist Church, Cowen, and Bethel United Methodist Church, Camden on Gauley, and The American Cancer Society.

John Lawrence Smith



The Rev. John Lawrence Smith, a retired elder in the conference, died December 31, 2010, in Charleston at the age of 69. Born January 24, 1941, he was the son of the late Stanley Lawrence and Margie Edwards Smith. He married Nancy Hendricks Smith on January 25, 1969, and they had two children.

He was a 1958 graduate of Nitro High School and received a B.S. degree from West Virginia University in Natural Sciences in 1962. He received a degree in biology from Marshall University in 1971. In 1967, he received the Master of Divinity degree from Wesley Theological Seminary in 1967. He was ordained a deacon in 1965 and an elder in 1967. He served Grant - Upper Tract; Good Hope; Johnson Memorial, Huntington, as Associate; First, Hinton; St. Mary's, Beckley; Dillon; Lakeview, St. Albans; St. Luke's, St. Albans;

Grantsville; and Montgomery-Boomer. He took incapacity leave in 2001 and retired in 2006.

He was the author of many books on the natural history of West Virginia, including the "Potomac Naturalist," "Blackwater Country," "The High Allegheny" and "The Birds of Pendleton County." He had many other articles on the state's history in "Wild Wonderful West Virginia" magazine.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Nancy; son, Jay Lawrence Smith; and daughter Julianne Smith Bowyer and her husband, Danny; grandchildren, Jasmine Bowyer and Danny Bowyer, III; sisters, Helen Harman and Rebecca Jordan; brother, Richard Stanley Smith; and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held Saturday, January 8, 2011, at the Presbyterian Church of the Covenant. A reception to celebrate what would have been his 70th birthday followed the service. Memorial gifts were made to the Handlin Chapter of the Brooks Bird Club in Charleston or Friends of Blackwater.

Roy Lee Stanley



The Rev. Roy Lee Stanley, a retired local pastor, died January 15, 2011, at the age of 67. Born November 16, 1943, he was the son of the late Roy Earnest and Gladys Miller Stanley.

He was a veteran of the United States Air Force.

He began his ministry in 1996, serving Midway, Midway-Fraziers Bottom, Patterson Creek, Kermit, and Braxton, before retiring in 2010.

He is survived by a son, R.L. Stanley, Jr., and his wife, Shelly, and three grandchildren, Samantha, Natalie and Katie Mei Stanley. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, January 23, 2011, at Waybright Funeral Home in Ripley, with military honors provided by the American Legion Post 107. He was interred in Independence Cemetery, Sandyville.

John Earl Tenney



The Rev. John E. Tenney, a retired elder in the conference, died August 21, 2010, at the age of 70. Born July 24, 1940, in Boston, Massachusetts, he was the son of John E. and Alicia M. Cebrero Tenney. He married Darlene Sandra Lytton Tenney on August 6, 1967, and they had two sons.

A graduate of Boston Latin High School in 1958, he received a B.A. in religious studies from West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1963. He earned the S.T.B. in Biblical Studies from Boston University School of Theology in 1966. He was licensed to preach in the New England Conference, was ordained deacon in 1964 and elder in 1967 in the West Virginia Conference. He served the following charges in the West Virginia Conference: First, Princeton Associate; East Street, Middlebourne; Christ, Wheeling, Associate; West Liberty; Lost Creek; First, Richwood; Christ, Weirton; Webster Springs; Trinity-Warren-St. John; Crim Memorial; Matewan; St. John's, New Martinsville; Thomson; and Wesley, Vienna; before his retirement in 1999.

John was a talented singer, participating in several West Virginia Annual Conference choirs and with the "Seminary Singers" of Boston University at the Methodist General Conference meeting in 1964. He also sang at the 1988 United Methodist Jurisdictional Conference, which was held in Buckhannon, WV.

He served as Vice-mayor of the town of Lost Creek, while serving the church there.

He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Darlene. Also surviving are their sons,

He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Darlene. Also surviving are their sons, Stephen and Scott.

A Celebration of Life service was held Sunday, August 29, 2010, at First United Methodist Church in Parkersburg. Memorial gifts were received by Parkersburg Urban Ministries.

Ralph Edward Thompson, Jr.



The Rev. Ralph Edward Thompson, Jr., a retired elder in the conference, died on November 17, 2010, at his home in Bluefield, at the age of 78. He was born on November 2, 1932, in Bluefield, West Virginia, the only child of the late Ralph Edward and Virginia Peery Thompson. He married Judy Gayle Wiles Thompson on May 16, 1962.

Rev. Thompson graduated from Beaver High School, Bluefield, in 1951, attended Bluefield College, and graduated from West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1955. He earned a Master of Divinity degree, cum laude, from Wesley Theological Seminary in 1960. He had advanced training in Clinical Pastoral Education. He was ordained a deacon in 1957 and an elder in 1960. Within the conference, he served Ashworth Memorial, Matoaka; Mount Hope; Bruce McDonald, Man; Humphrey's Memorial, Charleston; Pea Ridge, Huntington, and as the Lewisburg District Superintendent, 1991-1995, and the Greenbrier District Superintendent, 1995-1998. He retired in 1998 after serving 41 years.

During his ministry he served as a parish coordinator, camp director, director of young adult work, certified dean of Christian Workers Schools, UMC coordinator for the Buffalo Creek Disaster, a member of various committees, boards, and agencies of the United Methodist Church and two years as Dean of the Bishop's Cabinet. In 1973 he was named WV Conference Minister of the Year. He was included in Who's Who in The United Methodist Church. Also, he was a member of professional and civic organizations in the communities in which he lived.

He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, camping, spelunking, fishing, hiking and being a baseball and rail fan. In his summers during college and seminary years, he worked as a vacation relief worker for the N&W Railway.

He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Judy Wiles Thompson; sons, Mark Edward Thompson and his wife, Jennifer, and Jeffrey Paul Thompson and his wife, Karen; daughter, Elizabeth Thompson Stoker and her husband, Damon. He was preceded in death by an infant son, Stephen Vaughn Thompson. Grandchildren include Coleman Edward Thompson, Katherine Lisle Thompson, Caroline Elizabeth Stoker, Jackson Rush Stoker, Sarah Alice Thompson and William Henry Thompson.

A graveside service and burial were held on Saturday, November 20, 2010, at Monte Vista Park Cemetery, Bluefield, WV. A Memorial service was held that afternoon at Trinity United Methodist Church, Bluefield, with the Rev. Susan Rector officiating. Memorial contributions were made to Trinity United Methodist Church, Bluefield, WV.

CLERGY SPOUSES

Marsha Ann Anderson



Marsha Ann Anderson, the wife of Rev. Gus E. Anderson, a part-time local pastor in the conference, died August 31, 2010, in Bluefield, Virginia. She was 56. Born January 28, 1954, she was the daughter of Billy David Ballengee and Geneva Presley Ballengee. She married Rev. Anderson on May 11, 1973.

Raised in Grassy Meadows, Greenbrier County, she worked as a bookkeeper at Bluefield State College where she also attended classes, working towards her Associate Degree. She also worked at Bluefield Supply Company. Her most fulfilling job, however, was being a wife and a mother and making a happy home for her family, a son and twin daughters, the eldest of which was born with Spina Bifida and required care in the home.

She was an active member of the War and Caretta United Methodist Church, and was previously a member of the Church of God, when her husband served there. She enjoyed needlepoint and working crossword puzzles. She was a wonderful cook and enjoyed entertaining her family. She dearly loved her five grandchildren and her dog, Patches.

She encouraged her husband to answer the call to ministry, and continued to enable that ministry for many years, beginning in 1986. She looked on her husband's ministry as her own, answering phone calls, dealing with problems that arose and delivering messages in what her husband called a joint "full-time-Bi-vocational" ministry. Her strength of character carried the family through illness and disability, and continues to inspire them.

In addition to her parents and her husband of nearly 38 years, she is survived by one son, Matthew Phillip Anderson and his wife, Barbara; two daughters, Terah Leigh Anderson, and Jennifer Marie Marris and her husband, Brian; siblings, Audrey Smothers, Judy Meyers and her husband, Lavoy; Billy David Ballengee, Jr., Brenda Holliday and her husband, Kevin, Sherral Nickell and her husband, Jeff, and Melissa Crane and her husband, Dane; five grandchildren, Jonathon Burton, Rebecca Burton, Brittany Burton, Jenna Marris, and Lauren Marris; her mother-in-law, Rosalee Anderson; and many extended family and friends.

A funeral service was held on Friday, September 3, 2010, at the Mercer Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Dr. K.B. Arnold officiating. She was buried at Grandview Memory Gardens in Bluefield, Virginia. Memorial contributions were received by the War and Caretta United Methodist Church.

Darlene Lucelle Crickard



Darlene Lucelle Crickard, wife of the Rev. Richard L. Crickard, a retired elder in the conference, died January 27, 2011, in Elkins, at the age of 76. Born June 17, 1934, at Valley Head, West Virginia, she was the daughter of the late Roscoe E. Arbogast and Virgie Irene (Ware) Arbogast who survives her. She married Rev. Crickard on Christmas Day, December 25, 1952, at Valley Head and they had been married for 58 years.

Darlene graduated from Tygarts Valley High School in 1952 and was a 1960 graduate of Concord College, Athens, with a B.A. degree in Education. She completed graduate studies in Elementary Education at West Virginia University, Morgantown.

A lifelong United Methodist, she worked as a partner in ministry with her husband for 39 years throughout the West Virginia Conference. They served West Union; Key Street-Pisgah, Princeton; First, Richwood – Hinkle Mountain; Emmanuel, White Sulphur Springs; Broad Oaks, Clarksburg; First, Hinton; and St. Marys before his retirement in 1990. Rev. Crickard also served as a U.S. Naval Chaplain from 1961-1965.

She was a devoted mother and homemaker. She was a life member of the United Methodist Women, and also a life member of the Cass Chapter #124 Order of the Eastern Star, having received her 50 year membership pin in 2004.

In addition to her mother and husband, she is survived by two daughters, Marica Manley and Denise Ware and her husband, Gerald; one son, Dr. Kevin Crickard and his wife, Diana; grandchildren, Jason Manley, Lauren Jannotta, Chloe Ware, Patrick Ware, and Madison Crickard; two step-grandchildren, Brandon Leshner and Devon Leshner, and one great-grandson, Gabriel Michael Jannotta; two brothers, Ronnie Arbogast and his wife, Sandy, and Eugene Arbogast and his wife, Jill; one sister, Mary Volz and her husband, George, and one sister-in-law, Dorcus Arbogast. In addition to her father, she was preceded in death by a brother, Victor.

A funeral service was held Monday, January 31, 2011, at the Valley Head United Methodist Church, with the District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Ken Ramsey, the Rev. Bonnie Starkey, the Rev. Verl Simmons and the Rev. Ann Fretwell officiating. She was interred in the Valley Head Cemetery. A memorial service was held on January 30, 2011, by the Cass Chapter No. 124 Order of the Eastern Star at the Funeral Home Chapel. Memorial gifts were received by Hospice Care Corporation, Arthurdale.

Herman Franklin Lusk



Herman Franklin Lusk, husband of the Rev. Betty Sue Lusk, a retired part-time local pastor, died May 25, 2011, in Beckley, West Virginia, at the age of 76. Born December 6, 1934, at Algoma, West Virginia, he was the son of the late Glen and Beulah Mitchem Lusk. He was married to Rev. Lusk for 54 years.

Frank was a retired mine worker and a member of the United Mine Workers of America. He was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps.

A member of the Blue Jay United Methodist Church, he was a loving and dedicated husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He was a man who trusted in the Lord and loved his family and his home. He appreciated the smallest gesture of kindness yet never asked or expected anything from others. He was also devoted to his loyal canine companions, Holly and Chloe.

In addition to his wife, Betty, he is survived by a daughter, Becky Hendrick and her husband, Eddie; two sons, Tim Lusk, and Jody Lusk and his wife, Sheila; eight grandchildren, Wendy Peters, Dennis Hendrick, Sarah Louis, Hannah Lusk, Rachel Lusk, Joel Lusk, Cole Lusk, and Amber Nelson; two great-grandchildren, MaKenzie and Kaylee, who were the joy of his life; a sister, Catherine St. Clair, and a special brother-in-law, Robert Crouch.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Bernard and Carl.

A service to celebrate his life was held at the Rose and Quesenberry Funeral Home in Shady Spring with the Rev. Paul Stadelman officiating. He was buried at Woodlawn Memorial Park at Bluewell, West Virginia. Memorial contributions were received by the Blue Jay United Methodist Church in Beaver.

Phyllis Ann Mehaffie



Phyllis Ann Mehaffie, wife of the Rev. Dennis A. Mehaffie, an elder in the conference, died on October 11, 2010, in Columbus, Ohio, from complications related to cancer. She was 57. Born August 7, 1953, in Madison, Indiana, she was the second daughter of the late L. Gale and Marjorie Bowyer. She married Rev. Mehaffie on July 26, 1983, at New Hope Community Church in New Washington, Indiana, by her brother-in-law, Roy Lauter.

She grew up on the family farm near Charlestown, Indiana, and graduated from Charlestown High School. She earned both her B.S. and M.S. degrees in elementary education from Indiana University,

Southeast, in New Albany, Indiana. She was teaching second grade when she met and married her husband and moved with him to Pennsylvania in 1984, and to West Virginia in 1989.

Together they served in Aurora, Marlinton, Brushfork and Middlebourne. She taught in Preston, Pocahontas and McDowell counties. She became a lay speaker while living in Pennsylvania and remained a certified lay speaker throughout her life. In November 2005, Phyllis was asked by the district superintendent to supply the pulpit at Archers Chapel and Little United Methodist Churches in the Northern District. She remained as assigned supply there until February of 2010.

Phyllis served on the Clergy Support and Pastoral Care teams of the Potomac Highlands, Greenbrier, Southern and Northern Districts. She also served a quadrennial term on the Annual Conference Clergy Support and Pastoral Care Committee. While in the Southern District, Phyllis was president of the ministers' spouses. She also chaired the Southern District Celebration of Ministry Event in 2003. At the time of her death, Phyllis was on the Laity Team of the Northern District and its Lay Speaking sub-committee.

In addition to her husband, Phyllis is survived by her sister, Sue Lauter, and her niece, Lori Wright. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her daughter, Sarah Gale Mehaffie.

A funeral service was held on October 15, 2010, at Grayson Funeral Home in New Washington, Indiana, with the Rev. Dr. Roy Lauter officiating. Phyllis is buried in the Mt. Zion Cemetery in Paynesville, Indiana, near her parents and her daughter. Memorial gifts were made to the Middlebourne United Methodist Church.

Ruth Samaroo



Ruth Samaroo, wife of the Rev. Joseph Samaroo, died on December 28, 2010, at home in Wheeling, West Virginia, at the age of 81. Born November 11, 1929, in Riverstown, British Guiana (now Guyana), she was the daughter of Edward Hilton and Budhia Hansrajsingh. She married Joseph Samaroo on August 25, 1947, at Ann's Grove Methodist Church, British Guiana.

Ruth was a graduate of the Church of Scotland Primary School after passing a national examination. She lost her mother at the age of nine. She then quit school to help take care of the home and two younger brothers. While at home she learned sewing and handicraft. She made beautiful afghans, shawls and cushion covers. She

liked flowers, which she planted while her husband planted vegetables. She loved music and singing.

Even at a young age she was the sweet singer of the gospel, assisting her father who was a local pastor. During her long illness, she found comfort in listening to and singing her favorite hymns.

In August 1949, her husband Joseph was called into the ministry and started training at the Bethel Theological College in Guyana before going to seminary. Ruth and

their two sons joined her husband in Kingston, Jamaica, where he was studying at the United Theological Seminary. Upon their return to Guyana, Rev. Joseph Samaroo was called to serve the Burn's Memorial Presbyterian Church. Rev. Samaroo later joined the Methodist Church.

Ruth immigrated with her husband to New York City, where they lived for three years while her husband attended New York Theological Seminary. After graduation in 1980, Rev. Joseph Samaroo joined the West Virginia Annual Conference and they moved to Wheeling. They served at Simpson and Greggsville in Wheeling, Mt. Olivet and Pleasant Hill, Triadelphia, as associate pastor at Christ Church, Wheeling, and finally at First Church, Terra Alta, where Rev. Samaroo retired in 1993. Ruth sang in all the choirs of the churches that her husband served.

Ruth is survived by her husband of 63 years; two sons, David and Jonathan; granddaughter Lisa Sharmila Ward and her husband, Stuart; great grandchildren Jazmyn, Doctur, and Michael; and one brother Jacob Hansrajsingh. She was preceded in death by her parents, two sisters, Esther and Rosan, and one brother, the Rev. Issac Hansrajsingh.

A celebration of her life was held on December 31, 2010, at Elm Grove United Methodist Church, Wheeling, with the Rev. Bryan Carpenter officiating. Memorial gifts were made to the Elm Grove United Methodist Church.

Linda Simms

Linda Simms, wife of the Rev. O. Kenneth Simms, an elder in the conference, died June 17, 2010, at the age of 62. She was born June 4, 1948. She and Rev. Sims were married May 22, 1992.

Linda and Rev. Simms resided in Follansbee. Rev. Simms served Otterbranch; Christ, Huntington; Volga; Central, Hamlin; Westover and Follansbee, where he was serving at the time of her death.

Linda worked as a Home Health Nurse.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by daughter Trina Rechalle Matthews and grandson Devon Matthews.

A private memorial service was planned.

Doris R. Stewart



Doris R. Stewart, wife of the Rev. Perry Stewart, retired associate member of the conference, died November 2, 2010, in Vienna, West Virginia, at the age of 83. She was born in Weirton, West Virginia, the daughter of the late Raymond and Mamie Cameron Griffith. She and Rev. Stewart were married on June 20, 1947.

She was a member of Christ United Methodist Church in Parkersburg. Her pleasure was in creating a home for her family. In addition, she was a foster parent to 380 children over many years. She enjoyed doll making and made over 300 porcelain dolls. She was a gardener.

In addition to her husband of 63 years, she is survived by two daughters, Sandra Wilson and her husband, James, and Christine Polan; two sons, Danny R. Stewart and his wife, Sharon, and Gerald Stewart and his wife, Sharon; 12 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, a granddaughter, Billie Jo Buckley, two sisters and a brother.

She was cremated, and a memorial service was held on Sunday, November 14, during morning worship at Christ United Methodist Church in Parkersburg. Memorial contributions were made to Christ United Methodist Food Pantry.

Mary Louise Reynolds Strunk



Mary Louise Reynolds Strunk, wife of the Rev. Orlo C. Strunk, Jr., a retired elder in the conference, died April 30, 2011, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, at the age of 84. Born September 6, 1926, in PenArgyl, Pennsylvania, she was the daughter of the late Luther Reynolds and Marjorie MacKinnon Reynolds. She and Rev. Strunk were married for 64 years.

A graduate of PenArgyl High School, class of 1944, Mary Louise also graduated from Churchman Business College in Easton, Pennsylvania. She was an experienced medical secretary and worked for Dean A.A. Schoolcraft at West Virginia Wesleyan College while Rev. Strunk was completing his undergraduate degree there. While he attended Boston University School of Theology, she served as secretary to Children's Mission to Children in Boston. She is especially remembered by her family neighbors, and friends as always having a winning smile, expressing a loyal dedication

to her children and husband, and holding an ardent affection for all animals, particularly feral felines. Her smile was immortalized in photographs that appeared in several issues of Homefront magazine during World War II.

Rev. Strunk served as Dean at West Virginia Wesleyan College from 1957 to 1969, during which time Mary was active in the campus life. Both of their children were born during their time in Buckhannon. Rev. Strunk was also on faculty at Boston University, before becoming a counselor at the Grand Strand Pastoral Counseling Service in Myrtle Beach, where Mary served as the secretary/receptionist. After retirement in 1995, they remained in the Myrtle Beach area.

Mrs. Strunk was a member of the First United Methodist Church in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

In addition to her husband, Orlo, she is survived by a daughter, Laura Louise Sirois, a son, John Christopher Strunk, grandchildren, Christopher, David, Jason, Orlo, and Sheena, and a great-granddaughter, Maeve; special nieces and their spouses, Douglas and Janet Reynolds, and Chris and Robert Loudon.

She was cremated and a memorial service was held. Memorial donations were made to the Humane Society.

Norman Leo West



Norman Leo West, husband of the Rev. Sharon West, a retired elder in the conference, died Sunday, February 20, 2011, in Parkersburg, the day before his 80th birthday. Born February 21, 1931, in Calcutta, West Virginia, he was the son of the late Clinton and Cassie Bills West.

He served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War. He worked for the Alcoholic Beverage Commission of West Virginia for several years and was self-employed as a painter and general home maintenance repairman. He also served as a volunteer in the St. Marys Fire Department.

Survivors, in addition to Rev. West, include a son, Dennis West and his wife, Marilyn; stepchildren, James and John Roe, Sherrie Streight and her husband, Gene, and Barbi Vice and her husband, David; grandchildren, Shannon and Travis West; 11 step-grandchildren; great-granddaughter, Mallory; six step-great-grandchildren; brothers Joseph and Jay West; and sisters, Nancy Harding, Carol Philips, Erma Neff, Vivian Dearth, and Ruth Bailey.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Patricia Newell West; sisters, Betty Holmes, Marilyn "Tootie" Brammer, and Edna Smith; and brothers, Delbert, Marion, James, David, William, Eugene, and Danny.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, February 23, 2011, at the Leavitt Funeral Home, Parkersburg, with the Rev. Cindy Eakle officiating. He was buried in the IOOF Cemetery in St. Marys, West Virginia.

SURVIVING SPOUSES OF CLERGY

Shelva Dove Andrews



Shelva Dove Andrews, surviving spouse of the Rev. Charles E. Andrews, an associate member of the conference, died Friday, September 10, 2010, in Weirton. Born September 17, 1936, in Mozer, West Virginia, she was the daughter of the late Homer Russell and Leta Grace Dove. Rev. Andrews preceded her in death on March 19, 2007.

Shelva was a retired Hancock County school teacher and a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in New Cumberland. She was a member and past president of the Alpha Tau Chapter of the Alpha Delta Kappa International Honorary Organization for Women Educators, and a member and past president of the GFWC Women's Club of New Cumberland.

During her husband's ministry in West Virginia, they served Wardensville, Pendleton-Grant, and New Cumberland before his retirement in 1989. After retirement, he served Nessly Chapel.

She is survived by her daughter, Carol Anne Andrews; a sister-in-law, Eileen Dove, and a niece and nephew. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her brother, Ralph Dove.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, September 14, 2010, at the Trinity United Methodist Church with the Rev. Robert Staub officiating. She was interred in the New Cumberland Cemetery.

Jane Elizabeth Arbogast



Jane Elizabeth Arbogast, surviving spouse of the Rev. Quade R. Arbogast, died June 16, 2010. She was 98. She was the daughter of the late Clyde and Mollie Hogsett Auldridge. She married Rev. Arbogast on May 21, 1937. They were the parents of two children. He preceded her death on May 11, 1989.

Before his retirement in 1972, he served Green Bank, Richlands, Cheat Neck, Peach Creek and Earl Charges.

She is survived by a son, Don Arbogast and his wife, Elaine; and daughter, Dotty Lasley and her husband, Don; grandsons, Mark Arbogast, Nathan Arbogast and Wesley Arbogast. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her twin brother, Richard Auldridge.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, June 19, 2010, at McCammon-Ammons-Click Chapel with Dr. Jerry Russell officiating. She was interred on Tuesday, June 22, 2010, in Walker Memorial Park Cemetery, Summersville, West Virginia. Memorial gifts were made to Fairview United Methodist Building Fund and Jordan Chapel United Methodist Building Fund.

Grace I. Dodd Geary



Grace Irene Dodd Geary, surviving spouse of the Rev. John M. Geary, died on August 23, 2010, in York County, Virginia. She was 86. She married Rev. Geary on September 16, 1945, and they had three children. He preceded her in death on July 25, 1992.

The youngest of five children, she graduated from Fayetteville High School. She attended Bowling Green Business University in Kentucky and the Roanoke Business College in Virginia. She was employed as secretary for the New River Company in Mount Hope, West Virginia, and also worked at the Department of Public Assistance in Fayetteville. Later she was employed as secretary for Glenwood Elementary School in Charleston. She also was the secretary for the youth minister at Highland Park UMC in Dallas, Texas, while her husband did graduate work at Southern Methodist University. After her husband's death, she moved to Virginia. She was a member of Menchville Baptist Church in Newport News, Virginia.

Her husband served the following churches in West Virginia: Clendenin Circuit; Calvary-Grace; Reynolds Memorial; Emmanuel, Huntington; Humphreys Memorial, Charleston; Associate at Johnson Memorial, Huntington; First, South Charleston; Buckhannon District Superintendent; and St. Andrew, St. Albans. He also served churches in Georgia and Texas, while in school.

She is survived by her three sons, John Michael Geary and his wife, Deborah, Patrick Steven Geary and his wife, Anett, and Mark Webster Geary and his wife, Cathy; 12 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two brother and two sisters.

A memorial service was held in Virginia with the Pastor James Weston officiating. A second memorial service was held in her hometown of Fayetteville, West Virginia. Memorial gifts were made to the Building Fund of the Menchville Baptist Church in Newport News, Virginia.

Ouida Nanelle Hutchinson



Ouida Nanelle Hutchinson, surviving spouse of Manford C. Hutchinson, died September 11, 2010, in Athens, Tennessee, at the age of 78. Born June 10, 1932, in Huntington, West Virginia, she was a daughter of the late Roy Lynn Midkiff and Elsie Morrison Midkiff. She was married to Rev. Hutchinson for 37 years before his death on August 2, 2004.

Rev. Hutchinson had served Bachtel in New Haven, Florence Memorial in Dickson, St. John's in Parsons, Trinity in Parkersburg, and First, Williamson, prior to his retirement in 1995.

She is survived by a niece, Pat Stevens, and nephews, Billy Klyce, Mike Klyce David Midkiff, and Lynn E. Midkiff,

III; and brothers-in-law, Louis and Russell Hutchinson. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a sister, Wilma Klyce, and a brother, Lynn E. Midkiff, II.

A service was held on Tuesday, September 14, 2010, at the Wallace Funeral Home and Chapel, Barboursville, with the Rev. Scott Ferguson, officiating. Memorial gifts were made to the Salt Rock Community Church in Salt Rock, West Virginia.

Edna M. Mitchell

Edna M. Mitchell, surviving spouse of the Rev. Harvey J. Mitchell, died March 18, 2010. Her husband preceded her in death on January 21, 1960. They had five children, Gene, Patricia, Betty, John, and Paul.

At the time of his death, he was serving Itmann in the former Beckley District. Previously he served Central, Buckhannon; Auburn; St. John's; Grafton; Belington; Lumberport; Adamston; Clarksburg; East Gulf; Meadowdale; Hundred; Riverside; Morgantown; Enterprise; and Avery, as well as churches in Virginia and Maryland.

Neva Patterson



Neva Patterson, surviving spouse of the Rev. Dr. Winfield Scott Patterson, died Saturday, June 5, 2010, in York, Pennsylvania. She was 100 years old. Born October 31, 1909, in Beverly, West Virginia, she was the daughter of the late Randolph C. and Maude Lothery Triplett. She and Rev. Patterson were married November 11, 1930. He preceded her in death on August 21, 1979.

Mrs. Patterson was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Buckhannon, the United Methodist Women and the College Club.

Her husband served Belington; First, Clarksburg as associate; Logan; Oakland, Maryland; First, Moundsville; St. Andrews, Parkersburg; Buckhannon District Superintendent; and Salem before his retirement in 1964. Following his retirement, they lived in Buckhannon. She stayed in Buckhannon after his death and eventually moved to Pennsylvania to be near her son.

She is survived by her son, Joseph Ross Patterson and his wife, Joan; a daughter, Mary Joan Schenck; six grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by a sister, Pearl Moore.

A funeral service was held on Thursday, June 10, 2010, at the Poling-St. Clair Funeral Home in Buckhannon with the Rev. Billee Scott Mick officiating. She was buried in Heavner Cemetery in Buckhannon.

Lola M. Gaskins Raines

Lola M. Raines, surviving spouse of the Rev. Otis Martin Raines, died April 15, 2011. She and Rev. Raines, were married for only one year before his death on January 22, 1970.

Esther Spurlock



Esther Spurlock, surviving spouse of Rev. Donald Spurlock, died June 24, 2010, in Moundsville, West Virginia, at the age of 89. Born May 6, 1921, in Dillon, Colorado, she was the daughter of the late Peter and Alice Herseth Prestrud. Rev. Spurlock, a local pastor, preceded her in death on December 18, 1987.

Mrs. Spurlock was a retired employee of the former Morris Plan Bank, and a member of the Washington Lands Garden Club.

She is survived by a son, David R. Spurlock and his wife, Joyce; a daughter, Carol Jean Spurlock; one brother, Lars O. Prestrud; four grandchildren, David R. Spurlock, Jr., Dawn E. Spurlock, Dean E. Spurlock, and Daniel G. Spurlock; six great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by a sister, Minda Prestrud, and two brothers, Carl and Paul Prestrud.

At her request, there was no funeral service. She is buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Wheeling, West Virginia.

Dorothy States

Dorothy States, surviving spouse of William G. States, died March 18, 2011. Her husband, a local pastor, preceded her in death on October 12, 1990. They had two children, a son, Thomas States, and a daughter, Sharon Mick, and three grandchildren. Rev. States served as a local pastor for 25 years before his retirement in 1980.

Katherine Marie Frye Young

Katherine "Kitty" Marie Frye Young, the surviving spouse of Frank S. Young, died January 18, 2011, in New Albany, Ohio, at the age of 89. She was the daughter of Jess Russell and Iva Lou Cobb Frye. She married Rev. Young on November 12, 1942, and they were married for 56 years until his death on May 16, 1999.

Rev. Young served as an associate at First, Huntington; Crossroads; Reynolds Memorial, Marmet; St. Peters, St. Albans; and Aldersgate, Wheeling, before his disability

retirement in 1970. Kitty was an active helper in their ministry. She was a member of the West Virginia Ministers' Wives Fellowship for over 40 years, and served as the president of the group for many years. She was also a member of the United Methodist Women.

Kitty is survived by her daughters, Pamela Karen Young Thomas, and Francine Ann Young Mastin; sisters, Addie Marguerite Summers; grandchildren, Michele Kriss, Heidi Henry, and Hali Winesdorfer; and four great-grandsons. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by brothers, Holly Arnold Frye, Sr., and Ray Thomas Frye; and grandchild Lee Michael Summerfield.

A memorial service was held on Friday, January 21, 2011, at the New Albany United Methodist Church, in New Albany, Ohio, with the Rev. Scott Ferguson officiating. She was buried in the Koontz Cemetery in Clendenin, West Virginia.

Sarah Hanna H. Lusk Young



Sarah Hanna H. Lusk Young, surviving spouse of Rev. Alvin C. Young, died March 13, 2011, in Hurricane, West Virginia. She was the daughter of the late Walter Bennett Lusk and Ethel Williams Lusk. She married Rev. Young on May 27, 1946, and they were married for 51 years before his death on June 17, 1997.

Sarah was a member of Forrest Burdette United Methodist Church in Hurricane. She taught with her mother in a two-room school in Wyoming prior to her marriage. She devoted her life to her husband and their service in the church. In the conference, Rev. Young served Shepherd, Charleston; Emmauel, White Sulphur Springs; Trinity, Pt. Pleasant; Central, Fairmont; Weston District Superintendent; Stealey; Aldersgate-Hope; and Grace, Bluefield, before he retired in 1978. He served Thompson Chapel for several years in retirement.

She is survived by daughters Harriet Leech and her husband, Jim, Linda Sovine and her husband, Steve, and Catherine Nicholson and her husband, Jay; grandchildren, Allison Brown, David Leech, and Ben Nicholson; sister, Mattie Powell and her husband, Doug; brother, Tom Lusk; sisters-in-law, Norma McLane, Freda Young, Catherine Lusk, and Greta Lusk; brother-in-law, Charles Clark; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband and parents, she was preceded in death by a grandson, Andrew Paul Nicholson; sister, Mary Lusk Clark; brothers, Lacy Lusk and Jack Lusk; two nieces; and a brother-in-law and sister-in-law.

A celebration of Sarah's life was held March 16, 2011, at Forrest Burdette United Methodist Church in Hurricane with the Rev. Dan Hogan officiating. She was interred in Roselawn Cemetery in Princeton. Memorial gifts were received for the Andrew Paul Nicholson Memorial Scholarship Fund at First United Methodist Church in Newport News, Virginia, and for Forrest Burdette United Methodist Church.