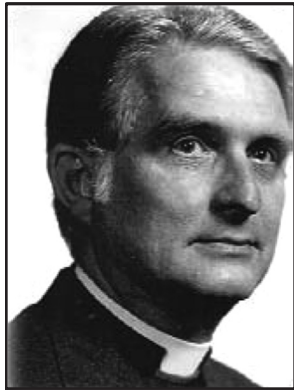


VIII. MEMOIRS

Bishop James Mase Ault

August 24, 1918

September 21, 2008



James Mase Ault died peacefully on September 21, 2008, at the Midcoast Senior Health Center with his family at his side.

Born on August 24, 1918, in Sayre, Pa., the third of five sons of Tracey Ault and Bessie Mase Ault, he graduated as valedictorian from Sayre High School in 1936. While serving as head of the youth fellowship of the Sayre Methodist Church, he met his wife to be, Dorothy Barnhart. They married during World War II while he was serving as a sergeant in the Army. He attended Colgate University on the GI Bill, served a nearby Methodist Church in Preston, N.Y., graduated magna cum laude, and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He went on to study at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, also graduating magna cum

laude in 1952.

Always a pastor at heart, he served churches in Carlton Hill and Leonia, N.J., and Pittsfield, Mass., returning to Union Theological Seminary as dean of students, director of field education, and professor of pastoral theology. In 1968, he became dean of the theological school at Drew University after two-thirds of its core faculty resigned. He led the effort to rebuild the institution.

In 1972 he was elected Bishop of the United Methodist Church, serving 16 years, first in the Philadelphia Area and then in the Pittsburgh Area. From 1984 to 1988, he was president of the General Board of Global Ministries. In that capacity, he visited with local church leaders in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. He served as Secretary and later as President of the Council of Bishops. As a member of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches, he took part in successful efforts to lobby for economic sanctions against South Africa during the struggle against apartheid.

He loved working with pastors and serving the church, but he also had a strong sense of humor and enjoyed sports as a participant and fan, especially baseball, basketball, tennis, and ping pong. Surviving are his wife, Dorothy; a brother Alfred; a son, James Jr.; a daughter Kathryn; a daughter Elizabeth Ault Brinker and her husband, Will; grandchildren Samuel Feldman, Henry Ault, Noah Ault Brinker, and Zoe Ault Brinker.

A memorial service was held at the United Methodist Church, Brunswick, ME., on November 1, 2008. Participating were Bishop Peter Weaver, Bishop George Bashore, Bishop John Schol, and Pastor Jeffrey Hunt.

Submitted by Dorothy Ault

Samuel J. Bavely, Sr.

July 14, 1944

February 11, 2009

Samuel J. Bavely Sr., died Wednesday, February 11, 2009 at the Clarion Hospital following an extended illness. Born July 14, 1944, in Fairmont, W.Va., he was the son of the late Alexander S. and Isabell Gerard Bavely.

Sam was a graduate of West Fairmont High School in West Virginia and a graduate of the New Hampshire Business College. He was a U.S. Navy Veteran. He was a supervisor for Bell Atlantic in Hampton, VA., when he retired in 1996. Shortly thereafter, he started a charter fishing and tourism business.

Sam was a member of the Monroe Chapel United Methodist Church in Sligo, Pa. He was also a Certified Lay Minister for the Redbank Valley UMC Cooperative and a member of the Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus community. Sam enjoyed hunting and fishing.

Sam is survived by two sons, Samuel J. Bavely, Jr. and his wife, Cheryl, of Pittsburgh, and Paul G. Bavely and his wife, Meghan, of Westbrook, Conn.; a daughter, Elizabeth Bavely of Claremont, NH.; and three grandchildren.

Cynthia Delle Donne Blaha

January 3, 2009

Cynthia Delle Donne (Curry) Blaha died on Saturday, January 3, 2009; beloved wife of Reverend Wesley E. Blaha; loving mother of Matthew (Kristie) Delle Donne, of Murrysville and Lara Delle Donne, of New York, NY; sister of Robert Curry, of New Wilmington, PA; stepmother of Rob, Becky, Susanna and the late Benjamin Blaha; step-grandmother of Shelly, Alaina & Ashlyn.

Cindy was a compassionate, caring nurse whose true calling was hospice care. She touched innumerable lives and will be missed by all her family, friends and patients alike. A funeral service was held at Crossroads Presbyterian Church.

Catherine "Kitty" Burns Avery Finney

February 25, 1920

August 12, 2008

Catherine "Kitty" Burns Avery Finney went to be with her Savior on August 12, 2008, in the Medical Center, Beaver, PA. Born February 25, 1920, in Red Hills, PA, she was the daughter of the late George and Betsy Burns and step-daughter of the late Emma Burns. She was a member for over 50 years of the Chippewa United Methodist Church, where she served in many capacities, including delivering cassette tapes to patients in the hospital, having Bible Studies in her home and arranging several bus tours.

She has served with dedication with her late husband, the Rev. Ralph Avery, who had been the pastor at Bethel United Methodist Church near Hookstown.

She had also been a Volunteer for Meals on Wheels for over 25 years and had volunteered at the Carnegie Free Library in Beaver Falls for a number of years.

In addition to her parents and stepmother, she was preceded in death by her first husband, the Rev. Ralph Avery.

She was the loving and devoted wife of Kenneth Finney. She is also survived by a son and daughter-in-law, William and Linda Avery of Beaver Falls; a daughter and son-in-law, Cathy and Joseph DeMaria, Brighton Township; 10 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; three brothers and their spouses.

Services were held in Beaver Falls with her pastor, Rev. Rodney E. Smith, officiating. Private entombment was in Sylvania Hills Mausoleum, Daughtery Township, Rochester, PA.

George Wesley Campbell

May 20, 1924

April 17, 2009



George W. Campbell was born into a large, loving family of eight brothers and three sisters, all of who preceded him in death. His parents were George S. Campbell and Nina White Campbell. Also preceding him in death was his first wife, Dorothy Boyer Campbell. Surviving are their two children, daughter, Linda Clark and husband William Clark; their two sons, Bryan Clark and David Clark and wife, Melissa, and their daughter, Olivia Clark; and son, James W. Campbell and wife

Deborah and their children, Michael Campbell and Krista Campbell. George's second wife, Arlene Buckley Campbell also preceded him in death. Internment was in Butler Cemetery, Butler, Pa.

George served in the U.S. Air Force in the 15th Air Force in Italy as an Ariel Engineer aboard a B-24 Bomber. He was awarded numerous campaign ribbons as well as the Air Medal with Clusters and the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service.

After the war, he returned to his civilian job and in 1950 was recalled for active duty during the Korean War in the 375 Troop Carrier Wing 56 Squadron.

In 1956, he entered the ministry of The United Methodist Church, serving Blackburn, Millerstown, Tidioute, Sheffield, and Glassport churches, retiring in 1988. Later he served a brief term as minister of the Truth or Consequence United Methodist Church in NM.

That having been said, who was George W. Campbell? He would want you to know that above all, he loved and was loved. George wrote these last words in a letter for friends and family at his funeral:

"The medical profession will probably tell you that I died of an enlarged heart that became flabby and no longer able to pump, plus a few leaky heart valves and maybe an inability to follow orders. I confess they are probably right on target. For over the years, God blessed me with many people – First a loving family of father, mother, brothers and sisters, then a beautiful wife and two wonderful children, and hundreds of Christians in the churches I served plus a whole multitude of people I have met. And there was room in my heart for every one of them. As the numbers increased, so my heart expanded. Perhaps I am weird (we'll not get into that) but I can't stop loving each one of you. And God keeps giving me someone more to love every day of my life – Isn't God wonderful! Not only the people gathered here today, but thousands who couldn't make this meeting. As far as the heart being soft and flabby "it's true" for I have believed and tried to help all the individuals with stories of need. So I confess I'm an old softy. In closing, let me tell you how happy I am that God has given me this heart to love, and each of you to fill it up."

His passion in life was to encourage everyone to share with others what God has done in their lives so that others might come to know God and see that God is alive and

working in people today. George always said “If you feel like you ought to do something, you should do it.” We need to listen to God’s guiding voice inside of each of us and be ready to be a part of God’s plan.

Submitted by the family, Linda S. Clark

Helene Schenck Patterson Cole

December 17, 1922

October 3, 2008

Helene J. Schenck Patterson Cole passed away peacefully on October 3, 2008 at Mountain Valley Hospice House in Gloversville, NY.

Helene was born December 17, 1922 in Wilkinsburg, PA to the late Rand G. and Marian Jocelyn Schenck. A graduate of Mt. Lebanon High School in Mt. Lebanon, PA, Helene went to work as the personal secretary to author, evangelist, and lecturer Dr. E. Stanley Jones. Dr. Jones inspired Helene to continue her education, assisting her with her initial tuition at Duke University in Durham, NC where she eventually earned a Bachelor’s degree in Sociology. It was at Duke that she met Howard Charlton Patterson, a Duke Divinity School student whom she married on May 26, 1946. Together, over the next 33 years they ministered to congregations in Moncure, NC, Clintonville, PA, Mercer, PA, Dunkirk, NY, and finally Kane, PA.

Helene was known to be a joyful hostess and welcomed hundreds of guests from congregation and community into each parsonage for wonderful meals shared among friends, strangers, and family. In a guest journal that she kept in the parsonages over the 33 years, one dinner guest wrote “I have seen a glimpse of heaven today in the food I was served and in the kindness with which I was welcomed into the parsonage.”

In retirement at Gowanda, NY, Helene and Howard revered in the beauty of God’s creative wonders enjoying birds, the majestic trees, and the uniqueness of each of the four seasons in their rural home. On September 10, 1984, Howard predeceased Helene who then sought the health benefits of a warmer climate in Frostproof, FL. There she met and married B.F. Cory who predeceased her in 1993. Helene’s final marriage was to Marvin Cole, also of Frostproof, FL who predeceased her in October 2003.

In April 2004, Helene suffered a stroke that impaired her ability to drive and speak. She continued to find inspiration and hope through her participation as an active member of the Sun Ray UMC congregation in Frostproof. In August 2005, Helene moved to Amsterdam, NY to live with her son Tom and her daughter in-law Robin. The continuing cards, letters, and phone calls that Helene received from her Sun Ray family and her biological family in her final years were a blessing for which she was highly grateful. Even in her last days at Mountain Valley Hospice in Gloversville, NY, Helene’s words were a testament to her faith in her Heavenly Father. Helene’s life of service as a wife, mother, grandmother, friend, and minister’s wife were recounted in a memorial service at Mountain Valley Hospice in Gloversville, NY on October 5, 2008.

Helene is survived by her loving family including her son David Patterson and his wife Ann of Cabot, PA and her son Tom and his wife Robin of Amsterdam, NY as well as six grandchildren

Betty June Zimmerman Donley

December 22, 1923

December 15, 2008

Betty June Zimmerman Donley died on December 15, 2008, following a brief illness in Mount Macrina Manor, Uniontown. She was born December 22, 1923, the only child of Robert H. Zimmerman and Lillian E. Haines Zimmerman.

Totally devoted to her late husband, Rev. John R. Donley, she was the key partner in all his endeavors for the past 62 years. In addition, Mrs. Donley worked in school cafeterias at Patton and East Franklin elementary schools.

A talented vocalist, she enjoyed singing in the church choir. Mrs. Donley was a member of Oak View United Methodist Church. This caring and compassionate woman will be missed by family and friends.

Surviving are two sons, Robert L. (Vivian) Donley D.O. of Latrobe and James P. Donley of Scottdale; two daughters, Barbara J. (Vincent) Komacko of Grindstone and Prudence K. (Walter) Harris of Stafford, Va.; eight grandchildren, Vincent M. Komacko Jr., Raymond C. Harris, Robert H. Donley, Roger L. Harris, James P. Donley, Karisa L. Willard, Josselyn N. Donley and Victoria A. Donley; and seven great-grandchildren.

Services were held December 19, 2008, in Oak View United Methodist Church, Waynesburg, with the Rev. Jerrad R. Peterman officiating. Interment followed in Greene County Memorial Park, Morgan Township.

John Robert Donley

February 2, 1926

October 9, 2008

Rev. John Robert Donley died Thursday, October 9, 2008, in H.J. Heinz Veterans Administration Medical Center, Aspinwall. He was born February 2, 1926, in Davistown, a son of Ora J. and Galia Beall Donley.

John received a Bachelor of Arts degree from West Virginia Wesleyan College and a Master's degree from Methodist Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C.

During his lifetime, John was a business owner, contractor, ordained Methodist minister and teacher. He was a veteran of World War II. After retirement, he was active at Oak View United Methodist Church and Waynesburg, and with the Waynesburg Ministerium.

Surviving are two sons, Robert L. (Vivian) Donley, D.O., of Latrobe and James P. Donley of Scottdale; two daughters, Barbara J. (Vincent) Komacko of Grindstone and Prudence K. (Walter) Harris of Stafford, Va.; eight grandchildren, Vincent M. Komacko Jr., Raymond C. Harris, Robert H. Donley, Roger L. Harris, James P. Donley, Karisa L. Willard, Josselyn N. Donley and Victoria A. Donley; seven great-grandchildren. Services were held at Oak View United Methodist Church, 160 Rolling Meadows Road, Waynesburg, with the Rev. Jerrad R. Peterman officiating. Interment followed in Greene County Memorial Park, Morgan Township, with graveside military rites.

Maxine Leora Chelton Donner

November 30, 1923

March 30, 2009

Maxine Leora Chelton Donner, wife of the late United Methodist pastor Edward Donner, died in Lakeland, Florida on March 30, 2009. She was born Maxine Chelton on November 30, 1923 – the youngest of five children, two of whom were also Methodist

pastors (Lloyd Chelton and Gerald Chelton). Maxine and Ed married on December 14, 1945 and had three children – Nancy Donner Mercier, William Donner, and Linda Donner Herlocker.

During their 56 year marriage, Maxine and Edward served many churches in the Western Pennsylvania Conference including Riceville, Erie, Harmonsburg, Linesville, Cambridge Springs, Point Marion, Scottdale, and Vandergrift. Ed and Maxine actually founded the Christ Church of Erie, Pennsylvania in the early 1950s.

Throughout her life, Maxine worked in many different clerical positions, including a librarian in a junior high school and a college, and secretary to a school principal and in various church offices. She was also active in the United Methodist Women's organization and served on a number of committees in her various congregations. She always played the piano or the organ and was Ed's full partner in his pastoral appointments.

In the summer of 1977, Maxine served as a United Methodist Missions Ambassador to the Hispanic churches along the Rio Grande River and subsequently spoke in more than 50 pulpits regarding her experience. After Ed's retirement in the mid-1980s, he and Maxine relocated to California where Ed continued to pastor until his passing in May 2002. Maxine remained in California for only a year before relocating to an Assisted Living Facility in Florida. For the last six years, she enjoyed a good quality of life, even continuing to play the piano for the facility's church services, until she fell ill earlier this year.

She is survived by her three children and two grandchildren, as well as by a host of nieces, nephews, and grand-nieces and grand-nephews."

Submitted by the family

Leonard Edward Durbin

June 17, 1932

April 12, 2009

The Rev. Dr. L. Edward Durbin entered Eternal Life Easter Sunday (April 12, 2009) following an extended battle with congestive heart failure. His beloved wife Lucinda "Cindy" (Cunningham Ksiazek) Durbin was at his side. They had met at Chautauqua, NY, in July 1972 and were married November 5, 1972.

Edward was born June 17, 1932, in Adena, Ohio, the son of the late Raymond Francis and Emma Virginia Thompson Durbin. He graduated in 1950 from Cadiz High School, Cadiz, Ohio; in 1955 he graduated from Mt. Union College in Alliance, Ohio, where he was a member of Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity and active in the College Choir. He took part of his theological seminary training at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, IL, and graduated from Pittsburgh (PA) Theological Seminary in 1961.

While in college and seminary, he served churches in Ohio, Iowa, and Pennsylvania. Until his retirement several years ago, he served Congregational and United Methodist churches in Pennsylvania and Southwestern New York. He was loved by his congregants, his many friends and family, and will long be remembered for his "alter-ego," a skunk hand puppet named "Rosebud."

Edward's interests were wide, including Native-American artifacts and research, family genealogy, archeology, art, music, computer internet interest groups, and reading of all kinds. He was a specialist on the topic of death and dying, leading national

workshops in several states for medical personnel and interested laity. His wife Cindy assisted with many of these workshops.

He is survived by his wife, four children – Carol Willison (Donald), of Washington, PA; Ronald Durbin of Buffalo; Peter Durbin (Jill) of Lockport, NY, and David Durbin (Amanda) of Portland, OR. Also surviving are five grandchildren: Crystal Willison (Brad Stewart), and Heather Willison (Eric Cushenberry), Christine Ridgeway (Tyshan), Derick Durbin (Ashley Rosado), and Jeffery Durbin; five great-grandsons, two sisters-in-law and numerous nephews, nieces and their families. He was predeceased by his first wife, Diane Betty Hagadorn Durbin whom he married in 1954. A Celebration of the Life of the Rev. Dr. L. Edward Durbin was held at the home of Peter Durbin in Lockport, NY, on June 17, 2009.

Paul Anthony Dunn

July 8, 1937



June 18, 2008

The Rev. Paul A. Dunn passed away in Well Springs Nursing Center, North Huntingdon Township, following a two-month stay. He was born July 8, 1937, in Aliquippa to the late Charles Martin and Anna Marie Gerber Dunn and married the former Lois Maxine Beisel October 11, 1958. Paul served United Methodist churches throughout Western Pennsylvania, Virginia and Colorado for 41 years. He served the United Methodist congregations of Owensdale, Alverton, Paradise, Mt. Nebo and East McKeesport. He also served as mission coordinator for the United Methodist Butler District and as treasurer of the local ministerium.

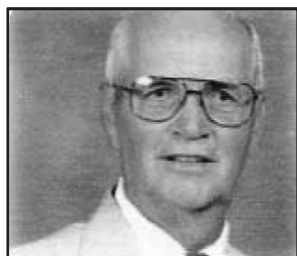
Paul graduated from Moon Area High School and received a B.S. degree in social studies from Clarion University and a master of divinity degree from Illiff Seminary, Denver. He loved people, exhibited a true sense of humor and was a great storyteller. In his younger years, he enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping and vacationing and also was an avid Steelers, Pirates and Penguins fan.

In addition to his wife of 49 years, Paul will be missed sadly by his loving family that includes children David Alan Dunn, of Uniontown, Linda Dunn of Brunswick, Md., Eric Dunn and wife Jane, of Valencia, and Barbara Eichorn, of Brunswick; grandchildren Caroline Ashley and John Paul Dunn. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by son Paul Dunn, owner of the "Geese Police," who died May 30, 2008; sister Kathy Dunn; brother John Dunn, and infant siblings Charles Martin and Theresa Dunn. A memorial service was held Saturday the 21st in New Stanton United Methodist Church with the Rev. Steve Bane, pastor, officiating.

Paul M. Easter

February 24, 1919

June 9, 2008



The Rev. Dr. Paul Mechem Easter passed away in his home at Dunellon, Florida on June 9, 2008. Paul was born February 24, 1919 near Masontown, PA. He was the son of William M. and Lottie F. Cunningham Easter.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 61 years, Hazel M. Easter who passed away May 22, 2007 in Ocala, Florida and his son Paul K. Easter, Sr. in 1971. He is survived by a grandson, Paul K. Easter, Jr. of Ray City, GA.; granddaughter Jennifer Easter Watts of Dunellen; and great grandchildren Ashley M. Watts and William T. Watts of Dunellen.

Paul attended the Ocala West United Methodist Church in Ocala, FL. He was a US Army Veteran in WWII.

Paul was licensed to Preach in 1950, becoming a Supply Pastor in Methodist Pittsburgh Conference; He graduated from Waynesburg College in 1953; Boston Seminary in 1956; and received his D.D. from Waynesburg in 1970. Paul had served Morrisville Circuit: Morrisville/Throckmorton/Oak Ridge; in Massachusetts at Ware; Dravosburg; Aliquippa; Pittsburgh: Emory; Superintendent: Greensburg District; Latrobe: First; retiring in 1981.

Memorial services were held on June 12, 2008 with Rev. Dr. Kenneth Kleckner, III officiating. Internment was at the Florida National Cemetery.

Opal Arline Faas

October 2, 1912

June 9, 2008



Opal Arline Faas, better known as Arline Faas, was born in Apollo, Pennsylvania on October 2, 1912 to Charles and Laura Augustine. She married Wallace L. Faas her childhood sweetheart and together they attended Moody Bible Institute in Chicago.

Arline has three children, Eunice A. Fife, Lois J. Fyke, and Wallace A. Faas, five grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren. (We call the family gatherings "The F Troop").

Arline played piano, directed choirs and dramas in most of the churches Rev. Faas pastored. (One year directing *Handel's Messiah* with combined choir's from area churches.) The churches the Faas's were appointed to include Cabot, Manor, Cooper Avenue in Johnstown, Crafton Heights in Pittsburgh, Ebensburg and South Greensburg UMC.

After Rev. Faas's passing, Arline worked at Weltz's Christian Bookstore. Later, she became a resident of Asbury Heights Retirement Home in Mt. Lebanon where she was quite an inspiration to the residents and staff. For example; the computer was of great interest to her and she expressed a desire to own one. On her birthday her heart's desire came true, her children surprised her with a computer. She immediately learned the e-mail routine. She urged other residents to get a computer. One by one they were asking her to help them to learn how to e-mail. She got so busy with the challenge that the staff

at Asbury decided to set up an equipped office for her on the first floor where she could take appointments. She also was asked to design advertising flyers for various Asbury events. Because she loved football and the Steelers she urged the Home to get a big screen TV for Steeler Parties where the residents could cheer their team on together. The “theater” showed the Pirates and Penguins as well. Then movie events were added where the residents could gather and enjoy a movie theater atmosphere. Line dancing classes was another event Arline got started.

She was a prayer warrior and a woman of great faith, courage and compassion. She loved God’s word and lived by it. Arline was a spiritual encourager and a very generous individual. The matriarch of the ‘F’ Troop for many years, her example of life and joy remains a continuing legacy to her family and to all who knew her.

Submitted by the family

Peter Alden Foreman

April 20, 1945

September 4, 2008



The Rev. Peter Alden Foreman died on September 4, 2008 at his home in Elton, PA at the age of 63. Peter was born on April 20, 1945 at Philadelphia, PA. Peter graduated from Neshameny High School in Langhorne, PA in 1963. He attended Philadelphia College of Bible and graduated from The College of New Jersey with a B.A. in English. He graduated from Bethel Theological Seminary in 1977 with a M. Div. and Princeton Theological Seminary in 1982 with a Th. M. At the time of his death, he was a candidate in the Doctor of Ministry program at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

Peter was a decorated Army Veteran. In 1967, he graduated from Officers Candidate School at Fort Benning, GA with the rank of Second Lieutenant. Serving as an officer from 1967 to 1974 in Berlin, Germany, Vietnam, Langhorne, PA, and Fort Benning, GA; Peter was awarded two Purple Hearts, a triple National Defense Award, two Bronze Stars, two Air Metals, and an Army Commendation Metal. He was discharged in 1974 with the rank of Captain.

From 1977 to the time of his death, Peter was a faithful preacher, teacher, shepherd, and minister in six local churches in MA, MI, and PA respectively. Originally ordained in the Baptist General Conference, his orders were recognized by both the American Baptist Churches of USA and The United Methodist Church. He was received as a Full Member of the Western PA Conference UMC in 2006. His first appointment was to the Confluence Charge in Connellsville District (2001-05). From 2005 to the time of his death, he served the Dunlo/Sidman Charge in Johnstown District.

From the beginning of his Christian journey as a junior in high school, Peter's passion in life was to make disciples for Jesus Christ. His life of service to his Lord and Savior included working with the campus ministries of The Navigators and Campus Crusade for Christ; church planting for the Baptist General Conference (starting two churches); teaching at Wm. Tyndale Bible College in Detroit; and serving as pastor in American Baptist and United Methodist churches. All this he did with dedication and excellence because of his love of God and faith in Jesus Christ.

The son of the late Victor G. and Martha J. (Fish) Foreman, Peter is survived by his beloved partner of 42 years, Maggie J. (nee Cargill), three sons and one granddaughter: Brendan, wife Rachel and daughter Ruth Helen of University Heights, OH; Bryan and wife Erika of Ferndale, MI; and Bradley and wife Courtney of Johnstown, PA.

Funeral services were held at Elton Zion United Methodist Church with the Rev. Charles Fowler, Johnstown District Superintendent, officiating. Interment was at Rosedale Memorial Park, Bensalm, PA.

Submitted by the family

Charles E. Goodin

February 21, 1934

November 8, 2008



The Rev. Charles Erwood Goodin, died, at Phoenixville Hospital. Born Feb. 21, 1934, in Wellsburg, W.Va., son of the late Harold Erwood Goodin and Marinda Mae (Taylor) Goodin. He is survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Alcinda Ann (Murray) Goodin; daughters, Susan Ann, wife of James Vilga, Valparaiso, Ind.; Amy Lynn Goodin, Norristown, Pa.; Allison Jo, wife of Larry Carlson, Chesapeake, Va.; and Melissa Gail, wife of Nelson Lucier, Coatesville, Pa; grandchildren, Matthew Garrett Vilga, Ryan Linner Carlson, Olivia Grace Lucier, Nicholas Axel Linner Carlson and Nathan Charles Lucier.

Charles attended Franklin Elementary Grade School, Wellsburg Junior High School and Wellsburg High School. He continued his higher education earning a Bachelor of Arts degree at West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, W.Va. and a Bachelor of Divinity degree at Duke University Divinity School, Durham, N.C. He was ordained by Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke in the UMC at the 1957 session of the West Virginia Annual Conference. He was ordained elder by Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke at the 1959 session of the Pittsburgh Annual Conference. In June 1959, he was appointed as the associate minister of the Franklin Street UMC, Johnstown. There he met and married Alcinda Ann Murray in May 1960. He and his bride were appointed to the West End UMC in Pittsburgh. From there, he served many churches including, College Hill, Beaver Falls, PA; California First, California, PA; Washington First, Washington, PA; Greenville First, Greenville, PA; and Bethany, Johnstown, PA. Charles was a faithful servant throughout his spiritual career. Charles served the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference as Conference Statistician from 1988 to 2000.

Charles retired in 1999 but continued his ministry as Chaplain at the Arbutus Park Retirement Center in Johnstown, PA from 1999 through 2004 and then at Hickory House Nursing Home in Honey Brook, PA from 2005 through 2007. An accomplished pianist and organist, Charles shared his musical gifts with the churches he served. From 2005 through 2007 Charles was the organist at Penningtonville Presbyterian Church, Atglen, PA. Charles wrote Chancel Dramas which include "The Other Twelve Disciples" (for 14 Women) featuring Jesus' Twelve Female Disciples; "The Lesser Disciples" (for 14 Men) featuring Jesus's Disciples of the Cross; "Let The Children Come To Me" (for

14 Youth) featuring The Children of Jesus's Ministry; and "The Precursors Of Christ" (for 14 Men) featuring The Forerunners of Christ.

A funeral service was held at 11 AM on November 13, 2008 at Franklin Street UMC, Johnstown, PA with the Rev. Thomas Verner, the Rev. Howard Burrell, the Rev. Roger Rulong, and the Rev. Robert Bedison, Jr. officiating. Interment was held at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Johnstown, PA.

William Gumper

April 12, 1958



November 13, 2008

The Rev. Bill Gumper died on November 13, 2008 at his Butler residence. Born Saturday, April 12, 1958, in Butler, he was the son of John Gumper and the late Marian Stover Gumper.

Bill Gumper was the Pastor of Congregational Care for First United Methodist Church in Butler. He graduated from the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago with a Bachelor of Science degree in Bible and Aviation.

He and his wife, Donna, were missionaries with Mission Aviation Fellowship MAF and served in Africa in the countries of Botswana and Zimbabwe for seven years. In 2002, he returned to Butler and became a staff member of the First United Methodist Church. He was attending Trinity Seminary to pursue his Masters in Divinity.

Bill is survived by his wife, Donna Gumper, whom he married Aug. 20, 1988; his children, Christopher and Abigail of Butler; two brothers, John Gumper Jr. of Butler and Robert Gumper of Butler; a sister, Nancy (Gumper) Fretwell of Bradford Woods; his father, John Gumper of Butler; his stepmother, Joan; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Services were held at the Butler First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Dr. J. David Panther of Butler First UM Church officiating. Interment followed in North Side Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Vera Claire Bishop Halstead

December 31, 1920

March 28, 2009

God gave Claire Bishop Halstead the gift of music, and how wondrously she shared that gift. Claire's piano and organ playing graced countless church sanctuaries, fellowship halls, civic centers, and living rooms throughout Western Pennsylvania, as she accompanied her husband, Paul, in programs of secular and sacred music; as she served as organist in churches to which Paul was appointed; as she played for numerous church and community choirs and festivals; as she accompanied the Ministers' Chorus of the Western Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church for over 25 years; and as she played for weekly Chapel services and hymn sings at Arbutus Park Retirement Community, where she most recently resided. Claire was a "self-taught" pianist, with a vast and varied repertoire. If you needed the song in a different key, she could transpose it. If you didn't have the music, Claire could play it from memory or by ear. God was glorified through her music, and we were all blessed to hear it.

Vera Claire Bishop was born in South Connellsville, PA on December 31, 1920, the seventh child born to the Rev. John O. Bishop and Laura A. Hetrick Bishop. She graduated from Indiana High School and Butler Business College, and was a secretary for Castle Rubber Company in Butler. She married Paul James Halstead on January 14, 1944 at the Sarver Zion Church, where her father and four of her brothers who were also ministers in the Evangelical Conference co-officiated at the ceremony. Shortly, Paul was led to accept the call to ministry himself, and Claire, having so many good examples to follow, was a valuable and strong partner in that ministry. Paul, a graduate of Westminster Choir College in Princeton, had a powerful and glorious voice, and Claire was the perfect accompanist for him (she was pretty good at covering his mistakes, too!) Music was always a strong foundation in their ministry. Together, they served churches throughout Western Pennsylvania until Paul's retirement in 1983, when they moved to Latrobe. In 2002, they moved to the Arbutus Park Retirement Community in Johnstown.

Claire was an avid sports fan who especially loved to watch the Pittsburgh Pirates and the Pittsburgh Steelers games. She was a whiz at crossword puzzles and word jumbles. She planted beautiful flower gardens, and was especially proud of her roses. She had a special love for Camp Allegheny, having spent many summer weeks there as a camp counselor. Claire taught adult Sunday School Classes, and led weekly Bible Study Groups until her death, and she loved to study the Bible and prepare lively discussions for the classes she led.

In addition to her parents, Claire was preceded in death by her husband, the Rev. Paul J. Halstead, in 2004, and her six siblings: Virgil, Dorothy, the Rev. J. Byron, the Rev. Kennard, the Rev. Gerald, and the Rev. Bruce Bishop.

She is survived by two daughters, Susan H. Gregory and her husband, William of Johnstown, and Dorothy M. Weidman and her husband, Stephen of Freehold, NJ; four grandchildren, Jon G. Gregory and his wife Stephanie of Raleigh, NC, Kristen G. Butler and her husband, Lee of Herndon, VA, Timothy J. Weidman of Fairfax, VA, and Michael P. Weidman of Freehold, NJ; and three great-grandchildren, C. Nichole, Brandon L. and Marideth C. Butler.

Claire's Service of the Celebration of Life and the Resurrection was held on March 31, 2009 at the Bethany UMC in Latrobe, with the Rev. August B. Twigg officiating. Interment followed in Unity Cemetery in Unity Township. A Memorial

Service was held in the chapel at the Arbutus Park RC on May 16, 2009, with the Rev. Donald Crestar, Chaplain, and the Rev. Dr. Douglas Stevens of the Westmont Presbyterian Church co-officiating.

Claire is now accompanying the choir of heaven, adding her own touch of perfection to their songs.

Submitted by the family

Shirley M. Thompson Hammond

October 11, 1932

April 9, 2009

Shirley M. Thompson Hammond died on April 9, 2009 at her home. She was born October 11, 1932, in Petrolia, the daughter of the late Elliott Leroy Donaldson and Anna Marie Christy Donaldson.

Shirley was a homemaker and a former member of the Boyers United Methodist Church. She attended the First Baptist Church of Butler. She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Edward (Jill) Giedner of Grove City; four sons, Clyde Martsolf of Chardon, Ohio, Jack Thompson of North Washington, Kevin Thompson of Boyers and Scott Thompson of Petrolia; nine grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Charles Thompson; second husband, Joseph Dunn; and her third husband, the Rev. Everett Hammond; a granddaughter; a sister; and three brothers.

Funeral services were held with the Rev. David Maitland, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Butler, officiating. Burial was in the Pleasant Valley Cemetery.

Donald Lee Hartman

May 31, 1932

December 17, 2008



Donald Lee Hartman died on December 17, 2008 of pulmonary fibrosis. He was born May 31, 1932 in Martins Ferry Ohio to Clyde and Louadah Hartman. In June 1953 he married Alma Young of Canton Ohio, with whom he shared 55 happy years. Soon after their marriage, Don felt led to enter into the ministry of The United Methodist Church. He graduated in 1958 from Asbury College in Kentucky, and in 1962 from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He served churches in the Pittsburgh area until requesting United Methodist mission work. This resulted in Don and family moving to Alaska for 19 years. He pastored at the First United Methodist Church in Anchorage, and then the Sitka United Methodist Church in Sitka, Alaska. He closed his active ministry serving the Jewel Lake Church (United Methodist/Presbyterian) in Anchorage for nine years.

His work as a minister gave him many opportunities to show his creative skills. For eight years he produced an Anchorage children's TV program incorporating the Lutheran Church video called "Davey & Goliath", and four local children in dialog; His sermons allowed for creative work as he portrayed many Biblical characters. He spent many years in clown ministry, where Don and the youth would lead a mime worship service in clown make-up and costumes. The clown ministry opened up opportunities to

lead children's Clown workshops in the Anchorage schools. The highlight of his clown ministry was being one of the resource leaders at a Pacific Northwest Presbyterian youth convocations held at the Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma.

After retiring in 1984, at the age of 52, from the pastoral work, Don sought and achieved employment in the airline industry. He was hired by United Airlines as a Reservation Sales Representative in Seattle. He retired from United Airlines in 1996 and moved to Chehalis, where he has been an active leader in the Chehalis United Methodist Church, and as a rail fan with the Chehalis Centralia Railroad Association & Museum.

Don is survived by his wife, Alma, and their four children: Karl of Seattle, Washington; Jeanette Rogers of Wasilla, Alaska; Kurt of Chehalis; and Janet Hartman of Seattle, Washington. Don had 10 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. He was buried in the Claquato Cemetary in Chehalis, WA.

Submitted by the family

Richard C. Haugh

December 4, 1925



September 6, 2008

Rev. Richard C. Haugh of Meadville, PA went to be with the Lord on September 6, 2008. He was born in Oil City, PA on December 4, 1925, the son of Leroy and Ethel Mae Jones Haugh. He married his high school sweetheart, Dorothy Jean Sullivan on June 29, 1945, and shared 63 years of love and companionship. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather to his daughter, Donna J. Haugh of Meadville; his son, Charles P. Haugh and his wife, Judi, of Cambridge Springs; a granddaughter, Kelly Ann Wintemute and her husband, William, of Corry; a grandson, Chad Alan Haugh and his wife, Megan, of Edinboro; a great-grandson, Jacob Thomas Haugh.

During his life, he was a dedicated Eagle Scout and then scout leader. He served his country in World War II with the Army Air Corps. Following his discharge from the Army, he worked for Westinghouse Corp., Goodyear Aerospace and then Sunbeam Equipment Corp.

At age 55, Richard answered God's calling and dedicated the rest of his life to serving God and God's children. Beginning as a lay speaker in The United Methodist Church, then proceeding to graduate from Wesley Theological Seminary, he provided leadership and spiritual guidance to the faithful members of Mt. Hope in New Lebanon; the Sugar Grove/Chandlers Valley Charge. In retirement, he served as Pastor of St. Marks United Church of Christ in Cochranon.

Throughout his 82 years of life, Richard lived a full and prosperous life and was dedicated to his called profession and the church. He always made time to minister to his family and friends. The most important times of his life were spent enjoying his family, especially his grandchildren. He had the honor of officiating at both of their weddings

He was an avid hunter and fisherman and helped his father build a hunting camp in 1949 that he continued to enjoy throughout his life. He enjoyed camping, traveling,

woodworking and building three homes for his family over the years. He was also a member of the Ramblin' Squares square dance camping club.

The funeral service was held with the Rev. Russell Hines, Pastor of St. Marks United Church of Christ, officiating. Burial was in Roselawn Memorial Gardens with military honors.

Submitted by the family

Bertrand Roy Hover

October 6, 1919

February 4, 2007

Bertrand Roy Hover passed away Sunday, Feb. 4, 2007 at Cordia Commons.

He was born October 6, 1919 in Barnes, to Walter T. and Letitia Barnes Hover. He married Ruth Barr, whom he met in college on October 9, 1941.

He graduated from Sheffield High School in 1937, Blackburn College in 1939 and Clarion College in 1941. He was then drafted into the U. S. Army Field Artillery as a private and served through World War II, earning a Bronze Battle Star from combat in Europe. He was released from service as a First Lieutenant on Nov. 21, 1945. He then attended Penn State and earned a Master's degree in August 1946 and then taught high school in Oil City, served as high school principal in Townville, and as chief school administrator at Townville and Spartansburg.

He retired from education and began serving as a pastor at State Road United Methodist Church. He also served Teepleville United Methodist. He attended Wesley Theological Seminary during the summer, earning ordination in 1976. He was a member of the following organizations and served a term as President of each: Crawford County School Administrators Club, Oil City Teachers Association, Crawford County Chapter of Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees, Townville Area Senior Citizens and Meadville Chapter 2442 of American Association of Retired Persons. He was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 8755 of Sheffield. He was a member of Townville American Legion Post 994, which he served a term as Commander. He was a member of Titusville Masonic Lodge 754 and the Scottish Rite Consistory of Coudersport.

He received membership in Phi Sigma Phi, an honorary fraternity which award membership for academic excellence in the field of social studies, and also received membership in Phi Delta Kappa, an honorary fraternity which awarded membership for academic excellence and leadership in the field of education. He was appointed as one of 20 high school principals to a symposium formed in 1960 to critically review the secondary school curriculum as outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Instruction.

After complete retirement, he and his wife, Ruth, worked as volunteers, especially transporting seniors to physicians and hospitals in Meadville, Erie and Pittsburgh. He also did income tax returns for seniors at Meadville Senior Center. He and Ruth traveled extensively, visiting each state at least twice and also most of Western Europe and Canada, and some of Mexico.

They were avid modern western square dancers and belonged to a number of clubs and danced as far away as Alaska and Florida. They also enjoyed bowling and reading and were sports fans, especially of the Pirates, Steelers and Penn State.

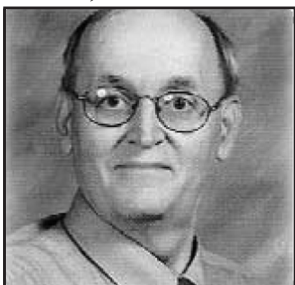
Survivors include two daughters, Annie Wilson and her husband, James, of Bradleypoint, and Carol Carter of Pleasantville; two sons, Bertrand Jr. (Randy) and his wife, Anita, of Chapmanville, and Timothy and his wife, Marlene, of Hillsborough, NC; 10 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

When asked what was the best thing he ever did or have happen to him, he quickly responded: "I was lucky beyond my wildest dreams--the best and smartest thing I ever did was say "I do" when asked by Rev. Murphy, "Do you take this woman, Ruth Barr, to be your wedded wife?" He loved his family and was thankful that they were all faithful Christians.

The memorial service was conducted February 17, 2007 at the Galloway United Methodist Church, officiated by the Rev. David Hampson.

Warren Verner Jones

June 26, 1948



June 16, 2008

'When seeking God's guidance, put on your Mickey Mouse Ears and your Cookie Monster Eyes.' 'Always do business by forgiveness.' 'To live as a disciple of Jesus requires practice, practice, practice!' 'The heart of the Gospel is relationship.' These are just a sampling from what could be called Warren Jones' guide to living. Anyone fortunate enough to have known Warren personally could add their own recollection of how his humor, faith and love of others shaped his world and the world around him. He was a man who never desired the limelight for himself, but

rejoiced in seeing others grow in their faith and have success in their lives.

Warren grew up in Beaver Falls, PA. His dad and mom, Richard and Louise Jones, were active lay members of this Annual Conference. Warren graduated from Geneva College in 1970 with a degree in political science. He wanted to be a city manager. God had other plans. Drafted right out of college, he spent three years in the Army as a nuclear weapons specialist, spending part of his tour of duty in Turkey. He called his time in the military his 'pagan years,' but was able to draw upon those experiences which profoundly impacted who he would become.

After the service Warren returned home and volunteered as a youth director at his church and as an advisor to the Butler District Youth. His passion for youth ministry was kindled and the flame never went out. During his 27 years as a pastor he was always involved with youth ministry at either the local, district and/or conference levels. He loved taking youth on mission trips and to watch them grow in their faith through the experiences.

In the late 1970's Warren accepted his call to ministry. 1978 found Warren at United Seminary in Dayton, OH. It was at his field placement that he met a young lady from New Jersey who was serving as a U.S.-2 Home Missioner. In their working side by side a love was born and in 1980 Nancy and Warren were married. Side by side they served their churches, Warren as the Servant Leader and Nancy as the 'oil can' (as Warren lovingly referred to her) because she helped keep his ministry running smoothly. The appointments included Warren: Grace; Reno/Oak Hill Charge; New Florence; Waynesburg; Washington Street and Lower Burrell: Bethel. In 1985 daughter Nikki Joy

was born and truly filled Warren's heart with joy. As a young child Nikki loved helping her daddy pick out sermon titles and hymns. They also shared a love for Camp Allegheny. As a teenager Nikki attended Annual Conference with Warren as a Page and Youth Delegate. In 2006 Warren, Nancy and Nikki were at Annual Conference together as a family for what would be the first and last time.

A series of strange health problems began developing for Warren in the late 1990's. By 2006 it was determined he needed a multi-visceral transplant. He was listed that fall and on January 30, 2007 he received a five-organ abdominal transplant. At first Warren recovered well, but then setbacks occurred and he struggled to regain his health. His desire was simply to get well enough to preach again and to walk Nikki down the aisle at her wedding. Sadly neither of these was meant to be, and his journey through transplant land ended on June 16, 2008. A Celebration of Life was held at Bethel UM Church with family, friends and colleagues gathered to recognize a humble man who offered so much to so many by just being himself. He was buried in the Greenwood memorial Park in Lower Burrell, Pa.

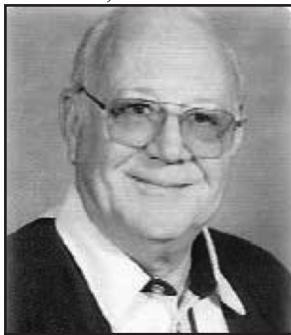
Warren is survived by his wife, Nancy Goetz Jones, daughter Nikki Jones Jaskiewicz and her husband Bryan. Also surviving are his sister, Rev. Sandra Jones Hutchinson and her husband, Rev. Kenneth Hutchinson and their three sons; Matthew and his wife Leandra, Drew, and Travis; and brother, Jeffery Jones and his wife Lucia and daughter Justilynn.

The word shalom is generally defined as peace. The biblical meaning goes much deeper. It is a desire, a pledge to actively pursue the well-being of others and finds its expression in a sharing and caring community. This was Warren's desire for the world, and why he ended all his correspondence and written articles with the term. So in his memory and honor...SHALOM!

Submitted by the family

Harry Donald Lash

March 29, 1929



August 23, 2008

H. Donald Lash, "Don" to everyone, was born March 29, 1929 to Clarence and Edith Erret Lash in Madison, PA. He died on August 23, 2008 from complications after a fall at home.

A graduate of Sewickley Township High School, Herminie, Don worked with his father on the family farm until age 27. He married his high school sweetheart, Betty Johnson, on October 20, 1950. Don and Betty's daughter, Karen, was born in 1951, a premature and complicated birth for both mother and daughter. Karen preceded her father in death in 1989 at the age of 37 after an agonizing battle with

lymphoma.

The Lash family was also blessed with two sons. Christopher was welcomed by adoption in 1964 as a five day old infant. Dan expanded their family when adopted as a 2 day old infant two years later.

Don received his call to ministry in 1949 and answered God's call fully in 1957. Attending Clarion College, his first appointment to the Lickingville/Venango Charge

allowed him to finish his undergraduate degree. His second appointment to the Rector Charge provided support until his seminary graduation in 1964 from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He was ordained by Bishop Howard into the Evangelical United Brethren Church in 1964 at services in Johnstown, PA.

Don's commitment to ministry was expressed by his giftedness in every local church appointment including Monesson/Dunlevy, Somerset First, Union City and Warren First. A lover of people, his hearty laugh brought joy and relieved tension. His love of preaching the Word was enhanced by his willingness to sing "If I Were a Rich Man" from Fiddler on the Roof during stewardship campaigns. His love for Bible study and teaching challenged the mind and nurtured the soul. While Kane District Superintendent he led district pastors weekly in the Disciple 1 & 2 Bible Study.

Beyond the local church, Don was committed to connectional ministry. He was registrar of the Board of Ordained Ministry, delegate to General and Jurisdictional Conferences in 1972 and 1976, and served on many agency boards including Olmsted Manor and Wesbury. Committed to the local community he also served on Union City's hospital and water authority boards. Don led bicycle trip camps through the Allegheny National Forest for the Conference Camping Program in the 1970's. He sang faithfully and enthusiastically with the Male Ministers' Chorus at every opportunity. In retirement he loved to tinker and repair bicycles for others to ride.

In 1989 he was appointed by Bishop George Bashore to serve as the superintendent of the Kane District. His relations with Cabinet colleagues provided laughter and support in this administrative ministry from which he retired in 1994.

After a short retirement in Warren, PA, Don and Betty returned to their home area of Greensburg. This allowed Betty to use her gift of music as organist and pianist for area churches including Youngwood St Paul UMC, Irwin First UMC and currently, Charter Oak UMC. In retirement Don returned to his dearest love, caring for people, as the pastor of visitation for Greensburg First Presbyterian Church, a position he held until his death. Charter Oak UMC has established an endowment in Don's memory to aid seminary students.

Don is survived by his wife, Betty, and sons, Christopher of Waynesville, Ohio, and Daniel (wife Jennifer) of Pittsburgh and a grandson, Corey Lash, of Punxsutawney. Two brothers also survive, Lowell (wife Sally) of West Newton, Pa and Nelson (wife Maryanne) of Arona, PA.

The memorial service for H. Donald Lash was held on August 27, 2008 at Charter Oak UMC. Charter Oak pastors, Rev. David Eversdyke and Rev. Christian Whitehead officiated with the Rev. Martin Ankrum, pastor of Greensburg First Presbyterian Church, assisting. At Don's long-known request and to honor the Lord who called him to ministry, family, friends and colleagues numbering over 200 attending the memorial sang his favorite hymn, "Rejoice the Lord is King." Amen.

On Behalf of the Lash Family by John D. Miller

John William (Bill) Lofgren

October 10, 1917

April 2, 2009



The Rev. John William (Bill) Lofgren was born October 10, 1917, in McKeesport, a son of Charles and Mary Irwin Lofgren, and brother of Herb, and Louise Young his twin sister, and Mildred Miller of East Liverpool, Ohio. On November 17, 1942, Bill married Helen (Patty) Patterson, who is deceased.

Bill graduated from California State Teachers College in California, PA and from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. While in seminary, he served small churches in Kilgore and Elysian Fields, Texas. He then returned to Western Pennsylvania to serve churches in Greenock, Hayes, Venetia, Scenery Hill, Braddock, Overbrook, Bridgeville, Waynesburg and West Washington.

Bill retired from full-time ministry after 47 years, and served as visitation pastor in Wooster United Methodist Church in Ohio for 18 years. He was loved and respected everywhere he served as an exuberant and caring servant of God and as a masterful storyteller. He had a special passion for visiting and serving the elderly and shut-ins throughout his life.

Bill and Patty have four children: Lois (Gary) Werner of Massillon, OH, Louise Cook of Jacksonville, FL, Arlene (J.D.) Milliken of Wooster and Charles Lofgren of Wernersville; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. He was a charismatic patriarch who maintained loving and close relationships with all generations of his family. He enjoyed a special bond with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, formed through years of storytelling, songs and rhymes. Attending countless activities, he remained a loving and supporting presence in their lives.

Bill's hobbies were gardening and traveling. Bill and Patty enjoyed numerous road trips throughout the Western United States, as well as traveling to Alaska, Mexico, Australia, and New Zealand. They had enjoyed their last two winters together in Florida. After Patty passed away in May 2008, Bill had returned to Florida where he died on April 2, 2009. A funeral service was held April 9, 2009 in Wooster, Ohio. The Rev. Dr. David Wilcox officiated. Interment was in Wooster Cemetery.

Submitted by the family

Mary Jean Nelan Mays

February 8, 1923

October 15, 2008



Mary Jean Nelan Mays peacefully passed away, October 15, 2008 at her home in Adrian, MI. She was born February 8, 1923 in Washington, Pennsylvania to Thomas F. and Jessie (Donaldson) Nelan. Mrs. Mays graduated from Washington High School in 1940 and from the University of Pittsburgh in 1944. She earned a Master of Letters from the University of Pittsburgh in 1948 and a Master of Education from Siena Heights University in

1972. She also pursued post graduate work at the University of Michigan. She began her career in education by teaching at Washington High School in Pennsylvania and completed her career by teaching for 28 years at Adrian High School in Michigan. In 1949 she married Rev. William E. Mays at the Jefferson Avenue Methodist Church in Washington, Pennsylvania. They cherished their 49 years together before his death on March 11, 1998.

Mary Jean was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Adrian, where she and her husband served as Stephen's Ministers in past years. She was also a member of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International for Key Women Educators, the Michigan Education Association Retirees, the Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel and the Lenawee County Retired School Personnel, where she was the first editor of their newsletter, *Viewpoints*, for nine years. Surviving are her nephew, Kurt N. (Lorraine) Kehl, her grandnephew, Shane S. Kehl, her grandniece, Alexa M. Kehl, and many dear friends and cousins. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Corinne N. Kehl. The funeral service for Mary Jean was held at the First United Methodist Church with Rev. Chris Brundage officiating. Graveside services and interment took place later in Allegheny Cemetery, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

William George Morris

January 12, 1918

February 5, 2009



William George Morris was born on January 12, 1918 in Charleroi, PA, the son of George William and Maude Williams Morris. His mother died when he was very young and he was raised on a farm in Fayette County, PA by his grandparents and two aunts. He graduated from Redstone High School in Republic, PA. His Christian journey began at The United Methodist Church in Upper Middletown, PA where he served in many capacities including Sunday school superintendent and lay speaker. It was there that he met and later married Beatrice Hoyack (Bea). They enjoyed over 60 wonderful years together until Bea's passing in 2003. They had two children Harold Morris and his wife Lois of South Park, PA and Audrey Balbach and her husband James of White Oak, PA. They had five grandchildren: David Morris, Daniel Morris, Emily (Morris) Carpenter, James Balbach, Jr. and Kristina (Balbach) Hazard. They also had eight great grandchildren.

Before answering the call to ministry, Bill worked in construction, coal mining, traveling sales and truck driving, and, at one point, owned and operated an automobile service station. During those years, while helping his pastor serve three churches, he found he was conducting services quite regularly. Soon, he obtained a lay preacher's license and was appointed to serve several churches in Fayette County: Nilan, Chalk Hill, Sansom Chapel and Union Chapel. He was 37 years old when he was appointed to serve the Redstone Charge: Star Junction, Newell, and Little Redstone. While there he became a fulltime student at California University of PA where he earned his undergraduate degree. He was then appointed to serve the Beulah Park UMC in McKeesport. Bill led the congregation at Beulah Park in building the present sanctuary and other class rooms

and offices for the church. Once again, he was a fulltime student, serving his congregation while studying at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary where he earned his Master of Divinity degree. He went on to serve as Associate Pastor at the Mt. Lebanon UMC and then Pastor of Mifflin Avenue UMC in Wilkinsburg until his retirement in 1983.

Upon retirement, Bill became a Retired Associate Pastor at the Homestead Park UMC where he served for another 18 years. He and Bea moved to Asbury Heights in 2001. They became involved in a variety of activities at Asbury and made many friends. Bill conducted a weekly Bible study class and was able to assist in weekly worship services. One of his most cherished achievements in later years was his role in assisting his beloved Upper Middletown UMC to organize their 218th anniversary celebration.

With his family beside him, William Morris died peacefully, after a very brief illness, on Feb 5, 2009 at the age of 91. A funeral service was held at the Mt Lebanon UMC on Feb 10, 2009 with the Rev. Oden Warman, Dr. Erwin Kerr, and Rev. Ed Hammett presiding. Also, a memorial service was held at Asbury Heights, presided by Rev. Neal Rogers and Sister Carol Sukits on Feb 15, 2009.

Submitted by the family

Joseph Allen Onder

March 10, 1947

February 26, 2009

The Rev. Joseph Allen Onder was born on March 10, 1947 in Beaverdale, PA, the son of Joseph and Monabelle Onder. He died on February 26, 2009.



Joe graduated in 1965 from Triangle Area High School. Then feeling the call to ministry, he became a certified candidate for ministry in 1981, serving the Johnstown: Faith UMC until he graduated from St. Francis in 1987. Then he took his theological seminary training at Wesley Seminary graduating serving Johnstown: Garfield Street and Albion/Big Run. Following graduation, Joe served God in ministry, at Benezette Charge: Benezette/Caledonia/Weedville; New Bethlehem; Meyersdale Charge: Garrett/Meyersdale: First/Meyersdale: Mount Olivet/Meyersdale: Saint John; Glasgow Larger Parish: Beaver Valley/Blandburg/Fiske/Pleasant Hill/Utahville.

Joe is survived by his wife, Darlene Marie (Link) Onder whom he married on May 8, 1971; two children – Corey and Jolene. A funeral service was held at the Beaverdale United Methodist Church on February 28, 2009.

Daniel Robert Orris

November 16, 1928

January 23, 2009



Daniel Robert Orris was born November 16, 1928, in Johnstown, to Harry and Emma Orris. He married Shirley Ann Naugle, also of Johnstown, on June 17, 1949. It was largely due to her witness and influence that Dan grew in his faith and involvement with the church and, eventually, experienced a call to the ministry. During this time they were active in the Cooper Avenue Evangelical United Brethren Church (Johnstown) and Dan was employed operating overhead crane at Bethlehem Steel. (He was fond of telling people that, before he went into the ministry, he had hundreds of men working under him!) Although leaving school after grade 8 to help support his

family, Dan earned his G.E.D. and a bachelor's degree in Sociology from the University of Pittsburgh. While a student at Pitt, Dan served the New Florence, Mt. Tabor and Robinson charge. In 1968, the family moved to Lockington, Ohio where Dan served a small country church and completed his M. Div. at United Theological Seminary in Dayton. During this time, he also established and directed the Miami County Big Brother Program. He graduated in 1971 and the family returned to Western Pennsylvania. Dan's subsequent charges included: Summit Chapel / Mineral Point (Johnstown District) from 1971-1976, Windber Calvary from 1976-1983, New Castle Epworth (1983-1988) and Johnstown Park Avenue until his retirement in 1994. Dan's beloved wife Shirley preceded him in death, succumbing to breast cancer in 1995. Following her death, Dan continued in the ministry he most enjoyed, serving as visitation pastor of the Franklin Street, First and Trinity Churches (Johnstown).

Although devoted to his ministry, Dan always placed his commitment to Christ and his family first. He was a loving and attentive father, a fount of knowledge and wisdom for his children and grandchildren. Their fondest memories were made while fishing with him. Dan and Shirley had four children together: Dan, Jr. and Barry (both deceased), Vicki Shaffer (Johnstown) and Rev. Tracey Leslie (Gary, IN). They had four grandchildren: Daniel and Melissa Orris and Nathanael and Emily Shaffer. Dan had one great-granddaughter, Jaelynn Shaffer.

Dan enjoyed mentoring children and adults. He served as Johnstown District Youth Coordinator during the 1970's. He frequently served as dean of Fishing Camp and as a counseling elder. He was also instrumental in establishing the Regional Hospice at Windber during his tenure there. That very same Hospice unit cared for Dan in his final days before death. Along with his love for fishing, Dan enjoyed reading, drawing and painting and singing with the Ministers Chorus.

Dan was always an encouragement to others and thankful to God for his many blessings. In his final years, he was known for the saying, "Good, better, best; never let it rest; 'til your good is better and your better is the best." Dan fulfilled that motto in his life and his ministry. He died at the Arbutus Park Manor on January 23, 2009.

Dorothy Ellen Patterson

September 5, 1930

April 28, 2009



What Dorothy Ellen (Dottie) Patterson accomplished in 78 years of life was felt by many, many people, especially her family, the churches that her husband had served and the countless number of friends that she acquired along life's way.

She was born in Bellaire, Ohio to parents Clarence Leslie and Dorothy Agin Littleton on September 5, 1930. Her family moved to Akron during the Second World War (1943) in order to find work. It was there at Akron East High School that she first dated the man whom she eventually married, John Dobbs (Jack) Patterson.

The Lord was good to them and gave them four healthy and very talented sons – J. Douglas, married to Ramona, living in Baden, PA – Daniel Raed, married to Yumi, living in Lilburn, GA – Donald Leslie, married to Terri, residing in Kosciusko, MS and Dean LaMont, married to Mary Ann living in Ocean Isle, NC. There are ten Grandchildren and two Great-Grandchildren who are missing their Grandma very much. The Grandchildren are Brooke, Hannah, Nathan, Jonathan, Katie, Benjamin, Joseph, Joey, Erina (all Pattersons) and Rachelle Palmer. The two Great-Grandchildren are Emily and Brittany Palmer.

The Pattersons faithfully served in ministry at the following appointments: Wampum, Cecilton MD, Hopewell, MD, East-Brook, West Middlesex, Union City, Chippewa, Butler First, Johnstown District Superintendent, Indiana Grace and in retirement at Barkeyville.

Dot was not only secretary of the Johnstown District, but took her task as 'First Lady' very seriously. An example of her work with the Pastor's Spouses was seen in her ability to motivate the spouses to attend retreats, conferences, etc. She often filled a bus to travel to the Minister's Spouse Retreats. She loved to write and wrote a column in the church paper in each of their appointments. The Patterson's moved to Grove City in retirement 17 years ago (July 1992) She was asked to write a column for the local newspaper, *The Allied News*. She patterned her semi-weekly write-up after Erma Bombeck's style and called it Dottie's Dashes. It continued for 12 years. She also authored two books, *"My Story"* and a *"Compilation of Dottie's Dashes"*. It should be noted also that for two years before her marriage (August 26, 1951) she was an executive secretary of the Bridgeport Brass Company in Akron, Ohio.

Dot also found the time to serve on the Board of Directors at Wesley Woods for at least 12 years. She was an active working member and was very instrumental in the building of the Chapel. She also transformed a Sunday School Room into a very worshipful chapel at the Union City Church. Dot was very supportive of the Western Pennsylvania Conference of The United Methodist Church. She was elected twice to the delegation, attending the General Conference and three times to the Jurisdictional Conference.

She became very active in the Grove City YMCA and served as their principal speaker at an annual banquet. A scholarship fund has been established in her name at the Western Pennsylvania United Methodist Foundation. The purpose will be to help disadvantaged children to have a week at camp or a youth membership in the YMCA.

She was a very loving person and often times the instigator of many tricks played at parties, retreats, etc. She was very generous in her thanks to people when receiving a gift. Her favorite term was "That was wonderful."

Dot and Jack were privileged to travel extensively to many countries around the world and they visited Dot's pen pal of 67 years, Maurene Dragon, three different times in Nuneaton, England.

On November 6, 2008 she experienced a devastating stroke and after suffering for nearly six months, she went to "be with Jesus" on April 28, 2009. Her service of celebration was held at the Grace United Methodist Church in Grove City. She had always said that she wanted the congregation to sing "*On the Sunny Side of the Street*" at her funeral. We did!

That is where she always lived, *On the Sunny Side of the Street*. She may be gone from our physical sight, but she will be ever in our hearts and minds.

Submitted by her family

Violet E. Probst

January 21, 1919

April 9, 2009

Violet E. Probst died the morning of April 9, 2009, in her daughter's home at 2245 Martha St. She was born on January 21, 1919, in New Castle, a daughter of Steve and Ida Balog Saros. She was married to the Rev. Delmar Probst on June 27, 1942. He died in 2005.

Violet enjoyed arts and crafts, painting and collecting antiques. She attended First United Methodist Church. Survivors include two daughters, Joyce Pearl and Marlene Pennachio, both of New Castle; a son, Stephen Probst of New Castle; six grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. In addition to her parents and her husband, she was preceded in death by a son, Lt. Delmar W. Probst, who was killed in Vietnam; a grandson, Vince E. Probst.

A service was conducted with the Rev. Fred Gilbert of Independent Methodist Church officiating. Burial was in Castle View.

Jack R Rees

September 27, 1929

October 15, 2008



The Rev. Jack R. Rees passed away at Hempfield Manor, Hempfield Township. He was born September 27, 1929 in Ardara, PA, the son of Charles and Ethel Rees. He was a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and received a Master of Divinity from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Jack was ordained an Elder in the Evangelical United Brethren Church on May 15, 1962. He served churches in the Western Pennsylvania Conference of the E.U.B. Church from 1956-1968. He then served churches in the Western Pennsylvania Conference of The United Methodist Church from 1968-1990, retiring in 1995. Jack was preceded in death by his wife of fifty years, Nancy Faith Osterwise Rees on December 23, 2004; his parents, Charles and Ethel Fleck Rees; two brothers, Elmer and Donald Rees; and five sisters, Thelma Rees, Jane Patosky, Floris Barnett, Miriam Rees, and Betty Dudley. He is survived by his son, Don Rees and his

wife Patty of State College; his daughter, Hope Abel and her husband Jack of Dormont; and his grandchildren, Kate Abel, Brady Rees, and Elizabeth Rees. Service and interment was private.

Armeda Whitford "Mimi" Rogers

April 23, 1923

October 28, 2008



Mimi Rogers of Washington, PA, died on Tuesday, October 28, 2008 in West Penn Hospital of Pittsburgh after a brief illness. She was born on April 23, 1923 in Butler, PA. The daughter of The Rev. & Mrs. S. O. Whitford, Mimi graduated from Presbyterian Hospital in Pittsburgh as a registered nurse. On August 25, 1950 she married Rev. Neal K. Rogers and together they served United Methodist Churches in Brave, PA; Avery in Washington, PA; and Connellsville District and Asbury Heights in Pittsburgh, PA. She was highly active in the United Methodist Women of the Western Pennsylvania Conference and served on the Boards of Ruth M. Smith Home, Olmsted Manor and Bradley Center. Mimi was also a mentor and friend to many

United Methodist ministers' wives.

Mimi was the devoted mother of Cynthia and her husband Jan Richard Garda; loving grandmother of Brant and Brenna Garda; dear sister of Eunice Whitford, Vivian Casperson and the late Robert Lee Whitford; sister-in-law of Mark and Mary Jo Rogers, and Carol and David Benner. She is also survived by her nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held on November 9, 2008 at 2:00 PM in Hickman Memorial Chapel of Asbury Heights in Pittsburgh, PA, with Bishop George W. Bashore, Rev. William Mock and Dr. Andrew C. Harvey officiating. Interment was in the Baum Chapel Columbarium at Asbury Heights.

"To live in the hearts of those we leave behind is not to die."

Submitted by her family

Neal Kay Rogers

April 10, 1928

April 16, 2009



The Reverend Neal K. Rogers of Washington, chaplain of Asbury Heights Retirement Community, died peacefully in his home, surrounded by his loving family on Thursday, April 16, 2009. He was born on April 10, 1928 in Northeast, PA. The son of The Rev. and Mrs. Reed L. Rogers, Neal grew up in Erie and graduated from Academy High School, also in Erie. He did his undergraduate work at Nyack College in Nyack, NY, earning a BRE degree. On August 25, 1950 he married Armeda "Mimi" Whitford. Neal continued his graduate work at the University of Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh, PA. In 1967, he graduated from Wesley Theological Seminary of Washington, D.C (M. Div). He was ordained Deacon in 1965 and Elder in 1967. Together,

he and Mimi served United Methodist churches in Brave, PA from 1964-January 1969, and at Avery United Methodist Church in Washington, PA from January 1969-1986. He was Superintendent of Connellsville District from 1986-1992, Assistant to the Bishop and Asbury Heights Chaplain from 1992-1996, and retired in 1996, whereupon he became Director of Pastoral Services and Chaplain at Asbury Heights, serving from 1996 until his death.

Neal held a variety of District and Western Pennsylvania Conference offices, including: The Board of Ordained Ministry, The Board of Evangelism, The Olmsted Manor Board, The Minister's Credit Union, Western Pennsylvania Cabinet Secretary, Delegate to NEJ Conference, and Western Pennsylvania Cabinet Dean.

Neal was the devoted father of Cynthia and her husband Jan Richard Garda; loving grandfather of Brant and Brenna Garda; and brother of Mark and Mary Jo Rogers, and Carol and David Benner; dear brother-in-law of Eunice Whitford, Vivian Casperson and the late Robert Lee Whitford; He is also survived by his nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held on April 26, 2009 in Hickman Memorial Chapel of Asbury Heights in Pittsburgh, PA with Dr. Andrew C. Harvey, Rev. William Mock and Dr. Robert Lash officiating. Interment was in the Baum Chapel Columbarium at Asbury Heights.

“To live in the hearts of those we leave behind is not to die.”

Submitted by his family

Elsie Fralick Rossbacher

December 24, 1911

February 19, 2009

Elsie Fralick Rossbacher, was born in Sparta Township on December 24, 1911, the daughter of Oscar and Eva Holmes Fralick. Her childhood was spent living with her family on a farm in this area.

She attended and later graduated from the Corry Area High School. She lived most of her life on Church Street in Corry where she was a homemaker and worked for a time at a Corry dry cleaners. Later in her life she and her family became member of the First Methodist Church of Corry. At the Church she was an active member of the women's group and for a time taught Sunday School.

She and Ed had three daughters, Nadine Chase of Fairview, Emma Williams of Edinboro and Dinah Rossbacher of Buffalo. Dinah died two year ago. Elsie also had three grand-children: Dirk Chase of Girard Robin Whitmeyer of Columbus, OH, and Stacy Jacobs of Fairview. Stacy died several years ago.

Due to Ed's declining health, in 1986 they moved to The United Methodist Retirement Community in Meadville. For a short time they shared an area in the Cribbs Center at Wesbury. After a few years, due to Ed's declining health, it was necessary for him to be moved to the Grace Center nursing home of Wesbury where he remained until his death,

Elsie remained in her room at the Cribbs center until about two year ago when her declining health required her to be moved to the Grace Nursing Home Center.

During her years at the Cribbs center she was active in the religious activities and was a mentor to the new residents. She loved to read and until her vision declined a few months before her death, she would read 6 or 7 books each week. As long as her

health would permit her to do so, she was active in the religious activities of the Grace Center and enjoyed the semi-weekly Bingo games.

Our mother passed away at the Wesbury United Methodist Retirement Community, on February 19, 2009 at the age of 97. Her funeral was held at the Chapel of the Cribbs Center and she was buried alongside Ed at the Pine Grove Cemetery in Corry.

Submitted by her family

Arthur L. Schultz

June 14, 1928



May 6, 2009

The Rev. Dr. Arthur L. Schultz died on May 6, 2009, after an extended illness. Arthur was born on June 14, 1928 in Johnstown, PA, the only child of the late Elmer and Alice (Flegal) Schultz. He grew up in Connellsville, PA and was a graduate of Connellsville High School, and then Otterbein College. He then went to seminary at United (Bonebrake) in Dayton, Ohio. During and following seminary he served United Brethren Churches in Ohio and Pennsylvania. Arthur graduated with a Ph. D. from the University of Pittsburgh. During his career Arthur served as minister of Albright UM Church in Pittsburgh, Director of Public Relations at Otterbein College, President of Albright College in Reading, PA, President of Ashland College in Ashland, Ohio. Following retirement Art served as visitation pastor at Riverside UMC, Church of the Master UMC and Church of the Messiah UMC, Minister of Visitation at Riverside UM Church in Upper Arlington, and Minister of Visitation at Church of the Messiah in Westerville.

In 1959 he was a charter member and served as the first president of the Rotary Club of Westerville. In 1965-66 he was the District Governor of Rotary District 6690, and from 1982-93 he served as the district secretary-treasurer. In 1960 he was named the Outstanding Young Man of the Year in Westerville. He was a member of several Masonic bodies, Shriners, the Westerville Historical Society (president 1986-89), and a former member of the Torch Club of Columbus.

Arthur is survived by his loving wife, Louise (Stouffer); son, Thomas (Charlayne) Schultz; daughter, Rebecca (James) Amorelli; granddaughter, Andrea (David) Golias and their children, Joel, Matthew, Mary and Isabel; grandson, Jeffrey (Colleen) Schultz and their daughter, Mallory; and grandson, David (Carolyn) Schultz.

A service in celebration of Arthur's life was held at Church of the Master UMC in Westerville on May 12, 2009 with Dr. Todd Anderson and Bishop George Bashore officiating,

Jetta M. (Mayle) Scott

January 31, 1919

July 29, 2008



Jetta M. (Mayle) Scott was born on January 31, 1919, at Long Run, West Virginia to Alphas S. and Maggie C. (Cummings) Mayle. On July 9, 1938, she was united in marriage to Boyd Wesley Scott, Sr. at Salem West Virginia. Their love sustained them for over 55 years and they were blessed with four children: Mrs. Jay (Marie) Wingard of Salix, Mrs. Eugene (Helen) Peters of Spring Hill, FL, an two sons who preceded her in death, Boyd W. Scott, Jr., and Lawrence A. Scott. They were also blessed with 13 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; a step-great-granddaughter; and two step great-great-grandchildren.

For 42 active years of ministry, she was a faithful companion to her husband as he served as a minister in United Methodist Churches in West Virginia from 1937 to 1959 and in Pennsylvania from 1959 on. They served the Sidman-St. Michael Charge and the Indian Creek charge. Jetta supported Boyd's ministry and took an active part wherever she was called: teaching Sunday School classes, Vacation Bible School, WSCS, and helping in the church camps.

In 1980, Boyd retired and they moved to Salix, PA. They became active in Salix UMC serving the Lord wherever they were needed. They always had a garden and flowers. She enjoyed canning, baking, and having her family in for meals. Also she enjoyed sewing, embroidery, and quilting.

Jetta remained in Salix after Boyd died. She passed away after a short illness at the Golden Living Center of Richland near Johnstown. Services were held in Salix with the Rev. John Gulnac officiating. Burial was at the Forest Lawn Cemetery, Johnstown, Pa.

She was a special wife, mother, grandmother, and friend to everyone who knew her.

Submitted by the family

Donald P Sease

May 3, 1927

January 18, 2009

The Rev. Donald P. Sease passed unexpectedly and peacefully to his eternal home to join his beloved wife, Shirley, on Jan. 18, 2009. Born in Portage, the son of the late Grover and Clara Sease. Preceded in death by wife, Shirley, on Dec. 8, 2008; brothers, Ray and Glenn Sease; and sister, Elvira Stiffler. Survived by beloved children, Tim, married to the former Becky Burns, and Bonnie, married to David Camblin; grandchildren, Tara and Connie Sease; Amber (Camblin) Hale, married to Adam; and Dustin, and friend, Candy; and great-grandchild, Glaiden Don Hale. Also survived by brother, the Rev. Dr. Gene Sease, and wife, Joanne, Indianapolis, Ind.

Don along with his wife, Shirley, served in ministry for over 63 years at Bellwood and Philipsburg and at Johnstown Trinity United Methodist Church. He was instrumental in the founding of and was the first administrator of Arbutus Park Manor, where his ministry centered on the care of God's older children. He retired from Arbutus

Park Manor in 1996. He and his wife's greatest joy was their grandchildren, and they actively followed their school sporting events and activities and the annual vacation to Ocean City, N.J. "Pa-Pa" could always be found at athletic events at the Richland School District. He was a devoted husband, loving father and adoring grandfather. The birth of his great-grandson in January 2008 was an added joy to the love he continually exemplified to his family. He ministered to many and was an avid flag waver, having served under Eisenhower in the Army during World War II.

A celebration of Don's life was held with the Rev. Art Moffat and the Rev. Roger Rulong officiating. Interment followed at Forest Lawn.

"Well done, good and faithful servant." Matthew 25:21.

Shirley Verdell Sease

September 7, 1927

December 8, 2008

Shirley Verdell Sease went to Heaven on December 8, 2008. At the time Shirley was survived by loving husband of 57 years, Rev. Don Sease. The couple was blessed with two wonderful children, Tim Sease and Bonnie Camblin. She was the daughter of the late Rev. Budd R. and Martha Smith, born in Albion, PA, on September 7, 1927.

A graduate of Juniata College, she taught school in Tyrone and Johnstown. In 1951, Shirley married her childhood sweetheart and was a partner in ministry with her husband, serving Bellwood, Philipsburg, Johnstown Trinity and Arbutus Park Retirement Community.

Shirley organized the Arbutus Park Manor auxiliary and served as its first president. She planned the popular annual New Year's Eve party, which was enjoyed by the residents. As a loving wife, devoted mother and grandmother, she enjoyed her family. Her devotion and love will be forever cherished by her family.

Shirley was preceded in death by a sister, Marjorie. She is survived by a son, Tim, married to Becky; a daughter, Bonnie, married to Dave Camblin; grandchildren, Dustin Camblin, and friend, Candice; Amber, married to Adam Hale; Tara and Connor Sease; and great-grandchild, Glaiden Don Hale. Also survived by a sister, Janet Tonkay, Tyrone, and brother-in-law, Rev. Dr. Gene E. Sease, and wife, Joanne, Indianapolis, IN. She was a member of Scalp Level Trinity United Methodist Church. The family wishes to thank the Windber Hospice staff for their love and care to Shirley during recent months. A service of faith, hope and love celebrating Shirley's life was held at Arbutus Park Manor Chapel, with the Rev. Art Moffat, the Rev. Roger Rulong and the Rev. Ernest Perry officiating. Interment, was at Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Shirley's favorite Bible verse was Romans 8:28: "All things work together for good to those who Love the Lord." The song that brought her hope and help was "Till the Storm Passes By."

Leona Lucille Sheppard

February 19, 1923

November 17, 2008

Leona Lucille Sheppard was born in Portage, PA on February 19, 1923, daughter of John and Mary Jane (Lloyd) Bunn. She worked in a sewing factory until she started working with her husband, the Rev. Calvin Leroy Sheppard, Sr. They were married on December 9, 1945. They are the parents of two children: Lucy Lee Bloom and

Calvin Leroy Sheppard, Jr. There are now five grandchildren and five great grandchildren in the family.

Leona loved to bowl and work with the church. She spent the last 14 years in a nursing home with Alzheimer's. She went to be with the Lord on November 17, 2008. She was buried at the Prospect Cemetery beside her husband. She will be missed by her family and friends.

Submitted by Lucy Lee Bloom

Bernard L. Shuey

June 25, 1938

December 24, 2008



The Rev. Bernard L. Shuey went home to be with the Lord on December 24, 2008, in Punxsutawney Area Hospital. He was born June 25, 1938, in Greensburg, a son of Kenneth Shuey and Pearl Sterner Shuey.

He graduated from Greensburg Salem High School, Otterbein College and ETS Seminary in Naperville, IL. He served as a student pastor in Oak Park, IL, and then became an associate pastor at First United Methodist Church in Youngwood. He became pastor in Carmichaels First United Methodist Church and Brookville First United Methodist Church and then served First United Methodist

Church of Punxsutawney until his retirement in 2003.

Bernie's whole goal in life was to reach people for Christ. He loved teaching Bible studies, preaching, Sunday school, singing, fishing and mowing grass. He was very active with Habitat for Humanity in Punxsutawney. He was a great home chef.

He was married to Carol S. Hoffman Shuey of Punxsutawney, who survives. In addition to his wife, surviving are two sons, Dwayne K. Shuey and wife Shelby of North Lewisburg, Ohio, and Eric R. Shuey and wife Christine of DuBois; granddaughters, Autumn, Abby Shuey, and a third grandchild, Briahna, who was born weeks after Bernie's death and given the name so she would have the same initials as he had.

A funeral service was held on December 27, in First United Methodist Church, Punxsutawney, with the Rev. Paul Thompson and the Rev. James Pond co-officiating. Interment followed in Circle Hill Cemetery.

Submitted by the family

Ronald William Smith

April 21, 1928

October 4, 2008

The Rev. Dr. Ronald William Smith died on October 4, 2008 in Peoria AZ. He was born to Clarence and Matilda (Hughan) Smith in Natrona Heights, PA. He grew up in Freeport, PA attending the former Har-Breck High School then Adrian College in MI and on to Drew University in NJ for Seminary. He finally completed his doctorate at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, IL. During his 50 years of serving the Lord, he touched thousands of people, pastoring 3 churches in PA, 1 in Toledo, OH and 3 in MI. He retired at age 75 from a blessed 13 year service at First Congregational Church in Pt. Huron, MI then moved with Marcia Bollard Smith, his wife of 38 years to Glendale, AZ to be closer to family.

He is survived by his wife Marcia Smith; sons Charles Moore of Riverside, CA, David Moore of San Francisco, CA and Daniel Moore of Tampa, FL; daughters Marcia (Sue) Browning of Glendale, AZ and Molly Mae Moore of Huntington Beach, CA; brother Larry (Sarge) Smith (Betty); 6 grandchildren and 4 great grand-children. He will be remembered most of all as one of God's most precious children because his life emulated Jesus, and also a loving generous committed husband, best friend, prayer warrior, brother, caring father, grandfather "The Captain", great-grandfather. His loves were music, reading, sports (dedicated Steelers fan), ice cream, family time, reminiscing, making new friends and praying.

A celebration of his life was held on October 10, 2008 at the Community Church of Joy, in Arizona.

Submitted by the family

Ruth Virginia Hoffer Spahn

May 21, 1916

April 9, 2009

Ruth Virginia Hoffer Spahn died on April 9, 2009, at The Patriot. She was born May 21, 1916, in Huntingdon County, daughter of Asberry and Alice (McCrum) Hoffer. Preceded in death by parents; dearly loved husband, the Rev. J. Wesley Spahn, who died Aug. 17, 2007. Survived by son, Todd E. Spahn, who is married to the former Donna Clewell, Somerset; grandsons, Trevor Spahn, who is married to the former Kristen Bigley, Clarksville; Jonathan Spahn, who is married to the former Zoey Ogden, Cranston, R.I.; great-grandchildren, Samantha, Ethan, Emily and Hazel.

A 1936 graduate of Petersburg Vocational High School and Somerset Nursing School in 1977, Ruth worked as an insurance clerk for many years and later as an LPN for Somerset Hospital where she retired in 1985. She was also a member of Beulah United Methodist Church. A funeral service was conducted in Somerset with the Rev. Brenda Shaffer and the Rev. Arthur Gotjen officiating. Interment was at Pleasant Hill Cemetery.

Thomas Edwin Spofford

March 13, 1919

March 30, 2009



The Rev. Thomas E. Spofford passed away peacefully on March 30, 2009, in Arlington, Virginia. He had recently celebrated his 90th birthday with family and friends at Calvary United Methodist Church.

Tom was first licensed as a Methodist minister in 1937 at the age of 18. He received his A.B. from Allegheny College in 1940 and a Master of Divinity from Drew University in 1943. He was ordained as an elder in 1944 and served the Lord in the Western Pennsylvania Conference for many years. Some of the churches where he served included those in Brooklyn Heights, Linesville, New Castle, and Sugar Grove, Pennsylvania. He also taught religion courses at Allegheny College early in his career. At one time, he also served as the chaplain of a cruise ship to South America.

After his retirement from service in Pennsylvania in 1970, he and his wife, Marie Spofford, moved to Lake Como, Florida. Tom continued to serve as a part time

minister in Florida until he and his wife moved to Arlington, Virginia, to live with their daughter, Nancy Spofford Roddy, and her family in 2003.

Tom was a 32^o Mason and 60 year member of #408, F.@A.M. of Meadville Lodge in Meadville, Pennsylvania. He was also a 60 year member of the Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Erie, Pennsylvania.

He is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 64 years, Marie, his daughter and son-in-law, Nancy and Frank Roddy, and three grandchildren, Christine Marie Roddy, Adam Thomas Roddy, and David Francis Roddy.

A memorial service was held at Calvary United Methodist Church.

Lloyd S. Sturtz

October 23, 1930

September 29, 2008



The Rev. Lloyd S. Sturtz peacefully met his Lord on September 29, 2008 at his home in Beaver Falls, PA. He was born October 23, 1930 in Wellersburg, PA in Somerset County to the late Lloyd S. Sturtz, Sr. and Mayme Gaumer Sturtz.

He graduated from Meyersdale High School in 1949, Albright College in Reading, PA with BA degree in 1953 and United Theological Seminary, Dayton, OH with a Master of Divinity degree in Theology in 1956. He was licensed to preach in 1951 and ordained an Elder by Bishop David T. Gregory in 1956. He had extensive training in church growth from Fuller Theological Seminary and became a field associate in church growth for Western Pennsylvania. He studied counseling at Emerge Counseling Clinic in Akron, OH. He was trained in Listening Skills through L.E.A.D. In 2007 he completed three courses in Biblical Counseling online with Universal Class, Inc.

His accomplishments were all to the Glory of God. In Franklin, PA he produced a daily radio program called Faith for Today which ran from 1974 to 1987. He established the Youth Club Program now known as Logos at Franklin Grace Church which ran for 24 years. He instituted and taught the Bethel Bible Series in Franklin as well as the Disciple Bible Study in Franklin and Chippewa. He served in the Western Pennsylvania Conference on the Conference Camping Program, the Commission on Archives and History, the Board of Evangelism, the Board of Stewardship, the Because We Care Program, the Finance Committee, the Building Committee of the Conference Center, the Board of Ordained Ministry, the District Committee on Ministry, and Directed the Board of Ordained Ministries Probationary Program. Most recently he conducted a Biblical Counseling Ministry in connection with the Chippewa United Methodist Church in Beaver Falls, PA where in only one year he ministered to more than 60 people.

His pastorates were Johnstown, Belmont for three years, McKeesport, Shoemaker for five years, Franklin, Grace for 23 years, (ten of those years he also served Franklin, Oak Hill) and Beaver Falls, Chippewa for eight years. Upon retirement in 1995 he served half time Albion, Calvary for six years and Wampum for four years.

Eighteen people were called into ministry as a result of his untiring love of people and his Lord.

Lloyd had a special love of the earth through his gardening. Country music was also close to his heart, but the depth of his love for his family will never be forgotten.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded by two sisters Thelma Shuck and Gladys Witt and their husbands Karl Shuck and Joseph Witt and one brother in law John Kirby.

He is survived by his wife Joan of 55 years, three children and their spouses, Douglass and Brenda Sturtz of Franklin, PA, Gregory and Michelle Sturtz of Ladd, IL, and Kerry and Tom Haynes of Goose Creek, SC, eight grandchildren and three spouses, Benjamin & Alexander Sturtz, Kiesa and Caleb Goodwin, Keaton and Holly Sturtz, Kyler Sturtz and his fiancé Jordan, Chelsea and Aaron Johnson, Nicholas Flinspach and Emma Hricsina. Also, he was blessed with three great grandchildren, Christian, Brendan and Meadow.

Memorial services were held at the Chippewa United Methodist Church in Beaver Falls, with the Rev. Rodney Smith officiating and at the Grace United Methodist Church of Rocky Grove in Franklin, PA with the Rev. Edward Gresick officiating.

Submitted by the family

David Lyman Taylor

July 15, 1915

December 22, 2008

The Rev. David Lyman Taylor died at Wesbury Retirement Community on December 22, 2008. He was born in Jackson, PA on July 15, 1915. He is survived by his wife, Arete Layton Taylor; their four children, John Taylor of Bossendean, Western Australia, Paul Taylor of Elgin, IL, Ann Doyle of Beaverton, OR, and Mary Moodey of Erie, PA. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

David attended Allegheny College, Drew Theological Seminary, Northern Illinois University and Seabury Western Theological Seminary. He wrote for the Buffalo Evening News, the Erie Times and the Christian Advocate. He wrote a family history, "A Heritage of Leavers."

His pastoral duties included preaching in a parish in Titusville, PA, as well as numerous parishes in the Northern Illinois United Methodist Conference. His last assignment was located at the Elgin, Illinois First United Methodist Church. He also taught English and Journalism classes at the Mundelien High School in Mundelien, IL.

In retirement, David and Arete L. Taylor moved to Brevard, NC where they enjoyed hiking, golfing and bridge. They traveled extensively to England, where David did research on his family history, as well as to New Zealand and Australia, where they visited their eldest son.

David was an active member of The Order of St. Luke, Kiwanis, Delta Tau Delta, and the Masonic Lodge. He served a term as President of a Chapter of A.A.R.P. He was also an Eagle Scout.

Memorial Services for Reverend David L. Taylor were held on February 7th 2009, at McCracken Chapel in Cribbs Hall at the Wesbury United Methodist Community of Meadville, PA. The service and remarks were made by Rev. Aaron Kerr of the Erie First United Methodist Church and Rev. Howard Wright.

His ashes were interred in the family plot at the Sheridan New York Cemetery.

Nancy A. Toothman

February 26, 2009

Nancy A. (Hartle) Toothman died on February 26, 2009. She was the beloved wife of Rev. Paul E. Toothman. She is survived by daughters Amy S. Toothman, and Vicki R. Steffan. She was the grandmother of Amanda, Jacob, and Lukas.

A memorial Service was held in Christ Church at Grove Farm, Sewickly, PA.

James Richard Webb

May 14, 1935

December 1, 2008



The Rev. James Richard Webb was born on May 14th, 1935 in West Middlesex, PA, to Harold Kenneth Webb and Beryl Mitchell Webb. He had 6 brothers and sisters.

During his teenage years, He worked along with his uncle on the family farm, then was employed at the tube mill at Westinghouse in Sharon, PA. Jim graduated from West Middlesex High School and went on to serve his country in the United States Army, where he spent two years overseas in Germany. On July 11th, 1958, James married his wife Beverly King Webb (with whom he just celebrated their 50th anniversary). After the army, Jim and Beverly bought a house on Lincoln Street in Brookfield, Ohio.

In 1970, James graduated from Malone College in Canton, OH, and continued his education receiving a Master of Divinity from the Methodist Theological School in Delaware, OH. He served a number of churches throughout Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio over the years.

Funeral services were conducted at the First United Methodist Church, Greenville PA, with the Rev. Vernon Palo, officiating. Burial followed at Shenango Valley Cemetery, Greenville, PA. He is survived by his wife, Beverly Webb, two sons; Mark Webb and his wife Teresa; Bristolville, OH; Paul Webb; Greenville, PA; 2 daughters; Karen Palo and her husband Rev. Vernon Palo; Andover, OH; Rebecca Huston and her husband Larry; Ashtabula, OH; grandchildren Jakob and Katie and son Paul.

Jim's hobbies were enjoying time in the garage fixing and repairing sweepers and other electrical appliances for friends and families. Jim loved attending soccer games, baseball, and basketball games and fun times at home. He spent many hours visiting with church members and the many friends he made over the years while in the United Methodist ministry. He enjoyed many missionaries and the mission trips made especially to Peru and helped to rebuild a children's orphanage, traveled twice to the Holy Land and France in the mission field. Jim loved spending time with people; whether it was in the sanctuary, in the garage, or with his grandchildren. He found true joy being with people.

Submitted by the family

Lloyd A. Whitcomb

April 11, 1923

December 12, 2008



Reverend Lloyd A. Whitcomb died December 12, 2008 in Greenville Memorial Hospital, Greenville, SC. He was born in Irving, NY to Mr. Elmo and Mrs. Pearl Pfluger Whitcomb on April 11, 1923.

Lloyd attended school in Chautauqua, NY. He joined the United States Army Air Corps, 7th Air Force, and rose to the rank of Corporal. He served in the Philippine Islands and Hawaii at the end of World War II.

He entered the ministry in 1953 attending Allegheny College in Meadville, PA. He then transferred to Houghton College, Houghton, NY. Later he finished the Conference course at Findley Lake, NY. The Erie Conference Evangelical United Brethren granted Lloyd a license to preach in 1953 and ordained him to the ministry in 1961 under the leadership of Bishop Gordon J. Howard. He retired July 1, 1988 under the leadership of Bishop James Ault.

Lloyd loved the ministry and the people he served. Most of all he loved the Lord. He served 35 years in full time ministry. After retirement he filled the pulpits for various churches as the opportunity arose.

His hobbies were many. When the children were at home, he enjoyed family camping trips. He enjoyed ministering as a ventriloquist with his friend "Joshua." Often he was invited to speak with Joshua at various gatherings, Sunday school, Mother/Daughter banquets, Father/Son banquets and Christmas parties. He enjoyed wood working and carving, bow hunting, walking in the woods, canoeing on the river, riding bicycle, and most of all, riding motorcycle. In later years, when the motorcycle was too dangerous for him, he bought a motor scooter which he rode regularly until just before he passed away.

Lloyd and his wife Phyllis moved to Taylors, SC in 2000 in order to be near their son David and his family and their daughter Deborah and her family.

A memorial service was observed at Community Baptist Church where Lloyd's son Dr. David J. Whitcomb presided. There was also a funeral for Lloyd in his home church, the Evangelical Methodist Church, Corry, PA, where friends and family honored him. He is survived by his wife Phyllis. They would have been married 60 years in January 2009. He is also survived by two daughters, Terrie Oates of Linesville, PA, and Deborah Brush of Simpsonville, SC, and one son David Whitcomb of Taylors, SC. Also surviving are 11 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren.

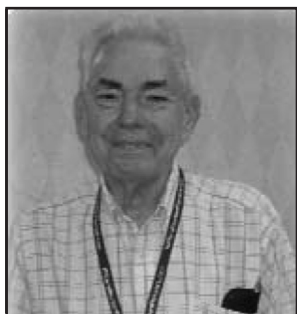
Lloyd always had a hearty laugh for a good joke. He will be greatly missed by his family.

Submitted by the family

Charles H. A. (Woody) Woods

May 8, 1931

February 14, 2009



Rev. Charles H. A. Woods (Woody) died on Saturday, February 14, 2009. He died peacefully at Beaver Valley Medical Center in Beaver, PA.

Woody was born May 8th, 1931 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He attended Pittsburgh Public Schools and graduated in 1949 from Westinghouse High School. He enlisted in the US Army and in October 1951 he left for Korea leaving behind his sweetheart, Marie. He returned in March 1952 from Korea and was honorably discharged in October 1953.

Woody and the former Marie May Johnston were married April 5, 1952 in the Albright Evangelical United Brethren Church in Pittsburgh.

In 1956, Woody made his declaration for the ministry and enrolled in Otterbein College in Westerville, Ohio. He was licensed to preach in 1958. In 1960, upon graduation from college, he enrolled in United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. He graduated from seminary in 1964 with a Master of Divinity degree. He was ordained in June 1964 in Johnstown, Pennsylvania by Bishop J. Gordon Howard. While in college and seminary, Woody served churches in Centerburg, Ohio and Millville, Ohio.

After ordination, he was assigned to Venus (EUB) Church. This assignment was expanded to the Allegheny Highlands charge (EUB) in 1968. After leaving, Allegheny Highlands in 1969, he was assigned to Conway-Economy and served there 5 years. His next assignment was the New Hope Parish, followed by Meadowlands-Fawcett, and Trafford. His last assignment prior to his retirement in 1996 was Turtle Creek: Electric Heights.

Woody was very interested in family history and genealogy. After his retirement, he became more interested in military history especially the Civil War and Korean War. He followed the Pirates, Steelers and Penguins in good times and bad. Woody was an avid reader and also enjoyed writing short stories and articles. He also enjoyed puttering in the backyard with plants and flowers and he always found time to feed the birds. In addition to enjoying his family, Woody took pleasure in his grandchildren and in later years, his 3 great granddaughters.

Upon his death, he left behind Marie, his loving wife of 56 years and his children, Linda (David), Debbie (Larry) and David (Chris). He also left 5 grandchildren—Daniel, Melissa, Amie, Benjamin and Abby and 3 great grandchildren—Kallie, Kady and Aleana.

A memorial service was officiated by Rev. Keith Dunn. Woody was buried in the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies in Bridgeville, Pa.

Submitted by the family

Elizabeth Zbilut

August 7, 1923

February 17, 2009



The Rev. Elizabeth "Betty" Zbilut, wife of the late Anthony W. Zbilut and mother of Nettie Z. Hagmann and Paul D. (Kim) Zbilut -- died on February 17, 2009 at The Willows Presbyterian Senior Care in Oakmont, Pa.

Betty was born Aug. 7, 1923 in New Eagle, PA, daughter of the late Paul and Sara Boyle. She was a 1942 graduate of Etna High School and was employed in the graphics department of Gulf Research from 1942 to 1950.

After raising her children, Mrs. Zbilut volunteered at Contact, a 24-hour crisis intervention ministry, where she spread her wings and became an inspiration to many. When most people her age were planning for retirement, she graduated from La Roche College in 1981 with a Bachelor of Arts degree at age 58 and majored in religion and psychology. In her senior year at La Roche, she was selected to participate in a federally funded program for pastoral care of the aging through the Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute. She was chosen to fill a vacancy at the Senior Citizens Center in a Wilkinsburg Church. She was director for five years. It was there, through the encouragement of those seniors, that she followed her calling and enrolled in the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, East Liberty. In 1992, she received her Master of Divinity degree.

At 64, Mrs. Zbilut was among the oldest persons to be ordained as a deacon in the Western Pennsylvania Conference of The United Methodist Church. Fondly known as "Rev. Betty," she became the pastor of Walter Chapel, Rural Ridge, Indiana Township for six years.

She believed that one of the most important journeys in life was to find one's inner self.

Surviving are four grandchildren -- Jaime, Jeffrey, Jace and Casey Hagmann of N.J.

Mrs. Zbilut's life was celebrated at a memorial service held at Faith United Methodist Church, Fox Chapel.

Submitted by the family