

## VIII. Memoirs

### Leonard D. Adams

December 13, 1925

January 22, 2011



Leonard D. Adams, of Clymer, NY, went home to be with his Lord on January 22, 2011. He was born December 13, 1925, to the late Maxwell and Rose Adams in Uleda, PA.

Leonard served as a pastor in the Western PA and Western NY conferences of The United Methodist Church for 61 years. He was a retired sixth-grade teacher in the Clymer Central School District, and attended Clymer United Methodist Church. He received a Bachelor of Science degree at Bethel College in Mishawauka, Indiana, attended United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, and received his master's degree in elementary education from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.

Leonard was a U.S. Army veteran, serving in World War II in Europe and Japan. He served in the former Erie Conference of the Evangelical United Brethren at Great Valley/Saegertown/Bethel churches; Edwards Chapel and Wayne Valley.

After he retired from teaching in Clymer schools, he and his wife volunteered in the transportation division of Jungle Aviation and Radio Service (JAARS) in Waxhaw, NC, a division of Wycliffe Bible Translators. He volunteered as an elementary school teacher from 1981 to 1982 in Brownsville, Texas, for the Mennonite Board of Missions. He was a member of the Antique Automobile Club of America, winning gold and silver awards at the Bergman Park World Series of Cars in Jamestown. He was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the American Legion Post 874, in addition to holding memberships with New York State and Chautauqua County Teacher's Association, and the Lakewood Rod and Gun Club.

Leonard is survived by his wife of 62 years: Doris E. (Ross) Adams; and by his brother Edward, of Lufkin, Texas; three sons, Barton (Debbie), of Salina Springs, Ark.; Rev. Dale (Anna), of Wichita Falls, Texas; Allen (Diane), of Saratoga Springs; two daughters: Ruth (Mike) Sisson, of Frewsburg and Sara (Craig) Michael, of Clymer; eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The funeral service was held January 28, 2011, at the Clymer United Methodist Church, with Rev. David Wickins officiating. Burial was in Clymer Center Cemetery.

**Carol Richey Adcock**

October 15, 1925

March 22, 2011



Carol Richey Adcock was born on October 15, 1925 in Greene County, PA. While in college at Waynesburg, she married Charles A. Adcock in 1945. She then moved to Kentucky because Charles was in the Air Force. While there, she had three children, Danny, Kathleen and Bonnie, who kept her busy till the Lord called her to the ministry. She then moved back to PA after the military commitment was fulfilled and began her preaching career in Jollytown, PA.

Carol had a Holy Spirit filled life and will always be remembered by her five Grandchildren and one Great Grandchild. She went home to be with the Lord on March 22, 2011 and the family placed her

remains at Laurel Point Cemetery between Charles and her Parents.

**Wesley Edward Blaha**

June 3, 1930

January 29, 2011



Wesley Edward Blaha was born in Port Vue, PA in 1930 and raised in McKeesport. Wes was the older of two sons of insurance agent John Blaha and his wife, Elizabeth Dilly Blaha. Wesley passed away in Cedars Community Hospice in Monroeville on January 29, 2011, surrounded by his loving family.

After graduating from McKeesport High School in 1948, Wes attended Penn State University where he was a member of ROTC. Upon his graduation in 1952 he entered the United State Air Force, serving in various stateside administrative positions. His calling to the ministry came while he was in the Service. A 1958 graduate from Drew Theological School in Madison, NJ, he became a full member of the Conference, having received his Deacon's Orders in 1957 and Elder's Orders in 1958. Before his final year at Drew, Wes was selected to study at The Ecumenical Institute of Bossey, Switzerland.

While at Drew, Wes met two gentlemen who were also attending the University. These two men not only became ordained Methodist Minister's as well, but two of Wes' best life-long friends; Rev. Robert Richards and Rev. Conway Keibler. All married and had children of their own and the three families vacationed together in Ocean City, NJ every summer for many years to come, sharing a house between all 15 of them! Wes, Lorraine, Rob, Becky, Suzie and Ben Blaha; Bob, Nancy, Jennifer, Stephanie and Todd Richards; and Conway, Betty, Robin and Chuck Keibler returned for countless years to come. The adults became Aunts and Uncles to the kids and all the kids considered each other as cousins. That remains the same to this day.

In later years, Wes, Bob and Conway started a tradition of “BDO” (Boys Day Out), taking turns meeting in each other’s ‘neck of the woods’ for lunch once a month. This lasted through 2010 when Wes was living at Cedar’s Assisted Living in Monroeville, PA. Bob and Conway would pick up lunch and take it to Wes and spend hours together rehashing stories, laughing and enjoying their long-time friendship and fellowship. It was special and precious to each of them and will be cherished forever.

Wesley’s ministry began in a farmhouse on a dirt road in McMurray, PA where he was sent to start a Church! As the founding pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church, he had fond memories of the young and enthusiastic congregation. Everyone worked hard together to build the brand new facility designed by Harold C. Wagoner of Philadelphia. Wes married Lorraine Kreps and together had a family which included Rob, Becky, Suzie and Ben. The farmhouse that sat right near the new Church was then transformed into a kindergarten. Wes’s oldest daughter Becky attended that kindergarten and still remembers being able to paint and draw everyday she was there, which she loved! This was obviously the beginning of her creative artsy side!

In addition to his commitment to the thriving and expanding congregation of Trinity Church, Wes also served as a Chaplain in the Air Force Reserves.

After ten years at Trinity, Wes and his family were relocated to Lakewood United Methodist Church in Erie PA, where he served as the Senior Minister. His family has very fond memories of their years in Erie. They made many friends on Rondeau Drive as well as in the Church and Millcreek School community. Many of these friendships continue to this day. Wesley’s oldest son Rob loved the Erie area so much, he returned there after graduating from Westminster College, began his own family.

From 1972-1987 Wes was appointed to serve as the Senior Pastor of the Monroeville United Methodist Church. In 1988 Wes was presented with an offer to become the President of the Monroeville Chamber of Commerce. He served in this capacity for sixteen years until his retirement in 2004. His dedication to the Monroeville business community will long be remembered. Upon his retirement, the Chamber's Board of Directors established the “Wes Blaha Award” which is to be given annually to a selected Chamber member-of-the-year. This prestigious award was established to honor Wes' dedication and service and will continue to honor his memory.

Wes was eager to carry on with his service to the Lord, so while he did accept the Chamber position as President, he looked for a way to continue in ministry as well. That opportunity came when he was asked to become an associate minister at Calvary UMC on the Northside of Pittsburgh. He committed himself to the church from 1992-1995. When he retired he was termed a Pastor Emeritus. Wes continued assisting and attending Calvary until his death.

Wes also served as a Chaplain in the US Air Force Reserve at the 911th Tag out of Pittsburgh. He and his youngest son Ben both enjoyed talking about the Air Force, airplanes and going to air shows together. Wes fondly remembered their trips to Wright-Patterson AF Base with Ben's neighborhood friend Ray. On their drives out to the AFB, the boys would pretend they were in a plane and that the other cars were enemy planes and they were gunners shooting them down. They kept record of licenses & tallied the states. The boys made a sign that said “WRIGHT-PATTERSON OR BUST” and they had a great time together. Wes retired in 1985 as a Colonel and Chaplain from the US Air Force. He was a proud Korean War Veteran and a member of the Reserve Officer's

Association, the MOWW (Military Order of the World Wars) and the Air Force Association.

Wes was a Life Member of the Penn State Alumni Association, a Board Member of Allegheny Historical Preservation Society and selected to serve on the Board of the Regional Asset District of Allegheny County. He was a member of the Monroeville Interfaith Ministerial Association and the Monroeville Rotary Club. He served for nearly twenty-five years as first a Board member and then as President of the United Methodist Church Union. He was a board member of the Monroeville Interfaith Ministerial, Goodwill Industries, the Pittsburgh food bank, the Pittsburgh Council, local school boards, the Arts Council, the Community College of Allegheny County and numerous other community volunteer organizations. If Wes was asked to help with an event, speak at a fund-raiser, assist a charity or fulfill a need he would do everything he could to be there or facilitate. Wes's impact was not only within the Methodist Church and the Monroeville community but the greater Pittsburgh area as well. He was always willing to support others. Even when he was dealing with his own health challenges he served as a volunteer Chaplain and counselor at the Cedar Hospice and facility.

Wes was survived by his oldest son, Robert Blaha, of Waterford, PA, daughter Rebecca Blaha, of Pittsburgh, PA, daughter Susanna Blaha, of Tarentum, PA. and his brother, H. Dale (Buzz) Blaha, of New Kensington, PA. Granddaughters Shelly Blaha-Jalowiec, Alaina Elias and Ashlyn Pavlik-Blaha. His wife of over nineteen years, Cindy Delle Donne and his son, Benjamin Drew preceded him in death. Cindy Blaha passed away in January 2009 and his youngest son, Benjamin Drew Blaha, passed away in August 2007.

A funeral with a Presentation of Military Honors for Wesley was performed at Calvary UMC with the Rev. Larry Homitsky, Rev. Thomas Funk and the Rev. Conway Keibler participating. A tribute was given by the Rev. Bob Richards.

Wes was a sweet, dear man with a quick wit. He was a faithful follower of Christ and was a wonderful preacher who always delivered a meaningful, hopeful and relevant message from the pulpit. He was an intelligent man, a very loving father, grandfather, brother, uncle and a very loyal friend. Anyone who ever met Wes had nothing but kind words to say about him. He was highly respected in the community, the Churches he led and ministered and by all of his family and friends. As an Alumnus, Wes loved Penn State football and enjoyed sharing the camaraderie of "JoPa" and University Park with his daughter Suzie who continued with the Penn State tradition there. He was the biggest fan of his youngest granddaughter Ashlyn and her sport endeavors and academic achievements, his middle granddaughter Alaina and her dance recitals and academic achievements and his oldest granddaughter Shelly and her college pursuit, career and subsequent marriage. Wes also enjoyed Steelers football, Penguins hockey, Pirates baseball, watching golf, tennis and college basketball. He loved music and enjoyed the annual summer vacation his family would make to the Chautauqua Institute in Chautauqua, NY. There he could relish in endless musical performances of all varieties anytime of the day. He appreciated the symphony, musicals, the theater, classical music, Christmas music and Methodist Hymns. Wes also loved singing, especially the Hymns in Church! He was an avid reader, known to have 4-5 books going at one time as well. Wesley was truly a class act and will forever be adored, loved and missed very, very much.

Submitted by the family

**Jacob M. Brumbaugh**

May 8, 1926

August 28, 2010



Jacob M. Brumbaugh went to the arms of his Savior August 28, 2010. He was born May 8, 1926, in Richland Township, son of the late John D. and Eva (Kring) Brumbaugh. Jake is survived by loving wife of 62 years, the former Dorothy Wingard. There are three children, Lauren Jacob Brumbaugh, Eileen Armstrong and Donna Cawthorne. He was loving “Poppy” to grandchildren, Cortney and Megan Brumbaugh, Elisa Combs and Ryan Dimond; great-grandchildren, Savannah Campbell, Kaiden Ivey, Zachary and Elana and Skyler Combs. A funeral service was held at Park

Avenue United Methodist Church with the Rev. Kathleen McCoy-Schoeneck and the Rev. William Huson, officiating. He was buried at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Johnstown, PA.

Jake was a World War II, U.S. Army veteran and retired from Bethlehem Steel’s shipping department after 33 years of service. He was a graduate of Richland High School and Wesley Theological Seminary. Jake served as pastor at Cramer United Methodist Church from 1981 to 1992 and was a lifelong member and pastor emeritus of Park Avenue United Methodist Church. His spiritual gift was presenting God’s word with passion and could take everyday life and activities and teach them as parables that revealed God’s Kingdom and the activity that Christians should follow.

Jake was a dairy farmer and steel worker in his early years and enjoyed hunting and fishing with family. His love and appreciation of God’s creation were reflected in his nature walks and devotions. He loved growing plants and gardening, exercising and was an avid sports fan, especially the Pirates and Steelers.

Submitted by the family

**Mary Catherine Burton**

May 7, 1932

March 9, 2011



Mary Johnstone was born May 7, 1932, in Hammond, Indiana. She died March 9, 2011 in Littleton, Colorado at the age of 78 years, 10 months, and two days. Her husband, John Burton, preceded her in death. Mary is survived by her son Bill, his wife Susan, and their two children, Ian and Molly; her daughter Nancy, and her husband Bob; and her daughter Susan. Mary is also survived by her brothers Edmond and Jim, their wives Marcia and Sue, a number of nieces and nephews, and a host of friends.

Mary graduated from Albion College in Michigan with a major in art and a minor in religion. She began her career as an interior designer. Mary and John were married in 1954, and in 1965 they moved to Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania with their three children. The Burton home in Mt. Lebanon backed up to a

forest. It was an ideal setting for raising children and pets, including three orphaned raccoons, who considered Mary their mother. She loved gardening and created a show piece on their property with her beautiful flower beds. Feeding the deer in the winter time and the raccoons year 'round was part of her daily routine. Mary was a gourmet cook, and a talented seamstress creating outfits for herself and her daughters. She started the first Cub Scout troop in her town hosting the group in her basement, was a PTA officer, and a strong volunteer in Christ United Methodist Church in Bethel Park, PA teaching and giving pastoral care. Mary later enrolled in Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and graduated with a Masters of Divinity degree in 1977. She was ordained elder in The United Methodist Church in 1978.

Rev. Burton served as Assistant Pastor at Smithfield UMC in Pittsburgh from 1975 to 1980, where, while there, she started an inner city elder care program. She then served the two-point charge of Mt. Washington and Fairhaven United Methodist churches in Pittsburgh from 1980 until 2001. The two congregations merged in 1994. From 1978 until 2001 she was also pastor of Fair Oaks Congregational Home for the elderly.

In 2006, Mary moved to Centennial, CO to live near her daughter Sue. She purchased a home and transformed the house and yard using her many designing talents. Mary soon became a part of the St. Andrew church family, where she served with the Congregational Care Team, became a Stephen Minister, was a member of United Methodist Women, Covenant Visitors, and the IHN Team. She also regularly made hospital visits. Mary was regular and active in all parts of her church life until her death.

Submitted by the family

### **Jenny Nicholson Byrd**

December 17, 1921

April 30, 2011



Jenny Nicholson Byrd passed away at the Lutheran Home of Johnstown on April 30th, 2011. She was born in Cleator Moor, Cumbria, England on December 17th, 1921 to William and Hannah Nicholson.

She served in the Royal Air Force as a World War II aircraft mechanic. On June 10th, 1944 she married Stanley Byrd, Cumbria, England. In May 1948 the family emigrated to the United States, became naturalized citizens and lived in the Pittsburgh area.

Mrs. Byrd lived in Erie, Teepleville, Lake City, PA; Bloomingdale, Ohio; Wheatland, New Wilmington, and Sharon, PA while her husband served as pastor of

Methodist churches in those towns. She moved to Johnstown 10 years ago to live near family.

She was preceded in death by her husband Rev. Stanley Byrd in 1987, her sister, Margaret Gilson, and niece Wendy Orr. Mrs. Byrd is survived by her children, Joyce (Ralph) Barrera of Casstown, Ohio, David (Lu) Makin-Byrd of Johnstown, and Rev. Emily A. Byrd of Johnstown; grandchildren John (Shelley) Barrera, Angela Barrera, Kerry Makin-Byrd (Tim Hilton), and Lori Makin-Byrd; great-grandchildren Jillian and Gabrielle Barrera and Christine and Daniel Marconett. Her sister, Ann Taylor, of

Kirkcaldy, Scotland also survives. Other surviving relatives include nieces and nephews and their families.

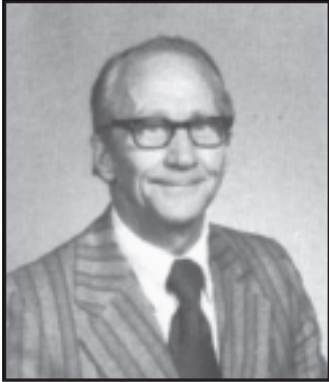
She was a member of New Wilmington United Methodist Church and attended Grove Avenue and Homestead Avenue United Methodist Churches in Johnstown.

The committal service took place at Fair Oaks Cemetery, New Wilmington, on Wednesday, May 4, 2011 at 1:00 P.M. A memorial service took place on Sunday, May 8 at 3 P.M. in Grove Avenue United Methodist Church in Johnstown.

### Gale W. Cook

August 21, 1919

September 22, 2010



Gale W. Cook passed away Wednesday, September 22, 2010 at Gulf Coast Medical Center. He was born Aug. 21, 1919 in Youngstown, Ohio, son of the late Winfield and Mary Bavard Cook. Gale was raised by his beloved aunt and uncle, Harriett and Edward Finneflock, of Kane.

Gale was raised in Kane and graduated from Kane High School in 1937. He was a Captain in the U.S. Army Air Force, serving as pilot in World War II in the Southwest Pacific, Philippines, Korea and Japan. While in the service he married Beatrice Koebley of Warren. He graduated from Asbury College in 1950 and Asbury Theological Seminary in 1953. Gale chose to be a minister with the Western Pennsylvania Conference of The United Methodist Church. He pastored churches in Falconer and Celeron, NY, Sharon and Erie. For six years prior to moving to Florida, he was Minister of Visitation at the Christ United Methodist Church in Erie. While living in Ft. Myers, Gale served as Minister of Visitation at First UMC and as Coordinator of weekly religious services at his senior apartment complex in Ft. Myers.

Gale was predeceased by his wife, Beatrice; his daughter, Mary Lynne Cook; his brother, Neil Cook and his sister, Cleo Musanti. Surviving are two daughters, Rev. Toni Cook and Cathy Cook both of Denver, Colorado; one son, James Michael Cook (Sherry) of New Brighton, Minnesota; four grandchildren, Sarah Cook-Scalise, Joshua, Brittney and Jennifer Cook, his longtime friend, Selmajane Stuchel, a sister-in-law, Annejane Cook; and nieces and nephews.

A Funeral Service was held at the Dusckas-Martin Funeral Home in Erie, PA on October 2, 2010. Interment was at Laurel Hill Cemetery.

### John Calvin Cox

June 1, 1922

April 9, 2011



John Calvin Cox was born June 1, 1922 on James Street in Turtle Creek, Pennsylvania, the second son of the late Albert and Naomi Page Cox. He graduated from Turtle Creek High School. He worked for several years before joining the Army Air Corps, where he became a mechanic and pilot on B24 Bombers, stationed in Italy. After World War II ended, he married Dora Louise Chilcoat on March 15, 1947 at his family home with John's maternal grandfather, Rev. Thomas Page conducting the services. They were

married 64 years.

John now pursued the career he had been called to fulfill. Graduating from West Virginia Wesleyan in record time in 1949, he went on to graduate in 1952 from what is now Wesley Theological Seminary. While attending seminary, he served as a student minister at the Bentleyville Methodist church and later the Centerville-Taylor yoked Methodist Churches.

He and Dora began their family during this time. Edith Louise was born in January 1948 and Naomi Elizabeth was born June 1949. The growing family was moved to Derry, PA, in October 1952. While pastoring the Derry Church, Dora and John added their first son John Calvin Jr. in January 1953 and third daughter Laura Ann in April 1955. The next pastorate was Monaca United Methodist Church which he served for nine years. The last of their five children James Edward was born July 1961. In July 1966 John was called to serve the Bridgeville United Methodist Church. After another nine years John was transferred to the Somerset United Methodist Church. His final church was the Rimersburg United Methodist Church. He retired to Bull Shoals Arkansas, but he was soon serving a small Methodist church in St. Joseph, and teaching Sunday School classes and various activities to help the local Bull Shoals church. After enjoying retirement in Bull Shoals Arkansas, John and Dora moved back to PA to be closer to their families.

Rev. Cox was active in every community he served. He was on numerous boards and committees He was also a member of the Masons. His hobbies or interest included gardening visiting family and music. He played for pleasure the trumpet, piano and organ. He enjoyed family vacations at his father's beloved Canadohta Lake cottage. He also enjoyed several overseas trips, including a trip to the Holy Land.

He was preceded in death by his sister Dorthy Fox, his brother Rev. Albert Cox, and his parents. He is survived by his wife Dora L. Cox and older brother Earl Cox. He also survived by three daughters, Edith L. Heidrich of West View, PA; Naomi E. Harringer of Derry, PA; Laura A Cox of Carnegie, PA; and his two sons John C. Cox Jr. of Corporatism, PA and James E. Cox of Somerset, PA, six grandchildren and three great grandsons.

A Funeral service was held in the Warchol Funeral Home in Bridgeville on April 13, 2011. An interment service was held at Churchill Cemetery in Churchill, PA with included an Army Military Honors Service.

Submitted by the family



**John Harper Creeks**

July 5, 1924

May 11, 2011



John H. Creeks made the transition to his heavenly home on Wednesday, May 11, 2011, at the age of 86.

Born July 5, 1924, to Norman and Carrie Creeks in Bakerstown, he was a graduate of Zelienople High School and attended Grove City College. He later took graduate course of study and became certified as a minister of The United Methodist Church. The ministry was his life and he served churches in Unionville, Glassport, McKeesport and Conneaut Lake. His love for people and the church was so evident and his gift of encouraging those around him to have a vision was obvious. Of his numerous accomplishments, two had a lasting positive impact on the community after coming to Conneaut Lake. The first was the development of the

Living Christmas Tree, which has become an annual holiday event. The second, after becoming acquainted with the lake and Lloyd Holland, who owned a paddlewheel (the Barbara J), was the creation of a boat ministry. Locals as well as tourists filled the boat during the summer months for a unique worship experience while traveling over the lake and changing lives in the process.

After leaving Conneaut Lake, he served on the staff at Tower Hill Presbyterian Church in Red Bank, NJ, in the area of outreach ministries. Upon retiring, he lived in Halifax, NC, where he made many friends and lasting relationships. To be closer to family and friends, he moved back to Pennsylvania, where he and Sharon (Shields) were married February 9, 1991. Although retired, he continued to preach in the Saegertown, Greenville and Hermitage areas until 2006.

He enjoyed country living and especially looked forward to gardening, traveling/camping, and becoming acquainted with his Amish neighbors.

He had many friends and will be greatly missed. When not serving in another church, he attended Fallowfield United Methodist Church. He also was a volunteer in the surgical lounge of the former Greenville Regional Hospital. For the past two years he was a volunteer at the Crawford County Humane Society.

In addition to his wife, Sharon, of 20 years, he is survived by daughters from a previous marriage, 13 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He is also survived by a brother, Norman Creeks; a sister, Hazel Boliver.

A celebration of his life was held at Trinity United Methodist Church, Conneaut Lake, on May 15, 2011 followed by burial at Rocky Glen Cemetery. The Rev. Pat Ellis of Heckathorn United Methodist Church, Seneca officiated.

Submitted by the family

**Howard Davis**

November 8, 1917

October 13, 2010



Howard Davis who last lived in Port Charlotte, Florida died on October 13, 2010 in Harbour Health Center, Port Charlotte.

Howard was born November 8, 1917 in Port Vue, Pennsylvania to the late Albert E. and Lily Thomas Davis and moved to Port Charlotte in 1982 from Carnegie, Pennsylvania. A graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan College and a veteran of World War II, he served in the U.S. Army. He was a retired Senior Systems Consultant for Gulf Oil Corporation and a member of the Port Charlotte United Methodist Church.

Survived by a daughter, Virginia L. Davis of Woodinville, Washington; and two sisters, Florence Robinson of Zelienople, PA and Emma J. Keim of Port Charlotte, FL. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, Rev. Gladys M. Davis (who served Pleasantview UMC 1976-1980), a daughter, Margaret Davis, two sisters, and three brothers.

Memorial services were held at the Port Charlotte United Methodist Church followed by military honors and interment in Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, FL.

**Marion A. Eckert**

October 2, 1908

April 28, 2011



Born October 2, 1908 in Buffalo, NY, the Lord blessed Marion Eckert with 102 years, 6 months and 28 days of life. She was the younger of two children born to Clarence B. and Adda Pfeil. Her brother, Almond C. Pfeil, was two years older.

Marion lived in Western PA for most of her life. Marion graduated from Linesville High School, Linesville, PA in 1926. She studied cosmetology and worked for a salon in Meadville, PA. She later bought the salon and ran her own business for many years. Marion was also an interior decorator for Sears in Erie, PA. She and her first husband, who preceded her in death, had one daughter, Joyce.

Marion met and married Rev. Ralph H. Eckert in May 1959. They served the Lord together for many years in several churches in Western PA. She was involved with the women's organizations as well as Sunday School. She also helped with the children's choirs making many of the robes for the new choirs that were started.

Marion and Ralph loved to travel and camped extensively all over the United States and Canada. The creative things she enjoyed included photography and painting, along with working in her flower gardens. Sewing, crocheting and making needlepoint crosses to give away were also favorite past-times. Marion also liked to design and make her own clothing.

Marion and Ralph were content after retirement when they moved to the sunny state of Florida where they lived for 20 years. They remained active in The United Methodist Church in Sebring, Florida. After returning to PA in 1991, God called Ralph home to eternity in October.

Marion went to the Lord April 28, 2011 at the Riverwoods facility in Lewisburg, PA. She was at peace and in the presence of her family. Marion will join Ralph at rest in the Albion, PA Cemetery. She was much loved and is sadly missed by all who knew her. Surviving are her daughter and son-in-law, Joyce and Michael Simon, three grandchildren: Angela Simon Lash, William and Ruel Simon and their spouses along with seven great-grandchildren.

Submitted by the family

### William E. Fenstermaker

June 17, 1923

May 12, 2011



William E. Fenstermaker died on May 12, 2011 at his home. He was born in Oriole on Sunday, June 17, 1923, the son of the late Verus R. and Carrie (Cowher) Fenstermaker. He is survived by sister, Harriet Sweitzer, Jersey Shore and brother, Jack Fenstermaker, Jersey Shore. Bill is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by three sisters, Elizabeth Downin, Edith Farley and Helen Boyer and by one brother, Jesse Fenstermaker.

Bill served three years in the US Army with the 36th Division Artillery during World War II. He received a personal citation from his Commanding General for bravery under fire. He was a 1941 graduate of Jersey Shore High School and a 1949 graduate of Bucknell University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Divinity. Bill then graduated from Drew Theological Seminary in 1952. He continued his graduate work at Gettysburg Theological Seminary and the Presbyterian Seminary in Pittsburgh. He has been a fully ordained Methodist Minister since 1953.

Bill has served as a Minister under these appointments: Associate Pastor at Asbury in Allentown, Pastor at Wind Gap, Pastor at Patton, Associate Pastor at Grace Church in Harrisburg, Pastor at Gettysburg, Associate Pastor at Mt. Lebanon Church and Pastor at Brookline United Methodist Church. He has held teaching positions and administrative posts in the Philadelphia Conference, the Central PA Conference and the Western PA Conference of the Methodist Church. He retired in 1985. After his retirement, Bill was a guest pastor at many local churches in Bedford County.

Bill served in Central Pennsylvania on the Board of Ministerial Training and as a Trustee for the Methodist Home for Children. He served in Western Pennsylvania as a Trustee for the Ward Home for Children. He was a member of the Shawnee Valley Volunteer Fire Company.

Bill was an antique enthusiast. He opened an antique store in the former Presbyterian Church in Schellsbrug, where he also made his home. Bill was a seasoned traveler. Between the years of 1955 and 1963, he traveled throughout Europe, the Holy

Lands, Mexico, Australia, East Africa and South America. Bill has traveled throughout the State of Pennsylvania lecturing and giving travelogues of his journeys.

A Funeral Service was held at Mickle-Geisel Funeral Home, Schellsburg, May 16, 2011 with Rev. Ruth Shaver, officiating. A Committal Service was held at Limestone Cemetery Nippenose Valley with Rev. James Weigley officiating.

Submitted by the family

### Averill Virginia Fox Gay

November 5, 1920

January 24, 2011



Averill Virginia Fox Gay, 90, of Hope died quietly Monday evening, January 24, 2011, at Providence Palliative Care in Anchorage. She was born November 5, 1920, in Cornwall, PA, the daughter of Washington Sands Fox and Effie Lulu Buchanan. She graduated from Pottstown, PA, High School in 1938, and attended and graduated from Ursinus College, Colledgeville, PA, in 1942.

In college, Averill met and married Richard Gay on Christmas day, 1943. She held various teaching positions in Pennsylvania and Ohio, after moving there in 1950. In 1960, the family relocated to Alaska, where her husband served as minister, professor and administrator at Alaska Methodist University.

Wherever they lived, Averill played organ, directed choirs and taught piano. In Anchorage, she was organist and choir director at Turnagain Methodist Church, then co-organist at First Presbyterian Church for 17 years. Averill's beautiful smile and gracious personality made her many friends, and her husband of 67 years, her greatest fan.

Her family wrote: "These sentiments are most apt: Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband trusts her. She is not afraid of the snow for her household, for she looks well to the ways of her household. Her children rise up and call her blessed! And her name is Averill."

In addition to her husband, Averill is survived by daughters Judith (Greg), Patricia (Ron), Sherry (Glenn), Jerilee (Stephen); and son, Richard III. There are fifteen grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother.

Submitted by the family

**William Jay Gill**

October 18, 1938

November 27, 2010



William Jay Gill passed away peacefully on November 27, 2010, in the hospital of Sharon Regional Health System after complications from a stroke he suffered Friday morning at his home.

Jay was born on October 18, 1938, in Sharon, the oldest child of William J. and Marguerite Neyman Gill. He was raised in Brookfield and was a 1956 graduate of Brookfield High School. He served with the U.S. Marine Corps. Then Jay was a supervisor and general manager in the construction field for more than 40 years at many different sites along the eastern seaboard.

Jay studied at Duke University, Durham, NC, and became a minister in 1996. He served as the pastor at Old Salem United Methodist Church, Sugar Grove Township, and later at the Johnsonburg United Methodist Church for four years, retiring in 2007. In retirement, He was active at the West Middlesex United Methodist Church and attended I.H.S. Gospel Ministries, Hermitage.

Jay was an outdoorsman and enjoyed fishing, hunting, boating and gardening. He was a loving and dedicated man who cherished his family and friends and loved preaching.

Surviving are his wife, the former Rose Kathyne "Kay" Meredith Wachter, whom he married April 17, 1993, in the West Middlesex United Methodist Church; a stepdaughter, Meredith Lynn Friedman and her husband Leonard S., Novi, Michigan; a stepson, William Howard Wachter, Kersey, PA; a sister, Janet Elaine Kettering, South Carolina; a brother, John D. Gill and his wife Lila, Brookfield; and four nieces and a nephew. Besides his parents, Jay was preceded in death by his first wife of 20 years, the former Elli Palumbo.

A funeral service was held in the West Middlesex UMC with the Rev. C. Charles Eckles, pastor, officiating.

Submitted by the family

May 4, 1935



**Allen (Al) Grimm Jr.**

August 3, 2010

Allen "Al" Grimm Jr. passed peacefully into the presence of our Lord on August 3, 2010, age 75, of White Oak; loving husband for 56 years of Elaine (Izatt) Grimm; loving father of Rev. Allen (Patricia) Grimm, John (Karla) Grimm, Elyse Ann (Ellis) Michaels, and James Andrew "Andy" (Joan) Grimm; special pap to Aaron (Kasia), Jacob, Joshua, Kallie Grimm, Willis (Kristie), Lindsey Praksti, Hannah, Hettie Kukic, Melinda (Jason) Gibson, Joanna (Shane) Smith, Thomas, Cecelia, and Trent Michaels; also survived by eleven great grandchildren; also survived by a sister Gale Smith of CA and preceded in death by a sister Jean Nahom; and his parents A. Orville and Gertrude Eloise (Keirs) Grimm; also survived by numerous nieces and nephews and all who loved this wonderful man.

Al ran his own plumbing and heating business for 25 years. In 1983 he began the course of study and his service as a lay pastor. He served the Lord over the next 16 years as the local pastor of nine United Methodist Churches in three different charges. He was also ordained by Greater Works Outreach and a member of Center Avenue United Methodist Church in Pitcairn, PA. Al was devoted to praying for others, his love for his family, and most importantly his service to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Later in life his passion for flying was fulfilled when he received his solo pilot license in 1997. After retirement Al continued to minister through active membership in two churches. He sang in the choir, ushered, and attended and taught Sunday school. He was an active supporter of the M.U.V. mission utility vehicle program of our Conference. His community service included active participation in the Lions Club and the support of the Greater Works Outreach Homeless Ministry. He left an example of discipleship and service that is an inspiration to all those who received his ministry.

Submitted by his family

**J. Richard Hackenberry**

June 23, 1923

May 18, 2011



J. Richard “Dick” Hackenberry loved his Lord. When my mother and father were dating, Mom had been born and raised in the church and was a devoted Christian but felt inadequate to the calling of being a minister's wife. She asked Dad if he would consider a different line of work. He told her that he loved her, but he loved his Lord even more. They married, and Mom was his helper, secretary, and devoted wife for 49 years until she passed away from cancer. We never doubted Dad's love for us, but we also knew OUR Lord came first. It was a great privilege to be raised by such a devoted, godly, couple.

Dick was born June 23, 1923, in Lewistown, Pennsylvania, a son of Charles and Carrie (Getz) Hackenberry. He was raised in the Evangelical United Brethren Church in Lewistown but because he was so shy the pastor there did not feel he would make an effective minister. His fiancée at the time suggested he talk to her minister since he was so convinced of his call. So Dick approached the pastor at the Lake Park Methodist Church. He interviewed him, met with him a couple times, and was convinced of his call and dedication then recommended him for ministry in the Methodist Church. He was appointed to his first charge on October 16, 1949. Upon his ordination into Methodist ministry, Dick took the required vow of total abstinence from alcohol and lived and preached that throughout his 60 plus years in the ordained ministry. After the Asbury revival in 1970 he invited a team of college students to come to the local area. The revival was widespread and the local ministerium sent teams throughout Western PA where countless numbers were ministered to and led to a closer walk with the Lord. During this time, he received a series of visions from the Lord encouraging him to study prophecy and preach of His second coming. Dick became quite a Prophecy student and preached thousands of sermons on that very topic. He was the one of the kindest, gentlest, most loving, most devout men you could ever have the privilege of meeting. In spite of his organizational skills he was not called to be an administrator. He was content serving the small membership, rural churches. He never felt the need to promote himself into the larger city churches. He would frequently say that he was called to minister. He was not called to retire.

Even after retirement in 1985, Dick continued to minister and served five other churches after retirement. He preached his usual two services on Palm Sunday April 17, 2011. He was admitted to the hospital Tuesday, April 19 for a severe infection. The plan was to treat the infection and Dick had every intention of being back in the pulpit and doing his usual hospital and home visitations by early May. However, the Lord had other plans. While Dick was in the hospital, he learned he was in the late stages of prostate and bone cancer. Dick went home from the hospital Saturday, April 23. Hospice started assisting with his care Monday, April 25. He received countless visits from his parishioners during his sickness and encouraged all who came to cheer him up. He had prayer with each of them, encouraged them and sent them out to minister to others. He

had several visits from other ministers in the local area and helped them with questions they had regarding scriptures and prophecy. Wednesday afternoon, May 18, at 12:45 the Lord promoted him to his last appointment. He has left a huge void in the hearts of many people but everyone who met him has been encouraged, strengthened, and loved by him and drawn closer to the Lord and Savior he so faithfully taught about and loved for his 61 plus years in the active, ordained ministry.

In his younger years Dick enjoyed hunting. He especially enjoyed hunting for deer here in rural PA, although he also enjoyed small game, such as rabbit, squirrel, and turkey. Throughout his life he loved working with wood. Dick was a true craftsman. He had a fully equipped workshop and made countless thousands of beautiful pieces. His work was so good he could have made his living through his woodworking but he considered his woodworking skills an extension of his ministry and gave away a lot of his work. What he sold, he sold at very low prices, usually making just enough to cover the cost of the material. He had a model train layout for over 50 years. This layout would change in size, and scale over the years. At one point, his layout occupied an entire room. No one knows how many people came to enjoy watching those trains and admiring and appreciating the countless hours he had investing in building the houses, churches and other buildings, as well as the trees, and landscape he would design for his layouts.

Dick was so highly organized he was never rushed, so he managed to accomplish more in his lifetime than most of us could achieve in three lifetimes. He left behind an incredible filing system with very detailed records covering his entire 61 plus years of ministry.

When he celebrated his 60 years in the ministry, October 18, 2009, he gave the report that during those 60 years he had served 33 churches on eight different charges. Although he did not report how many sermons he had preached during his “active” ministry, he had preached 700 sermons in various local churches after retirement and before being assigned to the Barton Chapel United Methodist Church in Sprankles Mills and the Coolspring Presbyterian Church. During his service to the Barton Chapel Church he presided over 626 services. He led 461 services at the Coolspring Presbyterian Church. He officiated at 180 weddings, 572 baptisms, and 366 funerals.

Dick was appointed to the seven point Burnt Cabins Charge in the Central PA Conference in 1949. He was appointed to the four point Wolfsburg Charge in 1951. While he was serving there he had the tragedy of having his first child stillborn. Although, he rarely mentioned Pamela Sue, the loss gave him a deeper appreciation for life and a greater understanding for the pain we all experience so we may be drawn closer to Him who loves us so unconditionally. His second child, Marsha Ann, was also born at this charge. He received his ordination as Deacon the same year Marsha was born. He was appointed to the five point Ramey Charge, September 3, 1954. While he was there his third child, a son, Roger Lee, was born. He also received his ordination as Elder while there. July 2, 1958 he was appointed to the four point Morrisdale Charge. June 27, 1963 he was appointed to the four point Martinsburg charge. He was appointed to the three point Coalport charge July 3, 1968. With the merger of the Evangelical United Brethren Church and The United Methodist Church, Dad was given the option of moving to a different charge and remaining in the Central PA Conference, or remaining there and transferring into the Western PA Conference. After prayerful consideration, Dick decided to remain with the Coalport charge and be transferred into the Western PA Conference.



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He now had two United Methodist Churches in the same small town and Dick was assigned the unenviable chore of merging both churches and closing one of the buildings and parsonages. June 17, 1974 he was assigned the Juneau Charge consisting of Juneau, Rossiter, and Rochester Mills. March 14, 1979 Dick was assigned the Littles Corners Charge, consisting of Littles Corners, Hamlin Chapel, and Bethany.

June 30, 1985 Dick retired and moved to the Coolspring area halfway between Brookville and Punxsutawney. He had an acre and a half of ground and Joyce was in her glory. She loved to garden and maintained beautiful, well-manicured, well mulched flower gardens. After his “retirement” Dick ministered to the Emerickville Church of God for eight years from November 15, 1987 until October 29, 1995. He was appointed to the St. Marks Independent Church in Juneau, while continuing to minister to the Emerickville church. This was a former EUB Church. St. Marks was supposed to merge with Juneau when the new building was built but at the last minute they opted to remain in their building and go independent. Dick served that church for six years, from November 12, 1989 until October 29, 1995. Starting August 7, 1988 Dick also preached at the Wellington Heights retirement community every Sunday afternoon until October 2, 1994. December 29, 1996 Dick was appointed to the Barton Chapel United Methodist Church which he continued to minister to until his death. February 14, 1999 he was appointed to the Coolspring Presbyterian Church. Originally hired to “just preach” on Sunday mornings, he soon came to love the people there and immediately promoted himself to the role of minister. He continued to serve this church also until his promotion to Glory. While serving the Barton Chapel and Coolspring churches, he would host Christmas parties and Church picnics at his home, as well as having the members, come to pick blueberries. Dick was so much more than “just” a minister. He was a friend who loved everyone and encouraged all who knew him to love God and walk closely with Him.

Dick was preceded to Heaven by his first born, Pamela Sue, his wife, Joyce V, and his son in law, Randall Rowles, and four brothers. He leaves behind two children, four grandchildren, eight grandchildren, a brother, and a sister, and an amazing legacy and countless thousands who have been ministered to, and encouraged by his lifetime of Christian service.

Viewing was held at the Deely Funeral Home in Punxsutawney Thursday, May 19, 2011 where his friends viewed his body. Friday, May 20, 2011 his funeral service was held at the Coolspring Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Darr Briggs officiating. His body is interred at Juniata Memorial Gardens in Lewistown, PA beside his wife and first born daughter.

On January 26, 1998 Dick lost his helpmate, companion, and loving wife after a seven year battle with cancer. During her battle she encouraged many people who had decided to give up after being told they had cancer. When they witnessed her spirit they resumed their treatments. Joyce and Dick had the great joy of leading several people to the Lord while she fought her battle with cancer. What a testimony! Faithful to the end. Both Joyce and Dick continued to love, serve, and lead others to Him until the very end. May we all be so faithful. Praise God for His Holy Spirit who led and encouraged Joyce and Dick through their lifetime of ministry.

Submitted by his family

### Pauline Catherine Hankey

June 23, 1910

September 12, 2003

Pauline Catherine Hankey died on September 12, 2003, in Clarview Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Sligo. Born June 23, 1910, in Upper Hillville, Clarion County, she was the daughter of Isaac Lewis and Bertha Conner Womeldorf. She was the last surviving member of her immediate family. She attended the Blue Goose School.

Pauline was a member of Rimersburg United Methodist Church, the United Methodist Women and the 3-W Sunday School class. Her joys were church and family, cooking and baking, needlework, cats and dogs. She enjoyed malls and was an avid mall shopper.

Pauline was married to Walter Bruce Hankey, who was a United Methodist pastor. He died July 30, 1982. She served churches along with her husband in the Western Pennsylvania Conference and the Western New York Conference of The United Methodist Church.

Funeral services were held with the Rev. John Cox of Carnegie, retired United Methodist minister and the Rev. James Eaton, minister of the Rimersburg United Methodist Church officiating. Interment was in Rimersburg Cemetery.

### Nancy O. Hinderliter

March 15, 1936

July 29, 2010



Nancy Hinderliter of Shenango on the Green, New Wilmington and formerly of Ada, Ohio, died the evening of Thursday, July 29, 2010, at the Shenango Presbyterian Senior Care Center after a lengthy, debilitating illness. Nancy was born in Williamson County, TN, on March 15, 1936, the daughter of the late Earle P. and Gertrude Buford Odil. On June 9, 1956 she married the Rev. Dr. Harold Hinderliter, who at the time was pastor of the New Wilmington United Methodist Church. Nancy came to New Wilmington and assumed the role of pastor's wife, which she accepted willingly and performed with grace and dignity.

Nancy graduated from Spring Hill (TN) High School with honors, attended Vanderbilt University for two years where she met Harold. She completed her college degree in English with honors at Ohio Northern University and worked for 14 years as a professional assistant (tutor) in the ONU Communication Skills Center.

Nancy's faith was nurtured in the Presbyterian Church, but after marriage she became an active member of the New Wilmington United Methodist Church and later was an active participant in the First United Methodist Church of Ada, Ohio for 39 years where she served in a variety of capacities. She was also a member of the American Association of University Women, the ONU Faculty Wives, The Twice Ten Arts club of Ada, Ohio, and The Thursday Club of New Wilmington.

She was a devoted wife and mother who is survived by her husband; a daughter, Diane (John) Wendlandt of Anchorage, AK; two sons, Joel (Paula) Hinderliter of

## VIII Memoirs

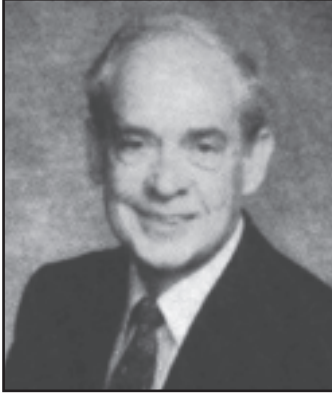
Columbia, MD, and Eric (Susan) of VanBuren, IN; three grandchildren, Kyle, Quinne and Ava Hinderliter; two sisters, Jane White of Charlotte, NC, and Marie Smith of Houston, TX; and two brothers, Dan Odil of Cumberland, WS, and Harry Odil of Atlanta, GA. She was preceded in death by her parents, a sister and three brothers.

A funeral service was held on Tuesday, August 3, 2010, at the New Wilmington United Methodist Church with the Rev. Nancy Mussehl officiating. Interment was in Fair Oaks Cemetery, New Wilmington. Submitted by the family

**Gilbert E. Hoffman**

September 27, 1922

December 10, 2010



Gilbert E. Hoffman passed away on December 10, 2010 at his home. He was born on September 27, 1922, to Josiah and Goldie Cage Hoffman. Gilbert is survived by his wife of 68 years, Henrietta Mann Hoffman, one son and three daughters, Gil Hoffman and wife Irene, Centerville, MD; Barbara Kimmel and husband Garry, Indiana; Helen Flinn of Wyoming, MN; Ann Bragg and her husband the Rev. Donald Bragg, Parispphany, NJ; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, (whom he baptized and was known as Papa G). He was preceded in death by his parents and by his brother Reginald Hoffman.

Gil was a graduate of Allegheny College and Wesley Seminary. He served The United Methodist Church for 35 years at Erie, Sharon, Pittsburgh, Grove City, and Kittanning churches as well as being a District Superintendent of the Pittsburgh District. In retirement, Gil attended the Grace UMC in Indiana.

A veteran of World War II, Lt. Hoffman served as a pilot in the US Army Air Force. Gilbert developed an interest in wood carving, specializing in ducks and birds.

A funeral service was held on December 14, 2010 with the Rev. Brad Lauster officiating. Internment occurred in the Oakland Cemetery. Submitted by the family

**Sara Ann Howes**

August 20, 1914

January 14, 2011

Sara Ann Howes was born on August 20, 1914, to Samuel and Alma Kiebler. Sara Ann, known as Sally, was a graduate of California University in 1936. On November 25, 1943, Sara was married to the Rev. Allan John Howes in First UMC Charleroi. During her time in Western PA while her husband was a pastor, she served as the Conference Minister's Wives Association president, and even spent time as the Jumonville Dining Room hostess. Sally was supportive with Allan when he was involved in the creation and production of the Christmas film, "A Star For Jeremy." This film won a Bronze Medal from the International Film and Television festival in 1983.

Sally had been a teacher in the school districts of Charleroi, Mount Lebanon, Canonsburg, and Keystone Oaks. She enjoyed reading, travel, and gardening. She was last known to be living in Bedford, PA. Sara Ann passed away on January 14, 2011.

**Ralph B. Kilburn**

September 16, 1922

July 4, 2010



Ralph B. Kilburn died on July 4, 2010, at Wesbury United Methodist Retirement Community following a period of declining health. He was born in Erie on September 16, 1922, a son of the late Benjamin R. and Helen Beckmann Kilburn. He married Marjorie Walls April 15, 1961. She preceded him in death February 1, 2002.

Ralph was a 1941 graduate of Academy High School, Erie, and attended Asbury College in Kentucky from 1941 to 1942. He was a Veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1944. He graduated from Western Reserve University in 1947 and subsequently received his Masters of Divinity degree in 1953 from Garrett Evangelical Seminary. He was a United Methodist minister for 37 years, retiring in 1987 and was a member of the Western Pennsylvania Conference of The United Methodist Church. He served United Methodist Churches at Little's Corners, Hamlin Chapel and Bethany, which are all near Meadville, Port Allegany, Elizabeth, Cochranon, Mumford Chapel, Stone United Methodist in Meadville, Rimersburg, Ellwood City, Perrysburg, NY and Trinity United Methodist in Buffalo, NY.

Ralph was a member of Stone United Methodist Church and former member of its choir, a former Boy Scout Executive and former Kiwanis and Lions Club member. He enjoyed bird watching and woodworking.

Survivors include six sons, Steven M. Kilburn of Pittsburgh, the Rev. Thomas K. Kilburn and his wife, Cherie, of East Rochester, NY, Douglas H. Kilburn and his wife, Cheryl, of McKeesport, Lowell W. Kilburn and his wife, LuAnn, of Rimersburg, Kevin M. Kilburn and his wife, Martha, of Yorktown, VA, and Keith A. Kilburn and his wife, Martina, of Poplar Grove, IL; fourteen grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; a sister, Ruth Barton and her husband, Donald, of Erie; and nieces and nephews. In addition to his wife and parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Peggy.

The funeral and committal services were held at the Barco Chapel of Wesbury United Methodist Retirement Community, Meadville with the Rev. Thomas K. Kilburn, son, officiating.

Submitted by the family

October 23, 1928

**G. Donald McAfoose**

May 7, 2011

G. Donald McAfoose died on May 7, 2011 at his home. He was born October 23, 1928, in North Pine Grove, a son of the late George and Geraldine Lachner McAfoose. He attended Farmington High School, Wesley Seminary, Edinboro University, and International Seminary. He served in the U.S. Army from 1946-48. He served 12 years in the U.S. Army Reserves. He had been employed by Columbia Gas, Brookville, for 18 years. He went into United Methodist ministry in 1971 and retired in 1993.

He was a member of Tidioute Lions, Tidioute Fire Company, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 8803, Watson Grange No. 1068, Joseph Warren Lodge No. 726, Temple Lodge No. 412, Commandery No. 63, Bradford Council No. 43; Royal Arch Chapter No. 235, Valley of Coudersport, Shrine Club, Bradford Tuna College No. 76, and American Legion Post No. 0354 He worked with Special Olympics and hospice. He loved to hunt, fish and play golf.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Wesley (Mary) McAfoose and Lloyd McAfoose, an infant. He is survived by his wife Beulah (Silvis) McAfoose whom he married June 12, 1949; Two sons, Ronald McAfoose and his wife, Parma Heights, Ohio, and Rickey and his wife Dianne McAfoose, Lakeland, FL; two daughters, Merla McAfoose and companion Wayne, Tidioute, and Marsha Houghton and fiancée Earl Edwards, Warren; five brothers: Roland (Beverly) McAfoose, Richard (Jane) McAfoose, Floyd (Deanne) McAfoose, Arthur McAfoose, and Harold (Lora) McAfoose; three sisters: Lillian (Donald) Dusch, LaRue Pangallo, and Louise (Cleat) Graver; ten grandchildren; twelve great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held Wednesday at the Tidioute United Methodist Church with the Rev. Dennis Lawton and the Rev. Thomas Strandburg officiating. Burial was in Swedish Union Cemetery, Tidioute.

**Catherine O. Lamer Merz**

July 16, 1914



November 7, 2010

Catherine O. Merz, passed away Sunday November 7, 2010 in her residence. She was the widow of Rev. Albert Merz, a United Methodist Minister and retired Army chaplain, who passed away in 1997.

Born in Barnesboro, PA she was the daughter of the late Martin and Margaret (Woodley) Lamer. Catherine was a lay ordained minister serving churches in Western PA. She also was a teacher in PA schools, Sapporo Mission School in Sapporo, Japan, and the DOD school in Chitose, Japan. She was a chaplain in the Fleetwood Seniors Citizens and a Sunday school teacher in the Fleetwood Emmanuel United Methodist Church. Catherine was a devoted member of Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Fleetwood.

Survivors include one daughter, Judy A (Merz) Gauker, wife of Larry K. Gauker of Blandon. Two grandchildren, Christie L. (Gauker) Thornhill of Salisbury, MD and Lisa K. Gauker of Blandon. Also, two brothers, Warren Lamer of Mims, Florida and Martin Lamer of Warren Michigan.

Funeral services were held November 13, 2010 at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, Fleetwood, PA with Rev. George Sackett officiating. Interment was in Berks County Memorial Gardens.

**Ferd Brownlee Park**

May 17, 1930



March 7, 2011

*With the pure water of your outpoured life  
You have filled five hundred thousand cups  
We have drawn from the wellspring of your decency  
You're who we want to be when we grow up*  
(from the song *When You Forget*, written for Ferd B. Park by his son, Eric Park).

The Rev. Dr. Ferd Brownlee Park died peacefully and with his loving family at his side on Monday, March 7, 2011. Born May 17, 1930 in Munhall, PA, Ferd was the son of the late Ferd B. and Mary Bishop Park. In 1948, Ferd graduated from Munhall High School where he excelled as both a student and an athlete. In fact, stories still circulate in Western PA concerning how far he could hit a baseball!

After learning his machinist trade at U.S. Steel in Homestead, Ferd experienced a call to pastoral ministry. He graduated from Waynesburg College, where he majored in history. During his college years at Waynesburg, he served the Jefferson Methodist Church in Greene County. Following graduation from college, he attended New York Biblical Seminary in New York City, where he graduated in 1963 with a Masters of Divinity degree. During his years in seminary, he served two churches in rural upstate

New York. He was ordained a Deacon in the Methodist Church in 1961 and an Elder in 1963. Subsequent to his ordination, he was appointed as an associate pastor to Ingomar Methodist Church in the North Hills of Pittsburgh. He went on to experience thriving pastorates at West Washington United Methodist Church (Washington, PA), Grace United Methodist Church (Grove City, PA), and Grace United Methodist Church (Indiana, PA). In 1984, he became the District Superintendent of the Johnstown District, a ministry that he offered for six years. Following the superintendency, he served in two pastoral appointments: St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Allison Park and Oil City Grace United Methodist Church. Upon retiring from full-time ministry in 1995, Ferd and his wife Lura Jean returned to Indiana, PA, where they experienced a joyful and vibrant retirement.

In order to understand Ferd's legacy, it is absolutely essential to understand his marriage. Ferd and Lura Jean (Gibson) Park beautifully and inspiringly shared the covenant of marriage for 61 years. Ferd was 19 and Lura Jean was 20 when they married, and these two graduates of Munhall High School in Pittsburgh's Steel Valley embarked on a marital journey that, in many ways, would define them both. For 61 years they shared life and ministry. They stood with one another through the loss of their parents. They raised their three children together. They helped to raise their three grandchildren together. They served the church together in nine different pastoral appointments over the course of 45 years. All the while they laughed together over life's absurdities, cried together over life's tragedies, prayed together every single day and, best of all, nurtured one another in their shared devotion to Jesus Christ—a devotion that was always at the very heart of their marriage.

Ferd was also an extraordinarily devoted parent and grandparent. His love for his children and their spouses (his son David and his wife Isabel; his daughter Cynthia and her husband Elias; and his son Eric and his wife Tara) was something deep and palpable, as was his love for his grandchildren (Naomi, Rachele, and Quilla). All of Ferd's children and grandchildren can describe experiences in which Ferd suddenly ushered them into a moment of unexpected relational intimacy or tenderness or playfulness, thereby helping them to understand how deeply he loved them and thereby transforming the ordinary into something sacred.

One has not arrived at the heart of Ferd's legacy, however, until one speaks of Ferd's love for Jesus Christ and unwavering devotion to the ministry of Christ's church. By word and deed, Ferd taught his family and congregations that worshiping God is important simply because God deserves nothing less than our heartfelt worship. He believed that the most meaningful question is never "What did I get out of that worship service," but rather "How much of myself did I offer to God in that worship service?" He emphasized, not simply the discipline of tithing, but growing beyond tithing so that giving and generosity might become a way of life. He stressed the urgency of seeing the face of Jesus in the least and the lost and the marginalized. Most of all, in his day-to-day living, he bore witness to the fact that faithful discipleship is not a weekend pilgrimage to a church pew but rather a life lived in subordination to the Lordship of Jesus.

Ferd modeled that kind of discipleship in the pastoral care that he offered so faithfully. He modeled it in his daily witness. And, perhaps most dramatically, he modeled it in his preaching. No matter what Biblical text he was proclaiming, Ferd preached with eloquence and precision. Beyond that, he preached with an incomparable

sense of urgency and passion, as though he believed that what he was preaching was a matter of life and death—which, of course, it always was.

Ferd's family misses him dearly. The family members, however, find great joy in the rich and lasting legacy that Ferd bequeathed to all who experienced his life and ministry. Even more joyful, however, is the knowledge that, for Ferd Park, death is merely a doorway that enables him to leave behind his frailty in order to experience the eternal life that God offers to all of us through Jesus Christ, in whose name these words are humbly offered.

Submitted by Ferd Park's family

### **Russell E. Perry**

December 22, 1920



November 3, 2010

Most people heard Russ Perry coming before they saw him because he constantly whistled a tune. And once they met him, chances are he never forgot them because he was a lover of people.

Russell E. Perry was born December 22, 1920, son of Charles N. and Eloise Williams Perry of Van Cortlandville, New York. He graduated from Peekskill, New York High School in 1938. On June 5, 1943 he married Evelyn June Smith in a military service at St Paul's Methodist Church in Peekskill, New York. He served three years in the U.S. Army European Theatre of Operations in the Signal Intelligence Branch, being honorably discharged in 1945.

A lifelong student, Russ's academic education included Shrivensham American University in the fall 1945, graduation from Allegheny College in Meadville, PA with an A.B. 1948. His theological education included degrees from Boston University School of Theology, an S.T.B 1951 and S.T.M. in Old Testament 1952. He often noted that he was a contemporary at Boston University with Martin Luther King, Jr. In 1962 he furthered his formal education with a C.T.E. from Drew University, School of Theology.

Russ and June continued to learn through travel. Frequent trips to England and Wales, the Holy Land, and their return trips every decade to Oberammergau for the Passion Play were just a few of their interests. They fostered this passion for learning through travel by establishing the Russell E. and Evelyn June Perry Educational Trust to support half the cost of travel for younger pastors and spouses to be sponsored periodically by Olmsted Manor. They believed travel education should be a foundational learning experience for every pastor.

Russell was active in The United Methodist Church from the time of his confirmation in 1933 at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Peekskill, NY where he served as President of the Epworth League, steward and a local pastor.

During seminary, he was appointed to serve Hillsboro-East Deering in the New Hampshire Conference. During his travels from Boston to the churches, Russ memorized many hymns and could always be found singing enthusiastically the hymns of the Church without the use of the lyrics.



He was ordained by Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke in the Erie Conference of the Methodist Church, as a Deacon in 1950 and Elder in 1952. Appointments in the Conference included Little's Corners-Hamlin Chapel, Fairview, Mercer, Hickory and New Castle First UMC, where he oversaw the building of the new parsonage.

He provided no nonsense, clear, valued and wise leadership at every level of the Annual Conference life including serving on both the District and Conference Board of Ordained Ministry, the Council on Finance and Administration (CFA), Board of Education, Federal Credit Union, the Annual Conference Council on Ministries (ACCOM) and the Episcopal Residence Committee. If a concise and reasonable opinion was needed, Russell Perry would and could offer it.

Furthermore, Russ provided major leadership and influence as chair of the Board of Managers (later Directors) of the Olmsted Manor Adult Retreat and Renewal Center in Ludlow PA, having served previously as Finance Committee chair. He guided the center through a change of executive directors from the Rev. Jim Legro to the Rev. John D. Miller in 1979, facilitated the support of the Olmsted family for the construction and naming of Hickman Hall, the purchase of the Olson residence, the building of a maintenance complex and a new executive director's residence. He fostered a solid financial footing for this new enterprise by encouraging the establishing of various endowments for maintenance and program. Personally, he and June established the Perry Education Trust for travel. For 26 years Russ and June organized and led senior citizen's events at Olmsted Manor and consistently introduced local church groups to the value and history of the Olmsted family's gift to the Church.

In retirement, he established senior citizens retreats opportunities for St John's UMC in Winter Haven, FL. and served on the Scholarship Committee and as liturgist at worship services at the "Estates at Carpenters" in Lakeland, Florida where he and June resided.

Russell, along with his wife June, may best be remembered for their love of people, especially pastors and their children. Though they have no biological off-spring, they have many generations of people they can call family. They seemingly remembered everyone, attended graduations and weddings of more people than can be counted and easily talked and visited with no generational gaps. Friends from World War II, exchange students, nieces and nephews, former parishioners, P.K.s (preacher's kids) and international visitors became their family without boundaries. Russ often said that the Conference could not assign mentors in an imposed way, but that in every district, there was a pastor who would become a natural mentor.

Most people heard Russell E. Perry coming before they saw him because he was always whistling a tune. Chances are if you met Russ Perry, you would not forget him either.

Offered by the Rev. Dr. John D. Miller,  
former Executive Director Olmsted Manor, 1979-2001

**Robert Lee Peters**

April 20, 1926

November 4, 2010



The Rev. Robert L. Peters, 84, of Waynesburg, died on November 4, 2010, at the home of his daughter in Rostraver Township. Born April 20, 1926, in Rivesville, WV, he was the son of the late Rev. Lester W. and Elizabeth Whitmire Peters. On January 1, 1955, he married Shirley Phillips Peters, who died July 19, 1998. He was the last surviving member of his immediate family. In addition to his parents and his wife, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Virginia Peters and Jeannette Nowlin; and three brothers, Bill, John and Dr. Richard Peters. He is survived by three daughters, Kimberlee Moninger, of Nineveh, Karen Peters, of Forward Township, and Kristen Jackson, of Rostraver Township; six grandchildren, Matthew and Gregory Moninger, Rachel, Sara, Rebecca and Casey Jackson; two sisters-in-laws, Mabel Peters, of Waynesburg, and Joyce Roberts, of Carmichaels;

several nieces and nephews.

Rev. Peters was a graduate of Waynesburg High School, California State College, Wesley Theological Seminary and Peters College of Watchmaking in Washington, DC. Before following in his father's footsteps into the Methodist ministry, he and Shirley opened a jewelry and watch/clock repair shop in Jefferson, Greene County. Throughout his life he did clock and watch repair on the side, and still enjoyed tinkering with timepieces up until the time of his death. He was a lifelong collector of antiques, clocks and watches.

Rev. Peters was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II. He was involved at First United Methodist Church of Waynesburg, where he held the title of Pastor Emeritus. He also was a member of the Greene County Historical Society and the National Watchmakers Association. He was a founder of the former Hospice Volunteers of the Mon Valley. He served United Methodist churches in Meadowlands, Houston, Blackburn in Sewickley Heights, Little Hill in Franklin Park, Donora and Clairton. Upon retirement, he was often called upon to fill pulpits for various pastors and took pride in the fact that he had preached in every United Methodist church in Greene County. After retiring from the full time ministry in 1989, he served as Minister of Visitation at First United Methodist Church of Waynesburg. Even after retiring from the part-time ministry in 1999, Rev. Peters continued to visit people in hospitals and nursing homes until his condition following emergency surgery in August 2009 forced him to stop the part of his ministry that he loved so well.

His daughters and grandchildren will remember him as a kind and gentle man of unwavering faith who possessed a wonderful sense of humor. They will never forget his optimistic attitude, his cheerful disposition and friendly demeanor, his whistling and his hearty laughter.

Funeral services were held Monday, November 8, 2010 at 1 PM in First United Methodist Church, Waynesburg, with the Rev. Glenn Kohlhepp and the Rev. Gary Grau officiating. Private burial was in Green Hills Cemetery, Swart.

### Herbert A. Peterson

July 20, 1918,

June 28, 2010



Herbert A. Peterson died on June 28, 2010 in Excelsa Health Westmoreland Hospital Greensburg. He was born July 20, 1918, in East Huntingdon Township, a son of the late Herman and Anna (Nylander) Peterson, who were Swedish immigrants. Herbie, as he was fondly called, was a man of many vocations. He worked on the construction of the famous Frank Lloyd Wright "Fallingwater", railroad track maintenance for the Pittsburgh-West Virginia railroad, coal miner at the H C. Frick Crabtree coal mine, truck driver for Pritts Feed and Supply in Smithton and construction worker for Johnson Construction Co. He was instrumental in the development of the Smithton-South Huntingdon

Ambulance Service in 1967.

Herbie was licensed to preach in 1956, ordained an elder in 1970 and retired in 1982 from the Barren Run, Banning, and Smithton churches. Even after retiring, he continued to serve local churches on occasions, performing weddings, baptisms and funeral services. He amazed many by reciting poems and scriptures "word for word."

Herbie was a member of the former Smithton Lions Club, where he was recognized as Man of the Year in 1977 and a Melvin Jones Fellow recipient in 1994. He was named 2004 Smithton Borough Citizen of the Year and for many years helped place flags on veteran's graves for Memorial Day. He was a World War II army veteran serving in the HDQ 2nd Battalion, 313th Infantry, 79th Division, in the European Theater. His hobbies were photography and hunting. He enjoyed going to his hunting camp "The Ponderosa" in Forest County, PA.

Herbie was preceded in death by his faithful wife of 72 years Sarah (Mullen) Peterson, July 20, 2009. He is survived by five children, thirteen grandchildren, and thirteen great grandchildren and five great-great grandchildren.

**Wayne B. Price**

October 4, 1918

July 13, 2010



Wayne B. Price passed away on July 13, 2010 at the Warren General Hospital. The memorial service was presided over by Rev. Thomas Q. Strandburg and Rev. Kevin R. Haley. Burial was at Bear Lake Cemetery, Bear Lake, PA.

Rev. Price was born October 4, 1918, in Lottsville, PA the son of Lloyd R. and Florence C. Price. Rev. Price was a graduate of Lottsville High School, received a Bachelor's Degree from Allegheny College, and a Dr. of Divinity from Garrett Seminary in Chicago, Illinois. He served faithfully as a United Methodist Minister for sixty-eight years, serving with the Erie Conference and the Western PA Conference, in Kinzua and several other charges throughout the western New York and Northwest PA region. He led

the Larger Parish experiment in northwestern New York with from 7 to 9 charges including his Church at Sheridan, NY with the purpose of strengthening the rural church ministries in the area. After the Western PA Conference was formed he served in the United Methodist Churches of Albion, PA, Warren, PA., Beaver, PA, and retired from Brockway, PA in 1986. After retirement Pastor Price assisted for several years in calling ministry at the Sheffield and Barnes Charge and is Pastor Emeritus of Grace United Methodist Church of Warren, PA.

Rev. Price is survived by three children: Lillaine Price, Warren, PA, Wayne A. Price, Fairview, PA, Lucinda Barr, Asheboro, NC, six grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, and three nieces. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by his wife Lillian Jackson Price whom he married on May 6, 1941 and who passed away on August 3, 2003; and a brother Lloyd R. Price Jr.

Pastor Price made many, many dear friends and associations with whom he kept in contact all throughout his lifetime and ministry. His retirement was filled with correspondence to old friends, past and present parishioners, and colleagues of all ages and stations. His passion and hobby was correspondence through cards, letters, personal calls, and phone calls of friendship, birthdays, special events, holidays, encouragement, advice, hope, faith, love and witness to the salvation and assurance of Christ Jesus our Lord. The following poem seems to sum up in part the drive of Rev. Wayne B. Price;

**THE BLESSING OF SERVICE**

I must do something for someone today,  
 Round up my love and give it away,  
 Phone a friend just over the hill or write from my heart, several things to be done,  
 It will be such a pleasure, not to mention the fun.  
 Write a few words on a little note,  
 To make someone glad I wrote,  
 Remember a friend, if I can't be there,  
 Open my heart and just say a prayer,  
 The day moves on and I'll get geared in high,  
 To give away love and friendship which money can't buy.  
 Anonymous

Submitted by the family

**Paul T. Pullen**

November 3, 1929

January 10, 2011



Paul T. Pullen died January 10, 2011 in Salem, VA. Born November 3, 1929, in Charleston, WV, he was the son of the late Rev. Oden M. and Anna M. Pullen. Finishing high school in Charleston, he felt the call to preach and went to college receiving an A.B. degree from Asbury College, and the M. Div. from Asbury Theological Seminary. Later he completed the M. Th. at Pittsburgh-Zenia Theological Seminary and P.H.D. at the University of Pittsburgh.

On April 18, 1953, Paul married Connie M Ridenour of Barrett, West Virginia who became his lifelong co-worker in ministry. He entered the Methodist ministry in the WV conference in 1949 and later transferred to the Pittsburgh Conference. He served churches in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, and also served as the Executive Secretary of the Methodist Board of Education in Pittsburgh. In addition he served for 30 years as Chaplain in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, retiring with the rank of Colonel. He entered higher education in 1969 fulfilling a life-long goal and commitment, retiring as Dean of Virginia Western Community College.

Paul's interests were many including wood working, traveling on behalf of world peace with Friendship Force International, and Civil War and World War II history. Surviving are his wife Connie of Salem; two daughters, Bonnie S. Maupin and husband Richard of Middletown, Ohio, Nancy J. Powell of Roanoke; one son, Drew T. Pullen and wife Candace of New Port Richie, FL, and one grandson, James D. Maupin of Middletown, Ohio.

A memorial service was held at First United Methodist Church in Salem, with the Rev. Stephen G. Bray and the Rev. James Angle officiating. Interment was in Quantico National Cemetery.

**Charles Arthur Renshaw**

March 22, 1930

August 12, 2010



"Chuck" went to be with his Lord and Savior on August 12, 2010 surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Erie, PA on March 22, 1930 and was the son of the late Charles and Catherine (Rohl) Renshaw. On March 9, 1951 he married Rosanne (Roney) Renshaw who survives.

After graduating from High School, he served four years in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. He then was a barber for eleven years before his call to the ministry. He graduated from the United Methodist Course of Study from Boston University. He faithfully pastored United Methodist Churches for 30 years, the last sixteen years at Duke Center, PA before retiring in 1995.

In addition to his wife of 59 plus years, he is survived by a daughter, Cathy (Pete) Hardy and two sons, Ken and Dan Renshaw, three grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. He dearly loved his family.

Chuck's commitment to the Christian Life and service became active after he had the privilege of attending General Conference in Pittsburgh, PA 1964. A morality play was presented depicting Satan telling God, "you count them your people, but I count them as mine, because they are not doing anything for you!" These words touched him deeply and he was blessed with a personal experience with the Lord and he committed his life to serve him to the best of his ability. And this he did. He was grateful to be a part of the ministry of The United Methodist Church.

Submitted by the family

### Grace I. Shaffer

September 19, 1925

April 9, 2011



Grace I. Shaffer died on April 9, 2011, in Westmoreland Manor. Grace, born September 19, 1925 in Redbank Township, Clarion County, Fairmount City, was the daughter of Frank and Lula Mae (Crawford) Bish. Grace was a graduate of Redbank Valley High School. She was a member of Christ United Methodist Church in Youngwood and an active member of the Women's Missionary Society and the Sunday School. Her faith was great and she often said, "God said it, I believe it, that settles it."

As well as being a homemaker for her family, she was the right-hand for her husband, Jay, as they moved from a new home to an old parsonage that had not been lived in for five years. She and her children traveled with her husband to serve six churches scattered from Forest and Clarion County to Southern Venango County. Grace never aspired to be a leader, she just served. Never having a hobby, she took up golf after retirement and was very proud of her hole-in-one at the age of 72.

In addition to her husband, Grace is survived by five children; Daniel Shaffer (Linda) of Du Bois, David Shaffer (Kathy) of Ringgold, Mark Shaffer of Greensburg, Patricia Rega of Mt. Pleasant and Susan Patrick (Michael) of Greensburg. Also surviving are seven grandchildren; Danielle Knarr (Christopher) of Stafford, VA, Jason (Rebecca) of Du Bois, Melissa Brothers (Allan) of Weedville, Christopher (Melissa) of Meadville, Angela Lucas (Joseph) of Mt. Lebanon, Alexander Rega of Mt. Pleasant, and Meghan Patrick of Greensburg. Six great-grandchildren are also surviving; Noah Knarr, Ethan Knarr, Josiah Shaffer, Claire Shaffer, Alexa Rae Brothers, Aslan Shaffer, Joelyn Shaffer and a soon to be Asher Lucas. Grace is also survived by a brother, Robert Bish (Carol) of new Bethlehem and a sister, Kay (Carl) Doverspike of Lighthouse, FL. In addition to her parents, Grace was preceded in death by a grandson, Ian Patrick; two brothers and five sisters.

A memorial service was held on April 12, 2011, in the Christ United Methodist Church in Youngwood. Private interment was held at the Mt. Zion cemetery, New Bethlehem.

Here is a special poem in her honor

When I am gone, release me, let me go.

I have so many things to see and do.

You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears, be happy we had so many years.

I gave you my love; you can only guess how much you gave me in happiness.

I thank you for the love you each have shown, but now it's time I traveled on alone.

So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must, then let your grief be comforted by trust.

It's only for a little while that we must part.

So bless the memories within your heart.

I won't be far away, for life goes on.

So if you need me, call and I will come.

Though you can't see or touch me,

I'll be near.

And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear all my love around you soft and clear.

And then, when you must come this way alone, I'll greet you with a smile and "welcome home."

Submitted by the family

### Nelson E. Stants

April 21, 1921

September 13, 2010



Nelson E. Stants was born on April 21, 1921 in Ruffsdale in a home built by his father. The son of Lloyd and Eva (Wible) Stants, he graduated from East Huntingdon Twp. High School in 1939 and went to work at US Steel in McKeesport for three years before enlisting in the Air Force. In 1946, he entered North Central College in Naperville, IL where he received his BA and in 1953 received his MA from the Evangelical Theological Seminary also in Naperville. While attending college and seminary for seven years he worked for the US Postal Service part time and was in charge of two seminary apartments.

Nelson was ordained in 1953 and his first church appointment was in Venus, PA where he served three years. In 1956 he decided to enter Boston University in pursuit of his PhD and served as pastor of a EUB church in Pawtucket, RI. In 1960 after completion of his residence work for his PhD, he accepted pastorate of the First EUB church in Youngwood, PA where he served for five years. In 1965 he was appointed the Assistant Director of Stewardship moving to Dayton, OH and then in 1967 was appointed Director.

In 1968 after the merger of the EUB and Methodist churches, Nelson became the Assistant Secretary for Field Cultivation for The United Methodist Church in Dayton, OH. In 1973 he was appointed District Superintendent to the Washington District and

worked in that capacity till 1976. He then accepted pastorate of the Irwin United Methodist Church where he served until retirement in 1986.

Nelson was preceded in death by his first wife June who he lost after the birth of a son, his second wife Alice Dyer Stants, a grandson and by brothers Wendell, Emory and Leroy Stants. He is survived by his two sisters Ethel Mae and Virginia, a sister in law Georgetta and two children Nelson L. (Becky) Stants and Sharon (Duane) Eisele; and four grandchildren.

### **Glengail Stephens**

April 28, 1912

March 19, 2011

Glengail Stephens was born on April 28, 1912 and passed away on Saturday, March 19, 2011. Glengail was last a resident of Lutherville Timonium, Maryland. Even late in her life she remained an active participant in the life of the church. Her funeral was held in the Loch Raven United Methodist Church of Baltimore, Maryland.

Glengail was married to Robert Ralph Stephens who was a pastor in our Conference from 1945. He served the following churches: Homestead: Anne Ashley Memorial 1945-1948; McKeesport: Beulah Park 1948-1951; Pittsburgh: Butler Street 1951-1953; Mount Pleasant 1953-1957.

### **Vivian Dorothy Schreffler Troutman**

October 22, 1922

October 6, 2010



Vivian S. Troutman died October 6, 2010 of complications following a stroke. She was the wife of Dr. Perry J. Troutman, with whom she celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on August 19, 2010. For the last 50 years she was a resident of Annville (PA), the home of Lebanon Valley College where her husband is now Emeritus Professor of Religion.

Vivian was born in Oil City, PA on October 22, 1922. She was the daughter of the late Clinton C. Schreffler and Dorothy Rote Schreffler. She was raised in a Free Methodist family. She was a graduate of Oil City High School (1940) and of Houghton College (NY) with a degree in English (1947). She also studied Library Science at Columbia University (NY). She held positions as a librarian at Houghton College, Titusville (PA), Dayton (OH) Library Museum, and the Boston (MA) Library System. She served as a Librarian for the

Annville Free Library for 45 years, including 11 years as Director. She retired in 2005.

Vivian was a member of the Annville United Methodist Church and served as a Church School teacher and on various committees. She enjoyed reading British novels.

People knew her as a kind, calm, even-tempered, helpful person who lived faithfully. She is survived by her husband, a daughter Lynda and her husband Kevin O'Sullivan of Potomac, MD, a son Philip E. Troutman of Rochester, NY, three brothers (Fred Schreffler of North Chili, NY, Scott Schreffler of Lilburn, Georgia, and Andrew Schreffler of Apollo, PA) and by two grandsons, John Perry and Michael Patrick



O'Sullivan. She was preceded in death by a sister Shirley Ritenour and two brothers, her twin brother Roger and Victor Schreffler.

A Memorial Service was held on October 18, 2010 at the Annville United Methodist Church with the Rev. John Lynch, pastor, in charge.

Submitted by the family

### Charlotte Burns Ziegler

June 27, 1914

October 28, 2010



Charlotte Burns Ziegler, wife of Harold Burns, was born to Dr. and Mrs. J. O. Brown in Koppel, PA on June 27, 1914. She attended grade school and high school in Ellwood City, PA and furthered her education at Westminster College. In 1934 she married William Branch with whom she had a son, William J. Branch. After returning to Ellwood City, she worked on becoming a librarian, but instead, in spite of her Presbyterian heritage, became a Methodist preacher's wife in 1957 when she and Harold were married. They served the Lake City Methodist Church for several years before answering the call to be missionaries under the Presbyterian Board of Mission to Calabar, Nigeria. While there, Charlotte worked with brain-damaged children using the Doman theory she had learned in

Lake City. After eighteen months in the mission field, they returned to Lake City for two years followed by two years in the Derrick City, PA Methodist Church.

In 1970, Harold and Charlotte retired to Spring Hill, Florida where Charlotte organized a Women's Society of Christian Service group in the new Methodist church they were helping to set up. She taught Sunday School classes at various times in their ministry and was always searching for answers to her questions about faith. They moved to Pinellas Park for two years and then to Penney Farms Retirement Community in Penney, Florida. Charlotte lived there more than 30 years, including twelve years with her third husband, Charles Ziegler, a classmate from her school years in Ellwood City. Though retired, Charlotte worked many volunteer jobs at PRC including considerable typing for PRC as well as for individuals. At the age of 80 she learned to use a computer at which she became a whiz at the game Free Cell. She was best known for her creativity, especially with pine needles. She taught many residents in her pine needle classes. Painting and wood-carving as well as poetry were also some of her creative talents. Since 2008, Charlotte has lived in Shenango Health Care residence to be closer to her family.

For most of her 96 years, Charlotte has been very active and has certainly influenced the lives of her son, William (Anne) of Williamsburg, VA and her two step-daughters, Eleanor (Glenn) Morris of New Wilmington and Robalee (Jim) Dinopoulos of Poland, OH as well as her nine grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren. A graveside service was held in the Neshannock Cemetery of New Wilmington, PA following her death.

Submitted by the family

**Genevieve M. Zimmerman**

April 21, 1931



April 17, 2011

Genevieve M. Zimmerman, or “Jane” as she was so well known, passed away on April 17, 2011 at Arbutus Park Manor, Johnstown. She was born on April 21, 1931 in Johnstown, the daughter of Emory J. and Ada F. (Grine) Lehman. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, James E. Lehman. She is survived by her loving husband of 59 years, Rev. Robert D. Zimmerman, Johnstown; daughters, Linda K. wife of Stephen A. Christy, Johnstown, Ann R. wife of Robert M. Wolfinger, Johnstown, and Genevieve M. wife of Louis Grippo, Springfield, VA; grandchildren, Scott and Matthew Saloney, Diana and Eric Grippo; several nieces, nephews and many friends.

Genevieve was a graduate of Johnstown High School. She was employed in her youth at Memorial Hospital as a switch board operator. Genevieve was a member of Summit Chapel United Methodist Church, where she was a former choir member and Sunday School Teacher. She assisted her husband at Mt. Olive United Methodist Church as pastor’s wife and as certified Lay Speaker. Genevieve was a former member of the Jackson Township Lions Club. She enjoyed traveling through Europe and loved going to Ocean City and Bushwood, MD, Pinellas Park, FL, and Springfield, VA with her family.

Genevieve was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother, who always put family first. A funeral service was held on April 23, 2011 at the Baker-Harris Funeral Chapel, Conemaugh, with the Rev. John H. Weaver officiating. Interment was at Forest Lawn Memorial Park.

## VIII Memoirs

Please send corrections and praise for this section to Dale A. Reese, Memoir's Secretary,  
syldale@verizon.net or (412) 793-9000

## Our Honored Dead, Clergy

Records in this list are published only for the last five years. For preceding roll, please see earlier *Journals or Index to Memoirs* published by The Western PA Conference Commission on Archives & History 1996.

Name	Born	Died	Age	Year Comm Travel	Relation At Death
Bertrand Roy Hover	10/16/1919	2/4/2007	87	1977	Retired
Peter Foley	6/20/1936	2/14/2007	71	1988	Retired
Francis Ayuk	1/12/1948	5/26/2007	59	1987	Active
Delbert E. Jolly	3/22/1912	5/27/2007	95	1936	Retired
Kenneth M. Lashen	6/19/1930	6/12/2007	76	1969	Retired
Richard M. King	4/26/1926	6/20/2007	81	1955	Retired
Hugh Ashby	11/2/1921	7/10/2007	85	1947	Retired
Robert R. Blank	6/13/1922	7/14/2007	85	1947	Retired
Harold R. Burgess	2/8/1917	8/16/2007	90	1940	Retired
J. Wesley Spahn	10/16/1923	8/17/2007	83	1957	Retired
Francis T. Bach	3/2/1927	9/3/2007	80	1960	Retired
Herman F. Roney	10/11/1914	9/6/2007	92	1939	Retired
John W. Scott	4/25/1929	9/7/2007	78	1953	Retired
Clifford H. Moore	9/20/1928	9/8/2007	78	1946	Retired
Charles Neiderhiser	11/16/1928	9/26/2007	78		Retired
Robert W. Large	3/24/1934	10/7/2007	73	1960	Retired
James C. Kelly	9/15/1915	10/18/2007	92	1942	Retired
Susan L. Bonner	8/5/1956	11/1/2007	51	1990	Active
Lloyd D. Tennies	10/28/1929	12/20/2007	78	1960	Retired
Franklin D. Hallman, Jr.	9/11/1927	12/27/2007	80	1952	Retired
Thomas Duane Stewart	1/29/1916	12/27/2007	91	1945	Retired
Homer J. Farabaugh	5/20/1923	1/18/2008	84	1991	Retired
David K. Allcorn	7/7/1928	1/29/2008	79	1949	Retired
Gail Buckwalter King	4/24/1941	2/16/2008	66		Retired
Warren C. Lash	8/19/1924	3/2/2008	83		Retired
Scott D. Browning	1/16/1931	3/15/2008	77	1953	Retired
James E. Friesner	3/30/1938	3/26/2008	69	1965	Retired
Frank I. Snavely	9/1/1917	4/7/2008	90	1950	Retired
Thomas R. Thomas	1/28/1915	4/10/2008	93	1949	Retired
Max M. Houser	11/22/1913	4/10/2008	94	1936	Retired
Cecil Clyde Cowder	3/8/1914	4/19/2008	94	1937	Retired
Benjamin F. Shue	12/21/1904	4/20/2008	103	1928	Retired
Stevens Owen Burr	7/27/1935	5/13/2008	72	1969	Retired
Paul M. Easter	2/24/1919	6/9/2008	89	1954	Retired
Warren Verner Jones	6/26/1948	6/16/2008	60	1980	Active
Paul Anthony Dunn	7/8/1937	6/19/2008	71	1968	Retired
Harry Donald Lash	3/29/1929	8/23/2008	79	1957	Retired
Peter Alden Foreman	4/20/1945	9/4/2008	63	2003	Active
Richard C. Haugh	12/4/1925	9/6/2008	83		Retired
James Mase Ault	8/24/1918	9/21/2008	90	1950	Bishop
Lloyd S. Sturtz	10/23/1930	9/29/2008	78	1951	Retired
Ronald William Smith	4/21/1928	10/4/2008	80	1951	Withdrew
John Rorbert Donley	2/2/1926	10/9/2008	83	1966	Retired
Jack R Rees	9/27/1929	10/15/2008	79	1954	Retired
Charles E. Goodin	2/21/1934	11/8/2008	75	1957	Retired
William Gumpfer	4/12/1958	11/13/2008	51		Active
James Richard Webb	5/14/1935	12/1/2008	74	1972	Retired
Lloyd Arnold Whitcomb	4/11/1923	12/12/2008	86	1958	Retired

Donald Lee Hartman	5/31/1932	12/17/2008	77	1959	Retired
David Lyman Taylor	7/15/1915	12/22/2008	93	1941	Retired
Bernard L. Shuey	6/25/1938	12/24/2008	70	1966	Retired
Don Paul Sease	5/3/1927	1/23/2009	82	1950	Retired
Daniel Robert Orris	11/16/1928	1/23/2009	80	1969	Retired
William George Morris	1/12/1918	2/5/2009	91	1960	Retired
Samuel Bavely	7/14/1944	2/11/2009	65		Active
Charles H.A. Woods	5/8/1931	2/14/2009	78	1958	Retired
Elizabeth B. Zbilut	8/7/1923	2/17/2009	86	1988	Retired
Joseph A. Onder	3/10/1947	2/26/2009	62	1989	Active
Thomas Edwin Spofford	3/13/1919	3/30/2009	90	1942	Retired
John William Lofgren	10/10/1917	4/2/2009	91	1949	Retired
Leonard Edward Durbin	6/17/1932	4/12/2009	77	1956	Withdrew
Neal Kay Rogers	4/10/1928	4/16/2009	81	1965	Retired
George Wesley Campbell	5/20/1924	4/17/2009	85	1969	Retired
Arthur L. Schultz	6/14/1928	5/6/2009	81	1947	Retired
Larry Bartlett Hauck	12/8/1930	6/23/2009	78	1959	Retired
Kyle Charles Cannon	10/10/1943	7/9/2009	65	1967	Active
James Taylor	12/10/1958	7/10/2009	50		Active
Harold E. Greenway	6/11/1935	7/28/2009	74	1959	Retired
Bernard Wilfred Bloom	5/21/1921	8/8/2009	88		Retired
Dean A. Pizer	10/3/1927	10/20/2009	82		Retired
Howard Melvin Shultz	9/9/1915	10/25/2009	94	1960	Retired
Leroy Elmer Ickes	2/5/1921	12/11/2009	88	1945	Retired
Donald James Joiner	3/12/1930	12/24/2009	79	1951	Retired
Richard H. Carson	5/31/1934	12/27/2009	75	1989	Retired
Lewis S. Hastings	5/5/1926	1/27/2010	83	1952	Retired
Richard Northcotte Olds	2/5/1924	2/18/2010	86	1948	Retired
Enid Virginia Pierce	7/18/1909	2/24/2010	100	1942	Retired
Richard Martin Burns	8/28/1929	3/16/2010	80	1951	Retired
Richard A. McClintock	9/8/1933	3/29/2010	76	1962	Retired
David H. Lindberg	9/13/1937	4/16/2010	72	1960	Retired
Jack Reed Moon	10/17/1933	4/16/2010	76	1965	Retired
Kenneth Rutter	10/6/1916	4/24/2010	93	1943	Retired
Herbert A. Peterson	7/20/1918	6/28/2010	91		Retired
Ralph B. Kilburn	9/16/1922	7/4/2010	87	1950	Retired
Wayne B. Price	10/4/1918	7/13/2010	91	1946	Retired
Allen O. Grimm	5/4/1935	8/3/2010	75		Retired
Charles A. Renshaw	3/22/1930	8/12/2010	80	1971	Retired
Jacob Brumbaugh	5/8/1926	8/28/2010	84		Retired
Nelson E. Stants	4/21/1921	9/13/2010	89	1950	Retired
Gale W. Cook	8/21/1919	9/22/2010	91	1951	Retired
Russell Perry	12/22/1920	11/3/2010	89	1948	Retired
Robert Lee Peters	4/20/1926	11/4/2010	84	1970	Retired
William Jay Gill	10/18/1938	11/27/2010	72		Retired
Gilbert Hoffman	9/27/1922	12/9/2010	88	1954	Retired
Paul Thomas Pullen	11/3/1929	1/10/2011	81	1949	Retired
Leonard D. Adams	12/13/1925	1/22/2011	85	1959	Retired
Wesley Edward Blaha	6/3/1930	1/29/2011	80	1956	Retired
William Berninger	01/19/1918	02/24/2011	93		Retired
Ferd Brownlee Park	5/17/1930	3/7/2011	80	1961	Retired
Mary Catherine Burton	5/7/1932	3/9/2011	78	1975	Retired
Carol Richey Adcock	10/15/1925	3/22/2011	85	1975	Retired
John C. Cox	6/1/1922	4/9/2011	88	1950	Retired
G. Donald McAfoose	10/23/1928	5/7/2011	82	1975	Retired
John Harper Creeks	7/5/1924	5/11/2011	86	1969	Retired
William E. Fenstermaker	6/7/1923	5/12/2011	87	1951	Retired
J. Richard Hackenberry	6/23/1923	5/18/2011	87	1971	Retired

## VIII Memoirs

## Our Honored Dead, Clergy Spouses

Name	Born	Died	Age	Clergy's Name
Pauline C. Hankey	6/23/1910	9/12/2003	93	W. Bruce
Doris W. (Walter) McElroy	06/13/43	03/21/04	60	Edwin E.
Martha Louise (Ferguson) Ford	05/16/13	05/11/04	90	John W.
Emily Mull Gilchrist	07/21/11	05/22/04	92	Frank
Minnie Henrietta (McMichael) Daugherty	09/17/12	08/04/04	91	William
Patricia A. (Sadler) Trusel	11/09/30	08/18/04	73	James
Rhoda Pearl (Painter) Enterline	05/07/06	08/21/04	98	Daniel
Dorothy Edith (Davis) Bissell	01/06/12	09/23/04	92	James
Gladys Elizabeth (Grant) Milliron	08/11/16	10/05/04	88	William Grant
John William Burton	08/25/26	10/08/04	78	Mary
Martha V. West	07/30/23	10/14/04	81	Harold
Anna Mae Neiderhiser	04/17/28	11/23/04	76	Charles
Frederick Lee Fields	03/19/38	11/30/04	66	Josephine Whitely-Fields
Nancy Faith (Osterwise) Rees	03/05/32	12/23/04	72	Jack
Lois Emma (Pyle) Trever	03/30/12	01/21/05	92	Winston
Gloria (Sacra) Davis	06/12/55	03/13/05	49	Barry
Dorothy Audene (Heeter) Himes	01/21/24	03/27/05	81	Thomas
Nadine (Baer) Feather	06/13/14	03/30/05	90	Rayford
Marie Thompson (Schaeffer) Carraway	03/31/14	04/01/05	91	James
Alyce Marie (Coleman) Weaver	11/03/42	04/19/05	62	John
Ann Margaret (Donatelli) Dom	04/05/45	04/19/05	60	Harold
Eleanor Jane (Stahl) Shue	08/18/10	04/29/05	94	Benjamin
Angeline Marie (Pregano) Alfieri	11/29/30	05/10/05	74	Peter
Dorothy Love (Jackson) Ciampa	07/17/09	06/03/05	95	Donald
Ruth B. Hover (Bertram)		5/19/2005	105	Bertram
Stella (Ansell) Redfoot	4/6/1929	8/10/2005	76	Victor
Gertrude Joesphine (Kelley) Stillwagon	2/13/1911	8/20/2005	95	J.D.
Jane Elizabeth Martin	3/19/1919	9/2/2005	86	Ralph
Ronald Leslie Platt	11/18/1948	10/13/2005	57	Rita
Joseph Bobrowicz	8/4/1926	1/1/2006	79	Arlene
Lynell Mae Burgess	7/19/1913	1/21/2006	93	Harold
Ruth Nichols	9/17/1920	1/22/2006	85	Roy C.
Dorothy Gage Martin	6/19/1924	1/23/2006	82	Floyd
Roberta E Thomas Fike	1/31/1922	1/24/2006	84	Robert
Flo Hazel McLaughlin Miller Taylor	8/13/1918	3/14/2006	88	William
Enid E. Gardner Johnson	11/10/1925	3/14/2006	80	Richard
Ardith Auel Peters	4/5/1928	4/11/2006	78	Howard
Beatrice Berry	3/15/1917	9/14/2005	89	Byron
Betty Shissler	2/22/1919	7/18/2006	87	Henry
Louise B Shaffer	6/20/1917	9/4/2006	89	Ardith
Georgette Breakiron	10/30/1920	9/20/2006	86	James
Violet Slagle	2/27/1916	10/1/2006	91	Arnold
Roberta O. Boyd	1/7/1913	10/5/2006	94	Herbert
Ellen Downing	6/8/1926	12/21/2006	81	Richard
Hazel Townsend	10/29/1917	1/3/2007	89	Dwight
Ethlyne Schultz	2/22/1910	1/19/2007	97	Elmer
Louise Schmittle	4/8/1931	2/3/2007	76	James
Dorothy Cogley	7/30/1920	2/4/2007	87	John
Hulda Fulton	4/4/1909	2/4/2007	98	A. Byron
Mary Lou Sowden	9/14/1926	3/29/2007	81	Charles
Mary Elizabeth Lohr	6/25/1918	4/14/2007	89	Herbert
Hazel M. Easter	2/6/1927	5/22/2007	80	Paul
Lorna M. Ridley	3/17/1936	6/3/2007	71	Herman
Carolyn M. Kane	11/18/1936	8/14/2007	70	James
Virginia M. Cook	7/29/1919	9/19/2007	88	George
Maudie M. Armstrong	12/30/1926	9/27/2007	80	Robert
Jean E. Spangler	11/26/1924	10/2/2007	82	D. True

Gladys I. Sheesley Cramer	11/30/1926	10/11/2007	80	Max
Lois Breakiron	2/17/1921	10/29/2007	86	James
Elizabeth A. Silvis	3/1/1924	10/31/2007	83	Merle
Rachael Bugbee	1/18/1912	11/14/2007	95	Warren
Edna L. Clark	4/14/1916	11/23/2007	91	John
Iola Parsons	5/28/1922	12/7/2007	85	Jack
Lois J. Devorick	1/18/1935	12/8/2007	72	James
Mary E. Dowling	12/12/1912	1/22/2008	95	Roy
Barbara D. Jones	9/23/1931	1/30/2008	76	W. LeRoy
Charles Campagna	1/22/1926	2/9/2008	82	Ruth
Iris M. Adkins	7/14/1914	3/5/2008	93	Clayton
June S. Ashby	6/24/1923	3/6/2008	84	Hugh
Kathryn L. Kelley	11/2/1910	3/8/2008	97	Cecil
Mary C. Ruddock	11/17/1921	4/21/2008	86	Willis
Helen Lofgren	5/14/1922	5/3/2008	85	John
Wilma Besecker	2/16/1935	5/5/2008	73	Harry Bish
Opal Arline Faas	10/2/1912	6/9/2008	96	Wallace
Jetta Mayle Scott	1/31/1919	7/29/2008	89	Boyd
Catherine Burns Avery Finney	2/25/1920	8/12/2008	88	Ralph Avery
Helen Patterson Cole	12/17/1922	10/3/2008	86	Howard Patterson
Mary Jean Mays	2/8/1923	10/15/2008	86	William
Armeda Whitford Rogers	4/23/1923	10/28/2008	86	Neal
Leona Lucille Sheppard	2/19/1923	11/17/2008	86	Calvin
Shirley Verdell Sease	9/7/1927	12/8/2008	81	Don
Betty June Zimmerman Donley	12/22/1923	12/15/2008	85	John R
Cynthia Delle Donne Blaha	4/30/1949	1/3/2009	60	Wesley
Elsie Fralick Rossbacher	12/24/1911	2/19/2009	97	Edward
Nancy A. Toothman		2/26/2009		Paul
Vera Claire Bishop Halstead	12/31/1920	3/28/2009	88	Paul
Maxine Leora Chelton Donner	11/30/1923	3/30/2009	85	Edward
Shirley M. Thompson Hammond	10/11/1932	4/3/2009	76	Everett
Ruth Virginia Hoffer Spahn	5/21/1916	4/9/2009	93	J. Wesley
Violet E. Probst	1/21/1919	4/9/2009	90	Delmar
Dorothy Ellen Patterson	9/5/1930	4/28/2009	79	Jack
Phyllis Jay	5/4/1925	1/9/2009	83	Mearle
Lola Mae Bray	2/10/1934	6/10/2009	75	James
Sarah Peterson	12/21/1917	7/20/2009	91	Herbert
Gladys Leona Bishop	12/22/1912	8/10/2009	96	J Byron
Hazel Chelton	1/21/1923	9/18/2009	86	Lloyd
Ruth LaVerne Bishop	10/10/1914	10/14/2009	95	Kennard
Esther Helen Hopson	11/13/1914	10/28/2009	94	Dawson
Thelma Weaver Smith	11/7/1924	10/28/2009	84	William
Grace Pomroy Bennett	3/27/1907	11/16/2009	102	Clarence
Phyllis Jean Watterson	5/23/1929	12/11/2009	80	Earl
Birdie Lou Edmonds (Horneman)	10/30/1931	2/1/2010	78	Robert
Astrid Amelia Kelly	2/13/1934	5/10/2010	76	Floyd
Nancy O. Hinderliter	3/15/1936	7/29/2010	74	Harold
Vivian S. Troutman	10/22/1922	10/6/2010	87	Perry
Howard Davis	11/8/1917	10/13/2010	92	Gladys
Charlotte Burns Zeigler	6/27/1914	10/28/2010	96	Harold Burns
Catherine O. Merz	9/20/1935	11/7/2010	75	Albert
Sara Ann Howes	8/20/1914	1/14/2011	96	Allan
Averill V. Gay	11/5/1920	1/24/2011	90	Richard
Glengail Stephens	4/28/1912	3/19/2011	98	Robert
Grace I. Shaffer	9/19/1925	4/9/2011	85	Jay
Genevieve M. Zimmerman	4/21/1931	4/17/2011	79	Robert
Marion A. Eckert	10/2/1908	4/28/2011	102	Ralph
Jenny N. Byrd	12/17/1921	4/30/2011	89	Stanley