

Obituaries



Catherine Thompson

Catherine Mary Thompson, 59, of Mt. Vernon, died Thursday, March 9, 2000, at the Rockcastle Hospital. She was born May 8, 1940 in Milford, Connecticut, the daughter of Franklin and Gladys Bowden Close. Survivors are her husband, Tom Thompson; Mt. Vernon; her father, Franklin Close of East Hartford, Connecticut; her mother, Gladys Nolte of Vernon, Connecticut; one brother, Robert Close of Germerville, New York and one sister, Carol Ann Laville of Manchester, Connecticut. Graveside services were Monday, March 13, at Elmwood Cemetery with Bro. Mark Whicker officiating. Burial was in the Elmwood Cemetery. Dowell & Martin Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Deva McClure

Deva Alice McClure, 88, of Rt. 1, Mt. Vernon, died Saturday, March 11, 2000, at her residence. She was born September 13, 1911 in Rockcastle County, the daughter of Robert Smith and Millie Jane McPherson Whitaker. She had been a homemaker and was a life-long Christian. Survivors are one son, Harold McClure of Banning, California; one brother, R.G. Whitaker of Crab Orchard; one sister, Leona Stevens of Somerset; three granddaughters, Carol McClure, Alice Smith and Debbie Crane and six great grandchildren. She was also considered a Granny by many of her friends and neighbors.

Services were Tuesday, March 14, at Dowell & Martin Funeral Home with Bro. Jackie Renner officiating. Burial was in the Elmwood Cemetery. Pallbearers were Ronnie Spoonamore, Donnie Sowder, Donnie Keith Sowder, Charles Spoonamore, James Stevens and Tex Payne.



Helen Wiwi

Helen Louise Wiwi, 59, of Brookhead, died Thursday, March 9, 2000 at the Rockcastle Hospital after a long illness. She was born on January 28, 1941 in Brooksville, the daughter of the late Charlie and Lorraine Sutton Tucker. She had previously been a housewife, a member of the Moore Club of Dayton, Ohio, and a member of the Baptist faith.

Survivors are three daughters, Michelle Combs of Brookhead; Judith Offill and husband, Robert of Dayton, Ohio and Victoria Murphy and husband, Bob of Cookeville, Tennessee; two sons, Jim Phelan and wife, Arlene of Livingston and Steve Phelan and wife, Missy of Three Links; one brother, Charles Tucker of Hamilton, Ohio; one sister, Mary Johnson of Franklin, Ohio and one grandchild, Desiree Combs of Brookhead. Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Marvin Wiwi and one sister, Joan Perkins.

Services were Saturday, March 11, at the Marvin E. Owens Funeral Home Chapel with Bro. Mark Whicker officiating. Burial was in the Ottawa Cemetery.

Raymond Damrell

Raymond Bradley Damrell, 7 weeks old, died Thursday, March 9, 2000 at the Berea Hospital. He was the son of Kelvin and Lori Howard Damrell.

Survivors besides his parents are one sister, Kelly Damrell; one brother, Kelvin Damrell, Jr.; his paternal grandparents, Jr. and Freda Roberts Damrell of Berea; maternal grandparents, William and Wanda Allen Howard of Berea; great grandparents are Virgie Kirby of Conway and Celia Roberts of Berea; several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Services were Saturday, March 11, at the Lakes Funeral Home in Berea with Rev. Gary Linville officiating. Burial was in the Flat Gap Cemetery.

Rev. Wendell Belew, Sr.

Rev. M. Wendell Belew, Sr., 77, of Rome, Georgia, died Wednesday, March 8, as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident on February 24. He was born May 4, 1922, in Keefe. He was a Southern Baptist minister, enjoyed a distinguished career as a church pastor, missions administrator at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, seminary professor and author.

He was a graduate of Georgetown College and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has served as pastor of First Baptist Church of Mt. Vernon, Director of Mountain Missions for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Director of Church-centered Missions at the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta, Georgia, as well as a number of other leadership positions at the Home Mission Board until his retirement in 1988. Additionally, he has authored a number of books, including several works on missions and two children's books.

Dr. Belew had visiting professorships at the Southern, Southwestern and Midwestern Theological Seminaries, the Yale Divinity School, Bethel College and Seminary, and Fuller Theological Seminary. He was past president of the American Society of Missiology, a member of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society, a recipient of the 44th million copy of Good News for Modern Man, and was a co-founder of Southwest Atlantians for Progress (SWAP) in the mid-1960s, an endeavor to promote racial harmony. In 1983, Belew was awarded the Vatican, T. Glass Award for racial reconciliation.

Survivors are his wife, Edna Record Belew of Rome, Georgia; one son, M. Wendell Belew, Jr., of Washington, D.C.; two daughters, Cathy Belew McGraw of Rome, Georgia and Belle Marcella Belew of Washington, D.C. and four grandchildren.

Services were Saturday, March 11, at the Second Avenue Baptist Church in Rome, Georgia.

Graveside services were Monday, March 13, at the Spring Hill Cemetery in Harrodsburg with Dr. Eugene Enlow officiating.

Dr. Belew was in charge of Kentucky arrangements.

Cards of Thanks

Marshall Wren