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Take-Out
Pork or Chicken

All plates: \$10.00

Dessert donations are greatly appreciated!

Remembering.....

By Ed McBride

US President Kennedy's Assassination

As we remember the death of President John Kennedy many things run through our minds. When it happened I was at Lawrence Ratliff's shop office alone, lettering a new piece of equipment. I had my truck radio on and became very excited at what I was hearing. There were no cell phones then, so I hurried back to my shop to share the tragic news. I certainly did not realize what else was in the making - and I will let my son Tommy tell you in his own words, 47 years later:



November 22, 1963, was a Friday. It was afternoon and I was studying at the library at Pfeiffer College and someone came in and said that President Kennedy had been shot. I left the library, and as I walked back to the dorm I passed a convertible that several people had gathered around. They were listening to the news on the car radio. At that time President Kennedy had been pronounced dead. I continued walking back to my dorm and everyone who I met had stunned looks on their faces. When I arrived at the dorm the tv room was jammed - standing room only - everyone just listening to the news.

After supper my buddies and I went back to the dorm and the tv room to listen to the continuing news coverage. Later that evening we were sitting around talking about the historical significance of the assassination of the President of the United States of America. (As background, it had only been a year earlier since the Cuban missile crisis - sandbags in the dorm stairwells, assembly drills, etc.) We talked until early morning.

The next day some of us had classes, but most classes were cancelled or just met long enough to take attendance. Back at the dorm the tv room was still the focal point for news. That evening the details about the funeral were beginning to be released. My buddies and I started talking about this being a once in a lifetime event. We decided that we should witness this in person. We started making plans and packing (clothes as well as food from the cafeteria!) Darnell Duncan (who had a car), Dunlap Burns and I decided to go to Washington DC.

By lunchtime Sunday we were loaded and ready to go. As we were driving out of the parking lot another buddy came running out and said Lee Harvey Oswald had just been shot. We went back to the tv room to listen to the latest news. A few minutes later we were headed to Darnell's home in Roxboro, NC. We picked up his younger brother Rick and their older sister Brenda and headed to Washington DC. By this time we knew that President Kennedy would be lying in state in the Capitol Rotunda and that's where we decided we should go. We arrived that Sunday evening and finally found a place to park the car. As we walked toward the Capitol we saw a long line of people and we stopped and asked a policeman if that was the line to go into the Rotunda. He told us that it was and that it went for 56 blocks, crossed a block and came back 56 blocks on the street behind us. He told us that the line could not move fast enough for us to walk by President Kennedy's casket before the funeral. He suggested that we would probably have a better chance to see the funeral the next day (Monday) at Arlington National Cemetery. (We heard on the news the next morning that the line had been shut down so that President Kennedy's body could be taken to Arlington.)

We went back across the river to Virginia and found a motel close to Arlington National Cemetery. We got up early the next morning and went to the cemetery. We found a good spot near the grave site. Later in the morning the barricade was moved much further back from the grave site because of the huge crowd and security concerns. When the funeral procession came into view the crowd became reverently silent with the realization that the President of the United States had been assassinated. After the funeral service the huge crowd slowly dispersed.

While walking back to the car we passed Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia, walking in the crowd. How special it was to see an international figure who we had studied about in class.

After reaching the car we slowly made our way through the heavy traffic to the highway back to North Carolina. We dropped Rick and Brenda off in Roxboro on our way back to Pfeiffer. Everything was going well until we ran out of gas in Gold Hill, NC early Tuesday morning. We pushed the car down the highway until we found a place that we could get the car completely off the road. We estimated that we were probably four or five miles from campus. This was a rural area, and at that time of the morning there was no traffic. We started walking and arrived at the campus as the sun was coming up. Later that day I called mother and daddy and told them about our trip. Needless to say they were quite surprised that their "little boy" had gone all the way to Washington DC without telling them!

Of the many memories over the years this certainly ranks as one of the more memorable. Where were you on November 22, 1963?
Tommy McBride
- Now you know firsthand about the bad news that guided this group of young people to share in our United

Wadesboro Community Blood Drive is March 22

There will be a Wadesboro Community Blood Drive at the First Baptist Church on Lee Avenue on Tuesday, March 22, from 1:30 to 6 p.m. To schedule an appointment please visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code "Wadesboro Community."

Obituaries

Mr. Johnny Winston "Buddy" McLaurin, Jr.

Mr. Johnny Winston "Buddy" McLaurin, Jr., 59, died Monday, March 14, 2016, at the Durham VA Medical Center in Durham.

There will be a graveside service at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 19, 2016, in Eastview Cemetery.

The family will greet friends following the service and other time at the home of his sister.

Buddy was born December 23, 1956, in Anson County, a son of the late Johnny Winston McLaurin and the late Sarah Helen Usrey McLaurin. He was reared in the loving home of his aunt and uncle the late Fred and Winsey Usrey Cook.

He was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps, and had worked for 25 plus years with Seago Distributing in Rockingham, retiring as a Regional Manager.

Surviving are his sister, Cathy McLaurin of Wadesboro; his nephew, Jody Coward (Rebecca) of Olney, MD; and cousins,

with whom he had a special relationship, Joe Cook (Nina) of Monroe, Barbara Coggin of Wadesboro and her daughters, Beth Shehzad and Connie Swantko, both of Raleigh.

Buddy lived a very simple and private life, and found much pleasure in caring for his four-legged children.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Anson County Animal Shelter, 101 S. Greene St., Wadesboro, NC 28170.

The arrangements are in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at www.leavittfh.com.



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