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**Mr. David  
Franklin Kiker**

Mr. David Franklin Kiker, 59, died Tuesday, April 9, 2019, due to injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, April 13, 2019, in the Chapel of Leavitt Funeral Home with Rev. Tony High and Rev. Randy Storz officiating. A private interment following the service was held in Hopewell United Methodist Church Cemetery.

David was born August 18, 1959, in Anson County, a son of the late William Vernon "Bill" Kiker and the late Margaret "Peggy" Taylor Kiker. He was a graduate of Southview Academy and was employed with Alvac in Monroe for more than 41 years.

He lived all of his life in the Hopewell Community and was active in his home church, Hopewell United Methodist Church, until he and his family became members of Mt. Beulah Baptist Church. Hopewell played an important role in

# Obituaries

making David the man he was.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Chuck Kiker.

Surviving are his wife Connie Ricketts Kiker; his son Brett (Kailey) Kiker of Matthews; his sister Karen (Joe) Pryor of Waynesville; his sister-in-law Carleen Clark (Don) of Oakboro; his aunts, Irene Kiker and Joyce Kiker, both of Polkton; his uncles, Roy Taylor (Doris) of Marshville, Billy Taylor of Oakboro and Coy Taylor of Hamlet; and his nieces and nephews and their families.

Also surviving are his Ricketts family: his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Benjamin and Doris Ricketts of Wadesboro; his sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Sharon Ricketts, Dennis and Jackie Ricketts and Tony and Wendy Ricketts, all of Wadesboro, Barry and Beth Ricketts of Southern Pines and Judy and Chris Sellers of Cheraw; and his nieces and nephews and their families.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hopewell United Methodist Church Cemetery Fund, c/o, Susie McSwain, 424 Pork Rd., Peachland, NC 28133.

The arrangements were in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at [www.leavittfh.com](http://www.leavittfh.com).

**Mr. Dennis Lee  
"Pete" Cook**

Mr. Dennis Lee "Pete" Cook, age 67, passed away suddenly at his home on Monday, April 8, 2019.

A service to celebrate

Pete's life was held on Thursday, April 11, 2019, at Mt. Beulah Baptist Church with Rev. Randy Storz officiating. Masonic funeral rites immediately followed at Anson Memorial Park.

A native of Anson county, Pete was born September 25, 1951, to the late Elsie Bolton Cook and Claude Lee Cook. He was the baby of the family and the only boy with eight older sisters, but always insisted he did the best he could, given that handicap! As a teenager Pete started work by sweeping floors at Wade Mill. He went on to work for Wansona, Pee Dee Orchards, Southern Fabricators, and finally Valley Proteins where he retired. Pete was a longtime and active member of Mt. Beulah Baptist Church where he had served many years as a deacon. In his younger days, he taught the Royal Ambassadors of the church along with a youth Sunday school class.

Pete also had a passion for fraternal Freemasonry. He was a faithful member of Kilwinning Lodge #64 as well as a 32° mason, having traveled through both the York and Scottish Rites. He served in many offices and capacities over the years including the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of North Carolina.

Survivors include his wife of 45 years, Joyce Odom Cook of the home; daughter Amanda Plyler (Robbie) of Monroe; grandchild and the apple of his eye, Addison "Addie" Plyler; plus two bonus grandchildren, Anna Plyler Melson and R. J. Plyler;

three sisters, Bobbie Stephens of Wadesboro, Christine Thompson of Mt. Gilead and Doris Marsh of Ludowici, GA; a number of nieces and nephews; and many Masonic and York Rite brethren across the state of North Carolina.

The family suggests that memorials be made to Mt. Beulah Baptist Church, 3373 Country Club Rd., Wadesboro, NC 28170 or to the Masonic Home for Children, 600 College Street, Oxford, NC 27565.

The arrangements were in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at [www.leavittfh.com](http://www.leavittfh.com).



**Gone from us, but not forgotten.**

A memorial service honoring our deceased loved ones will be held on Sunday, April 28 at 3:30pm at Pleasant Hill AME Zion Church, located on Highway 109 South

Memorial plaques with the deceased member name can be ordered for \$25, and will be dedicated and placed on our Memorial Wall.

To order a plaque or for information, please call **Sister Ethel Ellerbe at 704-465-2037** or **Sister Annie Fagain at 704-695-0687**

## TOWN OF MORVEN JOB NOTICE

### FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER POSITION

The Town of Morven is accepting applications to fill the position of a Full-Time Police Officer in the Morven Police Department.

Experience is preferred, and all applicants must be BLET certified.

Applications must be received by the close of business on Wednesday, April 17, 2019. Applications can be picked up at Morven Town Hall, located at 301 East Main Street, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information you may call (704) 851-9321.

**The Town of Morven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**

## THE TOWN OF MORVEN IS ACCEPTING BIDS

*The Town of Morven is accepting bids for the repairs to be made on West Leak Street in Morven, with the following specifications:*

- Grade the road bed level
- Fill in the existing depressions
- Be able to compact the depressions

Grade and level the entire surface of the road which is 723 feet long and 14 feet wide from Peru Road to the pavement on the west end of connecting street.

Add 4 inches of compacted crush & run stone on top of the entire length and width of the road.

**Bids will be accepted by mail at PO Box 295, Morven NC 28119 or at Town Hall, 301 East Main Street, by 4pm on Tuesday, April 16, 2019. For any questions please feel free to call the Morven Town Hall at 704-851-9321.**

## TOWN OF MORVEN JOB NOTICE

### PART-TIME OFFICE DEPUTY CLERK

The Town of Morven is accepting applications to fill the position of a Part-Time Office Deputy Clerk. Applicants must have high school diploma, a valid driver's license, be able to become a Notary Public, proficient in Microsoft Office, and have two years plus experience with an excellent phone manner.

Duties include, but are not limited to: general office work such as filing, customer service, taking daily water samples, record keeping associated with meter readings, and maintaining accounts in reference to water and sewer usage. The hours will be flexible and at the discretion of the Morven Town Council.

Applications must be received by the close of business on Wednesday, April 17, 2019. Applications can be picked up at Morven Town Hall between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information you may call (704) 851-9321.

**The Town of Morven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.**

## Residents Urged to Think Safety in Spring Wildfire Season

The N.C. Forest Service is urging North Carolina residents to think safety and exercise extra caution when burning materials during the spring fire season. The spring fire season typically runs from March through May, and is historically the time when wildfires are most likely to occur.

"The leading cause of wildfires is careless debris burning. Protect our natural resources by acting safely," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler. "Don't burn on dry, windy days; maintain a careful watch over your debris fire; and make sure it is fully extinguished."

Troxler also warned against using drones over wildfires, an emerging concern across the country. In 2018, there were 26 drone incursions into air space over wildfires across the nation. When unauthorized aircraft, such as drones, fly into the same airspace as helicopters and airplanes even at low altitudes, the air operations must be stopped due to safety concerns. This means no water drops to slow the spread of a fire and no eyes in the sky to help direct firefighters on the ground, Troxler said.

The N.C. Forest Service encourages anyone considering debris burning to contact his or her local county forest ranger. The forest ranger can offer technical advice and explain the best options to help maximize safety to people, property and the forest. For people who choose to burn debris, the N.C. Forest Service urges them to adhere to the following tips to protect property and prevent wildfires:

- Make sure you have an approved burning permit, which can be obtained at any N.C. Forest Service office, a county-approved burning permit agent, or online.
- Check with your county fire marshal's office for local laws on burning debris. Some communities allow burning only during specified hours; others forbid it entirely.
- Check the weather. Don't burn if conditions are dry or windy.
- Consider alternatives to burning. Some yard debris such as leaves and grass may be more valuable if composted.
- Only burn natural vegetation from your property. Burning household trash or any other man-made materials is illegal. Trash should be hauled away to a convenience center.
- Plan burning for the late afternoon when conditions are typically less windy and more humid.
- If you must burn, be prepared. Use a shovel or hoe to clear a perimeter down to mineral soil of at least 10-feet, preferably more, around the area around where you plan to burn.
- Keep fire tools ready. To control the fire, you will need a water hose, bucket, a steel rake and a shovel for tossing dirt on the fire.
- Never use flammable liquids such as kerosene, gasoline or diesel fuel to speed debris burning.
- Stay with your fire until it is completely out. Remember, debris burning is the No. 1 cause of wildfires in the state.

These same tips hold true for campfires and barbeques as well. Douse burning charcoal briquettes or campfires thoroughly with water. When soaked; stir the coals and soak them again. Be sure they are out cold and carefully feel to be sure they are extinguished. Never dump hot ashes or coals into a wooded area.

Burning agriculture residue and forestland litter: In addition to the rules above, a fire line should be plowed around the area to be burned. Large fields should be separated into small plots for burning one at a time. Before doing any burning in a wooded area, contact your county ranger who will weigh all factors, explain them and offer technical advice.

Studies have shown that taking these and other measures can greatly reduce wildfires and the loss of property associated with them. For more information on ways you can prevent wildfires and loss of property visit [www.ncforestservice.gov](http://www.ncforestservice.gov).

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