Paul was long active in local civic organizations and in preserving Anson County history. During the 1970s he often spotted late afternoons on a tractor grading land to build the Civitan Park (while still dressed in white shirt and tie). He was instrumental in acquiring and restoring the old Ansonia Theatre for the Anson County Arts Council, and it became a labor of love for him.

He served a number of terms on the boards of the Anson County Arts Council. the Anson County Historical Society and the Anson County Historic Properties Commission, helping to establish a medical museum and the Tom Little farm museum.

In the 1990s Paul was a member of the Anson County Economic Development Commission and the Anson County Hospital Board of Trustees, serving as chairman of each. He was selected Anson County Small Business Person of the Year in 1997 and was awarded The Order of the Long Leaf Pine by the governor of North Carolina in 2005 for his many years of civic service.

When relaxing Paul could usually be found around water with family and friends, whether sailing a catamaran off Windy Hill beach, cruising Lake Tillery, or hosting the ever present entertainment and beach music on his pier. He also enjoyed a good round of golf, once mischievously challenging companions while playing a whole round with only a 7 iron tee to green (he won).

Paul is survived by his wife Audrey Spearman Ricketts; Alex Ricketts of Norwood, Scott Ricketts (Mary) of Rockingham, Stephen Ricketts (Jennifer) Wadesboro and Curtis Ricketts of Raleigh; daughter Terri Ricketts Burris (Ronnie) of Wadesboro; six grandchildren, Keelie Burris Hill (Robbie), Ryan Burris (Kari), Jonathan Trevin Ricketts, Ricketts, Scottie Wayne Ricketts and Annalie Ricketts; 16 great grandchildren; sisters, Betty Baldwin of Rockingham and Carolyn Brewer of Cordova, NC; brothers B. J. Ricketts (Doris) of Wadesboro and Earl Ricketts of Wadesboro; a stepsister, Shirley Harward of Polkton; stepbrothers, Leonard Honeycutt of Hampton, Virginia and Richard Honeycutt of Wadesboro: sister-in-law Nancy Spearman, a steadfast caregiver; and longtime friends Dan and Eleanor Brooks and Joey and April Carpenter, all of

Norwood. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Linda Gay Ricketts; his parents Evan Thomas Ricketts and Lila Freeman Ricketts; and his stepmother, Bertha Honeycutt Ricketts.

Memorials may be made to the Ansonia Theatre c/o Anson County Arts Council, PO Box 332, Wadesboro, NC 28170 or to the Anson County Historical Society, 206 E. Wade Street, Wadesboro, NC 28170.

Leavitt Funeral Home charge in Online arrangements. codolences may be made at leavittfuneralhomewadesboro.com.

#### Mrs. Mirian **Edwards Tucker**

Mirian Edwards Tucker, 87, died Wednesday, May 1, 2013, at Union County Hospice House in Monroe. Funeral services were

held on Friday, May 3, 2013, in Hopewell United Methodist Church. Interment followed in the church cemetery.

Mirian was born in Union County on July 3, 1925, a daughter of the late John T. and Annie Sneed Edwards. A graduate of Burnsville High School, she had worked for Southern Bell and the Charlotte Observer.

She was happily married to the late Nelson V. Tucker. A homemaker with a warm and gentle spirit, she raised a wonderful family, enjoyed gardening, and cared for many who were sick in her community and dearly loved

Survivors include her (Dave) children, Marie Zimmerman, Janice Tucker, Nelson Tucker, Jr., Joseph Tucker and Gina (Nolan) Blake; three grandchildren, Eric (Ginny) Gulledge. William Gulledge and Daniel (Tillman) Gulledge; great-grandchildren, Ethan, Reagan, Sage and Riley Gulledge; brothers, J. T. Edwards, (Bettu) Max and (Frances) Edwards Charles Edwards,; a sister, Joanne Broome Parker; and sisters-in-law. Arvonia Rogers Edwards and Rachel Tucker Porter.

Mirian was preceded in death by her twin sister, Marian Painter Pope and brother, Wayne Edwards.

Memorials may be made to Union County Hospice, Burnsville Vol. Fire Dept. or Hopewell United Methodist Church.

Leavitt Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made at leavittfuneralhomewadesboro.com.

#### **ESTATE AUCTION** SATURDAY, MAY 11<sup>TH</sup> 10<sup>AM</sup>

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#### Class of 1971 to Meet

The Bowman Senior High School Class of 1971 will have a meeting on Saturday, May 18th at 2 p.m. at the Hampton B. Allen Library in the Little Theatre. This meeting is to discuss the 60th Birthday Cruise.

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