



Mrs. Rhonda "Cherry" Kiker Cook

Mrs. Rhonda "Cherry" Kiker Cook, 60, of Mount Pleasant passed away May 31, 2019.

Funeral services were held on Monday, June 3, 2019, at Hopewell United Methodist Church in Peachland, officiated by Pastor Patrick Ledford. Burial followed in the church cemetery.

Rhonda was born on March 24, 1959, in Union County, daughter to the late Charles Cedric Kiker and Joyce Carol Kiker. She attended Southview Academy and Bowman Senior High School in Anson County, and furthered her education at Rowan-Cabarrus Community College. Mrs. Cook was employed by the United States Postal Service for over 28 years. Her favorite pastimes were gardening, taking care of her beloved black lab, and spending time with her husband and two children.

Surviving are her husband of 34 years, LeRoy Curtis Cook; her son Casey Cook of Mount Pleasant; her daughter Candis Bullard and husband Owen Bullard of Texas; her mother Joyce Kiker of Polkton; her sisters, Wanda Tyson (Ken) of Polkton and Teresa Canipe (Bruce) of Morven; her mother-in-law Winsome Smith (Homer); her sisters-in-law, Debbie Northgraves (Jeff) of Maine and Sandy McKenzie of Fairmont, her brother-in-law Gary Cook (Joyce) of Florida, her Aunt Irene Kiker of Polkton; and nieces and nephews whom she loved.

Online condolences may be made at gordonfuneralhome.com.

Remembering.....
By Ed McBride



National Hotel & Coffee Shop

The National Hotel and Coffee Shop goes back quite a few years - yet has many interesting "happenings" for so many people who are still here.

The hotel was open for business when we moved to Wadesboro - and was a busy place on the block that began at Parsons Drug Store - going down the hill west to the corner and including the First National Bank, a bakery, offices, other businesses that included parts of the foundation of First Baptist (now on Lee Avenue). Dave Mills was operating the hotel then, later Mattie Davis (sister of Pines) and husband Vic...and still later M. J. Hamer and wife Louise kept it going until it was sold to D. B. Goodman.

Many traveling salesmen lodged there, even some who had come to town on the train.

Talking with Harry Hodges as he remembered friends of his dad (H. G. Hodges, Sr.), some of whom made their home at the hotel. One was Burgess Medley. He had a room there, as did Deacon Rivers who was at that time President of Wade Manufacturing Company and Mayor of Wadesboro. Deacon had a new Buick, but he couldn't drive it - instead, he depended on Harry Huntley's dad, "Mr. Henry," to drive or have someone who could take him to the office!

About the two men in the picture sitting on the bench close to the barber shop entrance - they could have been hotel guests or "haircut customers!"

The coffee shop was a good place to eat. Allen Lyon's grandfather, Dr. Bob Lyon, who was the first Wadesboro Lions Club president, dined there in the early years while planning, and then, after chartering in 1949, the Lions Club. The Wadesboro Lions had their monthly meetings there - all enjoying a "good home cooked" meal, home made hot rolls, dessert and coffee/tea...all this for \$1! Loretta Oliver, who was a young waitress there, still remembers some of her early working days.

The barber shop next door was operated by Ned Harkey and Dewey Hildreth for a time - later Dr. James Smith had his office there (later moving to South Greene Street) and the last ones in that part of the building were J. B. Crider and his wife. They opened their jewelry and repair business in the 1940's.

About to forget, I only did signs on the hotel windows one time...in the 1940's. I did gold letters with black trim - and the cost - well it couldn't have been much!

Now the main hotel/coffee shop building was closed about 1950, and D. Bruce Goodman opened a furniture store, displaying furniture not only in the lobby, but in special rooms as well. However, on March 31, 1958, a very disastrous fire destroyed the entire building, including Bun and Gertrude Crider's jewelry store.

Thanks to so many who have shared some of their memories on this and other articles! Ed

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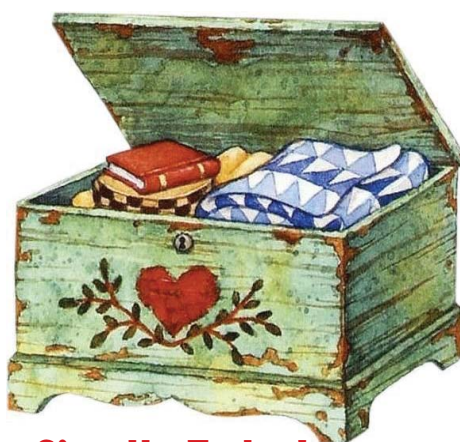
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