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**Mr. Robert  
A. "Bob" Burge**

Mr. Robert A. "Bob" Burge, age 83, passed away June 19, 2018, at Randolph County Hospice with his loving wife and daughter by his side.

Bob was a member of First United Methodist Church of Asheboro and a memorial service will be held there on Tuesday, July 3, 2018, at 2 p.m. with Rev. Lynda Ferguson and Dr. Don Haynes officiating. The family will receive friends following the memorial service in the church parlor.

Bob was born March 3, 1935, in Asheboro. He was an ever proud Blue Comet. He played football for Coach Lee Stone, was Asheboro High's student body president and received the C.C. Cranford Award at graduation. He served his country in the US Army as a medic in Alaska from 1954 to 1956. Bob was a beneficiary of the GI bill and graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1959. At Carolina he was an English major, proud member of Sigma Chi fraternity, and well known as an excellent dancer.

After years as a traveling sales representative in Florida, Bob returned to the Tarheel state to be closer to family and explore a new professional life as a real estate broker. At the same time fortune would have it that a high school crush was also returning to Asheboro, and a spark lit in high school was rekindled. After years of being close friends, love blossomed with Diana Johnson. The eligible bachelor of 40 years married the girl of his dreams.

With marriage simultaneously came parenthood. Bob enthusiastically embraced Holly and Matt as his children, and was completely devoted to their well-being. From that point on Bob filled the complete role of father by offering constant love and support through consistent presence, encouragement and affection for over four decades.

Bob was a lifelong learner. He was innately curious about other people, cultures, histories. His inquisitiveness led him to extensive travel. He merged business with this passion when he purchased a local travel agency, Travel Asso-

# Obituaries

ciates, in the 80s. He and his bride were fortunate to see much of the world through this endeavor. Bob, a born storyteller, loved to share experiences from Egypt, Hungary, Italy, Kenya, and China. He climbed the Great Wall and peered into the pyramids.

In his final years, travel revolved around a mountain town in North Carolina - with the destination highlight being a special little girl, granddaughter Gabriela. Being a grandfather was his lifelong calling. He relished every moment in her presence, exuding pride and joy with each milestone or accomplishment. He was the first to make her laugh with a Donald Duck voice, quick to spread out on the floor for a tea party and proud to accompany her around downtown Asheboro on her frequent visits.

Bob was a lover of life, a voracious reader, cracker-jack gin player, avid walker, and dapper dresser. A devout Tarheel who relished the experience of traveling to New Orleans and seeing UNC win the 1993 NCAA Basketball Championship. He exuded great pride in his hometown of Asheboro, the zoo, and was always thrilled with their recent developments. He also loved life's simple pleasures like Rhonda's egg salad, games of gin with Derrick, tanning in the sun and a glass of merlot. Above all else, Bob loved his family. His sister Brenda was a particular source of affection. Her gift of sending the perfect card and care packages always brought a lift to his day.

All who met Bob were recipients of his special gift of friendliness. He was ever smiling and easy to laugh. His perpetual good nature and optimism were uplifting to those he touched. The very old and the very young were particularly drawn to his warmth. Despite much physical suffering in his final years, his joie de vivre stayed strong and touched so many, including new neighbors at Mountain Top and health care professionals at Stay Well. Bob was also quick to express gratitude for any kindness and care he was shown.

He is survived by his wife of forty years, Diana Johnson Burge; daughter Holly Jones (Bob Falls) of Asheville, NC; son Matt Jones of Wadesboro; granddaughter Gabriela Jones of Asheville; sister Brenda de Suze (Jacques) of Potomac, MD; goddaughters, Mary Helen Horne of Clayton, NC and Marian Guill of Wilmington, NC; and many cousins, nieces and nephews from the Burge, Cecil and Payne families. He was preceded in death by his mother Anita Burge Burton, father Preston Burge and sister Bonnie Hammond.

Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church, 224 North Fayetteville Street,

of Newton; his daughter Brenda (Paul) Wright of Wadesboro; his brother Brent Newton of Mt. Gilead; his sister Eloise Burris of Albemarle; one grandson; and seven great-grandchildren.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a son, David Fulk, grandsons, Billy Griffin and Michael Cassidy, his brother Harold Newton and his sister Pines Biles.

**Mrs. Lisa Renee  
Plowman Mata**

Mrs. Lisa Renee Plowman Mata, 51, of Siler City, NC, died Friday, June 22, 2018, as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Funeral services were held on Monday, June 25, 2018, at Leavitt Funeral Home. Interment followed in Lilesville Cemetery.

Lisa was born in Rockingham, NC on March 1, 1967, a daughter of James Robert Plowman and the late Alice Hough Plowman. She was a faithful employee of Pentair Ltd. in Sanford, NC. Lisa loved spending time with her family, as her life revolved around her children and grandchildren. She was a great provider for her family and an extremely hard worker. She was a huge UNC Tarheel fan as well as a die-hard Carolina Panthers fan. Lisa always had a listening ear for those who needed to talk something out, and her laugh sense of humor could light up a room.

Survivors include her husband Willie Campbell; three children, Allie Spivey, Anhelica Mata and Luis Mata; seven grandchildren including, Riley Mata and Zamari Mata; her father James Robert Plowman; her sisters and brothers, Edie Plowman (Jeff Koterva), David Plowman (Holly), Bobby Plowman and Tammy Plowman; two sisters-in-law, Amanda and Linda Mabry; a very special sister and best friend, Sandy and Gregg Lineberry; and a very special loved one, Steve Alston. Lisa was preceded in death by her mother, Alice Hough Plowman and a brother, James Robert Plowman Jr.

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

**Mr. Frank Bennett  
"Bennie" Newton**

Mr. Frank Bennett "Bennie" Newton, 87, died Wednesday, June 20, 2018, at his home.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, June 23, 2018, in the Chapel of Leavitt Funeral Home with Rev. Sam Abee and Rev. Jeff Goudlock officiating. Interment followed in Anson Memorial Park.

Bennie was born May 19, 1931, in Anson County, a son of the late Ernest Bennett Newton and the late Callie Mae Polk Newton. He was a self-employed painter, a veteran of the United States Army, and attended the Wadesboro Church of God.

Surviving are his wife

Cheraw and Michelle Pope of Cary; her grandchildren, Laney, Landon, Chase, Joshua, Corbin, Haven and Lyric; her stepdaughter Elizabeth Morton of Lilesville; her step-grandchildren, Courtney, Amber and Austin; her father Dewey Hurst of Cheraw; her sister Deborah Black-

well of Easley, SC; and her niece Nicole Lesley and her children, Jacob, Hannah, Harper and Camden of Easley. The arrangements are in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at [www.leavittfh.com](http://www.leavittfh.com).

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Wadesboro Church of God, 809 N. Greene St., Wadesboro, NC 28170.

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

**Mrs. Barbara  
Hurst Paul**

Mrs. Barbara Hurst Paul, 71, died Sunday, June 24, 2018, at Carolinas Medical Center Union in Monroe.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 28, 2018 in the Chapel of Leavitt Funeral Home with Rev. Arnold Jackson officiating. Interment will follow in Chatham Hill Memorial Gardens in Cheraw.

The family will greet friends one hour prior to the service on Thursday.

Barbara was born December 11, 1946, in Cabarrus County, NC, a daughter of Dewey Franklin Hurst and the late Annie Sue Davis Hurst. She was a graduate of Cheraw High School and had worked for a number of years with Walmart in Cheraw. After retiring from Walmart she worked for a brief period of time for her son at Pope's Used Cars in Cheraw.

She had a great faith and always found the opportunity to witness to those around her about the importance of a relationship with Jesus Christ. She was a charter member of Calvary Baptist Church in Cheraw where she played the piano and worked with the Awanas.

Surviving are her husband Larry E. Paul; her children, Tim Pope of

well of Easley, SC; and her niece Nicole Lesley and her children, Jacob, Hannah, Harper and Camden of Easley. The arrangements are in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at [www.leavittfh.com](http://www.leavittfh.com).

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Proposals will be accepted until 3:30 p.m. on Monday, July 16, 2018.

**For more information,  
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**TOWN OF WADESBORO JOB OPENING**

The Town of Wadesboro is accepting applications for laborer's positions. The openings will be in the Sanitation Department.

Applicants must be of good character, dependable, and have a valid North Carolina driver's license. A Class "A" commercial driver's license is highly desirable.

Applicant should apply at the Wadesboro Town Hall, located at 124-126 East Wade Street, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. through June 29, 2018. An application may be printed on the Town of Wadesboro website: [cityofwadesboro.org](http://cityofwadesboro.org).

**Salary range: \$19,470 - 28,230**

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