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Obituaries

Mrs. Evelyn McCall Williams

Mrs. Evelyn McCall Williams, 89, died peacefully Saturday, July 14, 2012, at Ambassador Health and Rehab in Wadesboro.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, July 17, 2012, in the Chapel of Leavitt Funeral Home with Mr. Ken Goins, CLP officiating. A graveside service was also held on Tuesday in the Sharon Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Charlotte.

Evelyn was born in Mecklenburg County on October 23, 1922, a daughter of the late Van R. and Cora Pearson McCall. She was a graduate of Mercy School of Nursing and served in the United States Navy as a nurse during World War, II.

A well-known antique dealer, she had a great appreciation for fine antiques, beautiful things, the arts and along with her sisters, she was a fabulous cook, with pound cakes being one of her specialties.

Surviving are her sisters and brothers-in-law, Ellen and John Miller and Doris and Raymond Herbst, all of Charlotte, and Helen and Tom Ryne of Raleigh; her brother and sister-in-law, Fred McCall of Chester, SC and Polly McCall of Charlotte; her nieces and nephews and their families; and her dear friend, Ralph

Coble of Wadesboro.

In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her husbands, Harold Olson and Fred Williams and by her brother, Van L. McCall and her sister, Marguerite Rose.

The family wishes to express their sincere appreciation to the staff and residents of Ambassador Health and Rehab for being Evelyn's extended family while a resident there. You made her life more meaningful by your excellent care and love for her.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Ambassador Health and Rehab Family Council, 2051 Country Club Rd., Wadesboro, NC 28170.

The arrangements were in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at leavittfuneralhomewadesboro.com.

Mr. Richard Alan "Dick" Martin

Mr. Richard Alan "Dick" Martin, 69, died Monday, July 23, 2012, in CMC-Union in Monroe.

Memorial services will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 26, 2012, in Leavitt Funeral Home with Rev. Coy Blackman officiating. The family will greet friends prior to the service beginning at 6 p.m.

Mr. Martin was born in Bell, California on September 8, 1942, a son of the late Norman D. and Opal Soloman Martin. He retired

from the United States Air Force in 1984 with 22 years of service and then worked a number of years as a long distance truck driver.

Survivors include his wife of 43 years, Elaine Rorie Martin of the home; his children, Richard Plattenberger of Marshville, Toby Plattenberger of Conover, Pamela Martin of San Antonio, TX, James Martin of Monroe, Jeffrey Martin of Lake Park, Robert Lund and John Lund, both of Oregon; six grandchildren; three sisters, Vickie Kibblewhite of Australia and Donna Cantrell and Linda Martin, both of Oregon.

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

Mrs. Mary Ann Stewart Ward

Mrs. Mary Ann Stewart Ward, 74, died peacefully in her sleep at her home on Monday, July 16, 2012.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, July 19, 2012, at Peachland Baptist Church with Rev. Ed Henegar and Rev. Charles Cauthen officiating. Interment followed in the Beeman Family Cemetery with the Order of the Eastern Star Rites presented as part of the services.

Mary was born September 29, 1937, in Anson County, a daughter of the late John Joseph Stewart and Annie Crowson Stewart.

She was retired from the Anson County Court

System, and following her retirement she became a substitute teacher with Anson County Schools. She was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star Chapters in both Marshville and Monroe.

Mary loved music and taught piano to generations of students in and around Anson County. She was a faithful and dedicated member of Hawley Memorial Presbyterian Church in Polkton where she played the organ and sang for church services until her declining health. Many people called on Mary for her music and she willingly gave of her talents to share with both joyous and sad occasions with her friends.

Surviving are her husband

of 51 years, Leonard Ward of the home; her son and daughter-in-law, Nolan and Wanda Ward of Peachland; her daughter, Vanessa Ward of Charlotte; her grandchildren, Kaylan and Trent Ward, both of Peachland; and her sister, Pat Pegram of Polkton.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hawley Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 327, Polkton, NC 28135 or to The Masonic and Eastern Star Home, Whitestone, 700 S. Holden Rd., Greensboro, NC 27407.

The arrangements were in care of Leavitt Funeral Home. Online condolences may be made at leavittfuneralhomewadesboro.com.

Mr. Jerry W. Marsh

Mr. Jerry W. Marsh, 61, died Saturday, July 7, 2012.

Funeral Services were held on Friday, July 13, 2012, in the Chapel of Morgan & Son.

Born July 4, 1951, in Union County, he was a son of Mary Jeanette Moore and the late L. L. Marsh, Jr. He was a poultry and cattle farmer for many years.

In addition to his mother, Jerry is survived by his wife Libby of the home; daughter, Hannah Elizabeth Marsh of Marshville; brothers, Emmett Marsh (Rhonda) and Parks Marsh (Susan), all of Marshville.

The family suggests memorial made to the Hospice of Union County, 700 W. Roosevelt Blvd., Monroe, NC 28112.

Legislative Update

From Rep. Frank McGuirt: Even though the legislative session has ended, work continues on some proposed new laws. In the past week, the governor has signed nearly 50 bills into law. Nine bills were pending on Wednesday afternoon. The governor has until Aug. 2 to sign the bills, allow them to become law without her signature or veto them. If she vetoes any bills, the General Assembly could have to go back to Raleigh to consider whether to override them.

This week, I wanted to share with you some of the state's newest laws, many of which I voted to support. These laws include measures to cut out fraud, waste and abuse in government; improve our criminal laws and examine the use of alternative energies.

- HB 1074 adds whistle-blower protections to the local governmental employees' retirement system, and provides access to documents and property related to fraud investigations. It also institutes additional fraud protections to the Disability Income Plan.
- HB 177 creates an interagency task force to study the possible use of alternative fuels by state agencies and the development of an associated fueling infrastructure. The bill also establishes criteria for the operation of electric vehicle charging stations at state-owned highway rest stops.
- HB 1021 makes adjustments to The Justice Reinvestment Act, clarifying several areas, including changing total confinement of drug trafficking changes to include post-release supervision, and requiring persons ordered to perform court ordered community service to pay the community service supervision fee. I voted against the JRA because it will put more inmates into county jails and leave our sheriffs open to more liability. However, I like many provisions of it and I did vote for these amendments
- HB 244 adds whistle-blower protections to persons alleging fraud or other misconduct related to the State Health Plan. The bill also allows two charter schools to participate in the State Health Plan.
- HB 153 prohibits a person who has been convicted of a felony related to public employment or holding office from receiving retirement benefits from state and local retirement systems.
- SB 105 increases the penalties for some first- and second-degree murders and for those who kill while driving drunk.
- SB 635 allows juveniles convicted of first-degree murder seek parole after 25 years in prison.
- HB 462 prohibits cities and counties from using contingency contracts to find those who owe them taxes or fees.
- SB 910 makes the sale of a minor a felony offense.

- Other laws:
- SB 810 Regulatory Reform Act 2012
 - SB 821 Study and Amend Fisheries Laws
 - HB 1023 Expunctions/Nonviolent Offenses
 - HB 1077 PPP Pilot Toll Project/Ferry Tolls
 - HB 1181 Study Municipal Local Options Sales Tax

News reports have pointed out several changes in the recently approved budget that give the next governor more authority to hire political allies. The incoming governor will be allowed to hire up to 1,000 political appointees who would be exempt from normal state hiring procedures. The sitting governor was allowed to hire up to 440 state workers. The budget also lifts the salary cap on hires by the governor and increases the inauguration and transition budget for the next governor from \$420,000 to \$750,000. Critics say the changes were made for political reasons since the Republican candidate is leading in the governor's polls.

I was saddened this week to learn Representative William Wainwright, a former Speaker Pro Tempore in the House of Representatives and for the past two years the deputy minority leader for House Democrats, died Tuesday at the age of 64. Rep. Wainwright was a presiding elder in the AME Zion Church. He served 11 terms representing Lenoir and Craven counties. He will be greatly missed.

Thank you for your interest in the legislature and state government, and please let me know if I can be of assistance in some way. 919-715-3007, Frank.McGuirt@ncleg.net

Prevent Child Heatstroke in Hot Cars

Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin today joined Wake County Sheriff Donnie Harrison, the president and CEO of Safe Kids Worldwide, Safe Kids North Carolina coalition members, and representatives from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and Governor's Highway Safety Program in hosting a joint press conference and safety demonstration to help raise awareness about child hyperthermia.

North Carolina accounted for 19 of the approximately 530 children who have died from hyperthermia in vehicles nationwide between 1998 and 2011. The June 2012 death of a Burke County toddler adds to this figure and counts as the first such death in North Carolina in three years. Even without this year's record-breaking heat, deaths from hyperthermia peak in North Carolina during July and August.

"I know I speak for safety advocates everywhere when I say that losing one more child to this preventable tragedy is simply unacceptable," said Goodwin, state chair of Safe Kids North Carolina. "We will work together at all levels, and in all communities, to save other families from enduring the heartbreak of a child's heat-related vehicle death."

The press conference, held at the Wake Tech Public Safety Education Campus in Raleigh, included brief remarks by Reginald McKinnon, a parent who suffered personal tragedy due to hyperthermia, and was followed by a sample 911 call and rescue demonstration conducted by the Wake County Sheriff's Office, Wake County EMS and the Raleigh Fire Department.

"Everything we know about this terrible danger to children indicates heatstroke in hot cars can happen to any caregiver from any walk of life - and the majority of these cases are accidental tragedies that can strike even the most loving and conscientious parents," said NHTSA Administrator David Strickland. "We hope this campaign not only helps caregivers avoid accidentally harming a child, but also clears up some of the misconceptions about the causes of child heatstroke in cars."

When outside temperatures are in the low 80s, the temperature inside a vehicle can reach deadly levels in only 5-10 minutes, even with a window rolled down 2 inches. Children's bodies in particular overheat easily, and infants and children under 4 years old are at the greatest risk for heat-related illness.

- Adults should heed the following important safety tips to keep children safe:
- Never leave a child alone in a vehicle. Check to make sure all children exit the vehicle when you reach your destination.
 - Lock the doors when your vehicle is parked. Teach children that cars are not places to play.
 - Busy parents have a lot on their minds, so give yourself a reminder. Place your purse, briefcase or other important items in the backseat next to your child's car seat to help you remember to look in the back before leaving the car.
 - Set a reminder on your cell phone or other mobile device to remind you to drop off children at school or daycare when routines change.
 - Make an agreement with your child's school or daycare that you will be notified if your child is not dropped off at the normal time.
 - If you see a child or pet left unattended in a vehicle, call 911 immediately.
 - Check vehicles and trunks first if a child goes missing.

For more information, visit www.ncsafekids.org or www.safercar.gov.

McRae High School Class of 1962 Reunion

The McRae High School Class of 1962 will hold their reunion on Saturday, August 4. All classmates are invited to join in the fun. The reunion will kick off at the Golden Corral in Monroe at 4 p.m. Then there will be an event at the Glennie Bennett Community Center in Morven at 6 p.m.

The photographer for the event is Inspiration by Tweetie. For more information contact Linda Hyatt at 704-851-9657.

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