

Obituaries

Mr. James Charles "Jack" Gathings

On Tuesday, September 19, 2023, Mr. James Charles "Jack" Gathings, 86, passed away peacefully at his home to be with his Lord and Savior with his family gathered by his bedside.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, September 22, 2023, at North Wadesboro Baptist Church with Rev. Donnie Helms officiating.

Interment followed in Anson Memorial Park with military honors.

The family requests friends one hour prior to the service at the church on Friday and other times at the home.

Jack was born February 26, 1937, in Anson County, and was a son of the late James Clinton Gathings and the late Emma Bryant Gathings. He was a graduate of Wadesboro High School and Anson Technical Institute, now South Piedmont Community College, with an associate degree in business administration. He was a veteran of the United States Air Force.

He had a long career in textiles, having first worked at Wade Manufacturing and retiring from Wansow, working as a colorist in the dye department. Following his retirement he worked at Lilesville Elementary School as a substitute teacher and bus driver. The students at Lilesville Elementary called him Mr. G.

A faithful servant of God, he was a member of North Wadesboro Baptist Church where he was ordained a deacon and taught Sunday school.

He also served as a scout leader for Boy Scout Troop #172, and coached the Wade Flannels and Wadesboro Rotary Little League baseball teams.

Jack enjoyed playing golf at Twin Valley Country Club and traveling.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife of 61 years, Mary Greene Gathings; his children, Sherry Gathings of Lilesville, Clinton Edward Gathings (Anne) of Clover, SC and Jeffrey Charles Gathings (Sallie) of Jacksonville, FL; his grandchildren, Amanda Nichols (Bryan) and Nicholas Ross Gathings (Ellie), all of Columbia, SC, Scarlett Lynn Ponds and Savannah Rose Ponds, both of Lilesville, Ashley Nicole Robinson (Lisa) of Interlachen, FL and Christopher William Robinson (Cameron) of Springfield, OR; his great-grandchildren, Veronica Lynn Ponds, Gwendolyn Nichols and Alexander Anderson; his sisters and brother, Louise Hinson of Rockingham, Peggy Butts of Charlotte and Ralph Gathings of Wadesboro; his sisters-in-law, Dot Brady of Wilmington and Evelyn Covington of Myrtle Beach, SC; and his nieces and nephews and their families.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to North Wadesboro Baptist Church, 1211 North Greene St., Wadesboro, NC 28170.

The arrangements were in care of Leavitt Funeral Home and online condolences may be made at www.leavittfh.com.

Mr. Timothy Britts Johnson

On Sunday, September 24, 2023, Mr. Timothy Britts Johnson, 60, passed away peacefully at his home with his family at his bedside.

The family will greet friends from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at Leavitt Funeral Home in Wadesboro a Celebration of Life gathering following at the home in Rockingham.

Tim was born April 4, 1963 in Bell, TX and was a son of the late William Britts Johnson and the late Brenda Cook Johnson. He was a graduate of Bowman High School and worked with Scholl Mechanical in Rockingham for nearly 20 years.

Those left to cherish his memory are his wife, Natasha Ard Johnson; his children, Tina Johnson and Amber Johnson, both of Lilesville, Sherry Johnson (Jazz Williams), Alysa Clark (Josh) and Breanna Whitt, all of Rockingham; his grandchildren, Landon Howard, Will Howard, Jaylen Johnson, Adrian Johnson, Dakota Scott, Siete Scott, Malaki Puckett, Theia Johnson, Arianna Clark, Emma Clark, Aliza Clark, Mariah Whitt, Jaxon Driggers and Robert Driggers; his mother-in-law Cathy Ard of Fayetteville; his sisters-in-law and brother-in-law, Paula Quick (Chris McCoy) of Fayetteville, Joanie Ard of Bishopville, SC and Johnny Wayne Ard of Hamlet; and his faithful dog and companion Annabelle.

Tim was a devoted family man. He dearly loved his wife, children and grandchildren. He was a hard-working man and enjoyed grilling for family gatherings on the grill he made for himself. His friends affectionately called him "Stone Cold."

Most importantly, Tim gave his heart to the Lord Jesus and his family is comforted in knowing he is with him now following a courageous battle with cancer.

The arrangements are in care of Leavitt Funeral Home and online condolences may be made at www.leavittfh.com.



Frances Webster Harrington

After a full and remarkable life, Frances Webster Harrington, 95, passed away September 20, 2023 at McWhorter Hospice House of Union County in Monroe.

A memorial service to celebrate the life and faith of Frances was held on Saturday, September 23, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at Peachland United Methodist Church conducted by the Reverend Luke Christy. The family received friends following the service. Burial was private.

Frances was born on Hickory Mountain in rural Chatham County (Pittsboro), North Carolina on January 2, 1928. The day of her birth was such an extremely cold day that her uncle often recalled that the tires of the family vehicle froze to the ground. Frances grew up on a dairy farm as the second of three children and the only daughter of Lacy D. Webster and Annie Johnson Webster. Frances excelled in school and graduated from Pittsboro High School as a member of the class of 1945. She was the first female student school bus driver in Chatham County. She was proud of her Chatham County heritage and collected dirt from her beloved Chatham County which will soon be added to her burial site in Peachland. Frances was also a graduate of Campbell College.

On Christmas Eve 1948 Frances married Peachland native John Wesley Harrington, Sr. in Raleigh. Their love was one for the ages as they fittingly met at Love's Boarding House in Petersburg, Virginia. They were married almost 61 years when John passed away in 2009.

As a young married couple, Frances and John grew accustomed to frequent moves throughout John's career with Seaboard Air Line Railroad (later CSX Transportation). During their marriage they lived in Richmond, Virginia (on three separate occasions), Abbeville, South Carolina, Jacksonville, Florida and then eventually Peachland. Frances worked as a schoolteacher and for several United Methodist churches.

Frances was a devoted mother to her three children and was active in her children's lives, supporting their educational, sports, musical, theater and church endeavors. She was the mother that her children's teachers could count on to make two dozen cupcakes at a moment's notice. She was a dedicated grade mom for many years and even served as the president of the PTA. Frances instilled in her children the importance of an education and was proud of her children's school and collegiate accomplishments, and subsequently their successes in their chosen careers.

In retirement Frances traveled with John and her brother and sister-in-law to many states in the United States. A favorite European trip was when she visited London and toured the English countryside with her daughter Gloria, when she was 90 years old.

She loved the NC mountains, especially Haywood County where she spent much time in Maggie Valley enjoying Gloria and Dan's mountain home. Lake Junaluska was another special place to her.

Frances was well-read, politically astute, and respected in her church for her vast knowledge of United Methodist history, doctrine and polity.

She was an active democrat and office holder on the precinct, county, district and state levels. Frances was also an active member of the NC Democratic Women. She was a past recipient of the Lt. Governor H. Pat Taylor, Jr. Award for excellence and service to the Anson County Democratic Party.

During her membership at Peachland United Methodist Church, Frances served on numerous boards and committees and was an active member of the T. A. Graham Sunday School Class and the Lucy Bryant Circle. At the time of her death she was her church membership secretary.

Frances' cooking was second to none. During her marriage she made her delicious homemade biscuits almost every night because they were a favorite of John's. She was an exemplary hostess to all who were lucky enough to dine at her table or spend a night in her home. Her children and grandchildren have fond memories of the many different kinds of Christmas cookies and cakes she lovingly made every year for them to enjoy.

Frances believed in the Golden Rule and good manners, loved anything chocolate, and her most favorite times were those spent with her family. Frances was an extraordinary woman who fused her life with both traditional values and contemporary thinking. She was a traditional homemaker who canned vegetables every summer from John's abundant garden and made pie crusts from scratch. She was also a modern woman who carried a cell phone until her death (even using it from her hospice bed), and one who cared deeply about the rights of women and all of God's people in need.

Frances was predeceased by her husband, John Wesley Harrington, Sr., her son, the Reverend John Wesley Harrington, Jr., her son-in-law Max Clark and her brothers and sisters-in-law, Lindo (Catherine) and Lacy (Sally).

Survivors include daughters, Janice Harrington Clark of Versailles, Kentucky and her namesake, Gloria Frances Harrington Overcash (Dan) of Peachland, and daughter-in-law Betsy Vernon Harrington of Indian Land, SC. Frances is also survived by her grandchildren, Amanda L. Harrington, M.D. (Jeremy Chauvin) of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, John Webster Clark (Monica) of Versailles, Kentucky and Phillips B. Harrington, M.D. (Kelly) of Tampa, Florida; and her step-grandchildren, Kai Gurley of Silver Spring, Maryland and Alex (Travis) Gurley of Oakwood, Georgia. Her great grandchildren, Abigail, Brewster, Keira, Oliver and Gemma also survive her.

The family expresses their sincere gratitude to the staff and volunteers of Hospice of Union County for their love and care of Frances over the past two months. Their devotion to her made her final days happier and full of peace and comfort.

Floral tributes are welcomed, and the preferred florist is Piedmont Flowers and Gifts in Marshville, NC.

Memorial gifts can be made to Hospice of Union County, 700 W. Roosevelt Blvd., Monroe, NC 28112 or to the Peachland Cemetery Association, 1642 Upper White Store Rd., Peachland, NC 28133.

In remembering Frances, her family reflects on a favorite quote of hers by Mother Teresa. "At the end of our lives, we will not be judged by how many diplomas we received, how much money we made, or how many great things we have done. We will be judged by I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless and you took me in." And so, Frances lived her life with grace, dignity, humor and most of all with enormous love.

Morgan and Son Funeral Home in Marshville is in charge of arrangements.

Food Truck Friday in Albemarle Features Food Trucks and Live Music

Albemarle Parks and Recreation invites you to join them for Food Truck Fridays at City Lake Park, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Enjoy great food from a variety of food trucks and free live music. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors! Don't forget to bring a blanket or a lawn chair! There's only one event left this season.

City Lake Park is located at 815 Concord Road in Albemarle.

• On Friday, October 6 the band is New Local. This dynamic band plays a giant variety of music including rock, top 40, pop, dance throwbacks, funk, soul and country.

Community Outreach Tent Meeting

The Lamb of God Church will hold a Community Outreach Tent Meeting, giving out household items and paper products on a first come, first serve basis, on Saturday, September 30 at 9 a.m.

The event will take place in the Wadesboro IGA parking lot, located at 805 Camden Road. For information call 843-623-3777.



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