PART V

Memoirs

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THESE FAITHFUL SERVANTS

Honorary

Bishop James Lloyd Knox	April 13, 2014

Clergy

Catalina Magali Borbón	April 22, 2013
Harris Cleveland Jones III	May 13, 2013
Curtis Wayne Norton, Sr. (Associate Member)	May 17, 2013
John B. Peavy, Jr. (Local Pastor)	June 16, 2013
Hildeliza Amores Lopez	July 2, 2013
Paul Whitefield Haines	July 2, 2013
Lloyd Wilson Mullis	July 12, 2013
Hubert E. Floyd	July 18, 2013
Jerry Carl Johnson	August 2, 2013
Daniel Dennis Sain	August 5, 2013
Patricia A. Small (Associate Member)	September 7, 2013
Thomas James Price, Jr.	September 24, 2013
Jean Winona Ketwig French Russo	October 24, 2013
Orville Howard Ripley, Jr.	October 31, 2013
Russel Marion Peters	November 1, 2013
Warren Wilbert Bennett	November 7, 2013
Irvin Howard Price	November 30, 2013
James Herbert Hankins	December 10, 2013
Ralph Eugene Rivers	December 16, 2013
Donald Allen Denton (Local Pastor)	December 25, 3013
Henry David Cribb, Sr. (Associate Member)	December 28, 2013
David Joseph Love	December 31, 2013
Eleazar Legrá (Local Pastor)	January 1, 2014
Robert Caxton Doggett	January 13, 2014
John Joseph P. Kincaid	January 24, 2014
David Harold Shaver	January 28, 2014
Willis M. Rigsby (Associate Member)	January 31, 2014
Thurman Rivers, Jr.	February 7, 2014
James Esley Ridgway, Sr.	February 27, 2014
James Burton Gayler	March 19, 2014

Diaconal Minister

Barbara Mosley Mitchell	November 6, 2013

Spouses

Elizabeth Modell Potts Sharp	March 4, 2013
Hilda Elsbree Barrett	May 12, 2013
James Merrill Patch	June 21, 2013
Beverly Sue Berthelot Loveday	June 25, 2013
Luz Raquel Perez	July 30, 2013
Marie Inez Padgett Evans	August 8, 2013
Adelaide Stevens Ware	August 9, 2013
Harriet Edna Orr Rearic	August 12, 2013
Fay Fletcher Baker	September 1, 2013
Fae Brocious Brabham	October 20, 2013
Doreatha Kelly Dell	October 26, 2013
Agnes Durst Parsons	November 14, 2013
Keith James Brayman, Sr.	November 21, 2013
María Rosaura Partal Legrá	November 29, 2013
Gary Doles	December 2, 2013
Dorothy Scott Brazzell	December 9, 2013
Barbara Ellen Stiles Seghers	December 26, 2013
Samuel Downs Lewis	February 4, 2013
Dorothy Jean Sayre Lieving	February 26, 2014
Emma Hewlett Welch Rivers	March 2, 2014
Jerelene Sellers Brock Olivent	March 12, 2014
Gladys Ida Agren Jenkins	March 31, 2014
James Halcomb	April 18, 2014

HONORARY

BISHOP JAMES LLOYD KNOX

James Lloyd Knox was born in Tampa, Florida, on January 16, 1929, the son of Carlos Stephen and Jessie Hardee Knox. A graduate of Plant High School, he received an A.B. degree from Florida Southern College in 1951 and a B.D. degree from Candler School of Theology at Emory University in 1954. Honorary doctorates were awarded him by Bethune-Cookman College in 1978 and Florida Southern College in 1987. He married Edith Laney Strawn on June 2, 1951. They had two children, Richard Michael and Carol Anne.

Lloyd was called to the ministry at Hyde Park Methodist Church in Tampa, where he joined the Boy Scouts and then became active in the congregation.

While a student at Candler he served the three-point Williamson Charge in the North Georgia Conference. Bishop Roy H. Short received him into the Florida Conference on trial in 1952. He was ordained a deacon in 1953 and an elder in 1954 by Bishop John W. Branscomb.

From 1954 to 1958 Lloyd served St. John's in Tampa. In 1958 he and Edith, a nurse, were assigned by the General Board of Missions as missionaries to Cuba. Lloyd served the four-point Santiago de las Vegas Circuit and was chaplain of Wesley School, while Edith ran a medical dispensary in a poor barrio. The Cuban Revolution forced them to leave in 1960. From 1961 to 1964 they served in Argentina, where Lloyd was pastor of three congregations in Lomas de Zamora and concurrently superintendent of the Buenos Aires South District. He was editor of the mission quarterly, *Land of Decision,* and news correspondent for the Board of Missions in Argentina.

Upon their return to the Florida Conference, the Knoxes served the following appointments: associate, First, West Palm Beach, 1964-65; coordinator, Florida Methodist Spanish Ministry, 1965-73; Hyde Park, Tampa 1973-77; superintendent, DeLand District, 1977-80; superintendent, Miami District, 1980-83; and First, St. Petersburg, 1983-84.

In his work with the Spanish Ministry, Lloyd had responsibility for twenty Spanish-language congregations. He worked with Mexican-American farm workers, Puerto Ricans, and other Latin Americans in Florida. He supervised the resettlement of Cuban refugees, a cooperative effort with other denominations. The task grew to include leadership in community development for the Miami area. Much of the work was interracial and bilingual, for which he was well prepared. When he was on the Miami District, he once again helped with resettlement of refugees, Haitian and Cuban, and ministered to the entire area during a period of critical change. He organized the Miami Urban Ministry.

He served as chair of the Conference Council on Ministries, the Work Area on Evangelism, and the Committee on Finance and Administration. He was delegate to Jurisdictional and General Conferences in 1972, 1976, 1980, and 1984.

The Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference elected Knox to the episcopacy in July 1984. He served the Birmingham Area, 1984-92, and the Atlanta Area, 1992-96. From 1999 to 2001 Bishop Knox served twice as interim bishop in Florida during the illness and subsequent death of Bishop Cornelius Henderson.

He was a member of the following general boards and commissions: Church and Society, Religion and Race, Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns, and Global Ministries. He was president of the World Division of the General Board of Global Ministries, 1988-92. Knox was a member of the Human Relations Commission of the State of Georgia and trustee of twelve colleges, including Florida Southern College and Bethune-Cookman University, as well as of the Florida United Methodist Children's Home.

The Knoxes retired to St. Petersburg in 1996. Edith died in May of 2008. He married Julia Davis Nolen in July of 2009, and they made their home in Gadsden, Alabama. There he was active in First United Methodist Church, serving with the Ladle of Love soup ministry, visiting the sick, and taking communion to the homebound.

Bishop Knox died on April 13, 2014. A memorial service was held on April 16, 2014, at First United Methodist Church in Gadsden, Alabama. A second service was held on April 26, 2014, at Hyde Park United Methodist Church in Tampa, Florida. His ashes were interred in the memorial garden of Hyde Park beside Edith.

He is survived by his wife, Julia; his two children, Michael Knox of Gainesville, Florida, and Carol Knox and wife Sylvia Smith of Tallahassee, Florida; his sister, Amelia Wilcox of Poulsbo, Washington; and many nieces, nephews, and close friends.

Bishop Knox was a man of deep personal faith, a warm and generous spirit, and a clarity of purpose. He had a passionate concern for justice and a clear vision of a world in which all people can live in love and peace. He will be remembered for his missionary spirit, his compassionate heart, and his belief in people

Submitted by the Memoirs Committee

CLERGY

WARREN WILBERT BENNETT

Warren Wilbert Bennett was born on August 16, 1946, in Jamaica, New York, to Ethel Virginia Wilbert Bennett and Wessel Charles Bennett, becoming little brother to Barbara Wilbert Bennett. Warren married the love of his life, Bonnie Lee Burr, on December 5, 1981, in Melbourne, Florida, and became stepfather to two wonderful children, William E. Hammel, born on March 24, 1963, and Lynda K. Hammel, born on November 5, 1964.

Warren graduated from Buffalo Gap High School, Augusta County, Virginia, in 1964. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Catholic University of America in 1973 and a Master of Social Work from the University of Maryland in 1975. After many successful years in the field of social work, Warren felt called to the Christian ministry and earned a Master of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary in 2005.

Licensed as local pastor in 2001, he was admitted to the Florida Conference as a probationary member in 2007 and was ordained an elder in 2010. The Reverend Mr. Bennett, who preferred to be called Pastor Warren, served the following appointments: White City, Ft. Pierce, 2000-06; Lake Panasoffkee, 2006-12; and Emmanuel, Melbourne, 2012-13. His health forced him to take disability leave in October 2013.

Prior to his ministry in The United Methodist Church, Warren served as director of Easter Seals in Washington, D.C., director of the Kidney Foundation in Jacksonville, Florida, and administrator of Country Acres Children's Home in Titusville, Florida. During his ministry years, he was engaged in service, including Coalition for the Hungry, Celebrate Recovery, and Adopt a School in Lake Panasoffkee and Pumpkin Patch International, Disciple Bible Study leader, and Adopt a School at Sabal Elementary School in Melbourne, Florida. He had a special ministry heart for unchurched young adults and reached out to them regularly.

Warren thoroughly enjoyed RV travel, swimming, interior decorating, and social networking. He lived his short life fully and joyfully, sharing great joy with others.

The Reverend Mr. Bennett passed away from pancreatic cancer into his glorious forever home on November 7, 2013. A Celebration of Joy for his life was held at Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Melbourne, Florida, with the Reverend Dr. Gary Spencer, superintendent of the Atlantic Central District, and the Reverend Eric E. Hamm, interim pastor at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, officiating.

He is survived by Bonnie, his beloved wife of almost thirty-two years; stepchildren, William (Billy) Hammel of Northport, Florida, and Lynda Gregg and husband Tommy of Palm Bay, Florida; grandchildren, Matthew Gregg and Brandon Gregg of Palm Bay, Florida; sister, Barbara Leonard of Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and niece, Leslie S. Reddick of Chesapeake, Virginia.

Submitted by Bonnie Bennett

CATALINA MAGALI BORBÓN

Catalina Magali Borbón was born in Morón, Camagüey, Cuba, on February 13, 1941, the daughter of Próspero G. Pérez and Serafina E. Rodríguez. Upon graduation from the Institute of Morón with a bachelor's degree in science and arts, Catalina headed up to the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Matanzas, Cuba, endorsed by the Episcopal Church. In 1965 she received her master's degree in Christian education from that institution.

Catalina was then appointed director of Christian education of the Episcopal Church of Cuba and also served the Department of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Cuba. For several years she was a professor at the Evangelical Theological Seminary.

On July 28, 1967, she married the Reverend José A. Borbón, a Methodist minister of the Cuba Conference. The marriage ceremony was held at the Episcopal Cathedral in Havana, Cuba, presided over by His Grace José A. Gonzalez, resident bishop of the Episcopal Diocese. Catalina and José were blessed with two children: Miguel Alberto and José Antonio.

In 1978, the Borbón family left Cuba and came to the United States. As a United Methodist minister, her husband served several churches in South Florida, and Catalina became actively involved in the ministry of the local church. When José was pastor of Lakeview United Methodist Church in Miami, Catalina started a day care at that church. Later known as Lakeview United Methodist Center, it was a ministry that made a positive impact in the lives of many children from different ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds residing in the area. The Center was an example of inclusiveness and integral formation for children.

The Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church recognized her master's degree in Christian education, and Catalina was consecrated a diaconal minister in 1989. At the 2000 session of the Florida Annual Conference, she was ordained a deacon in full connection. She served at Mt. Sinai, Dania Beach, 2005-06. She took personal leave in 2007.

Catalina served on various boards and committees at the district, conference, jurisdictional, and national levels. She wrote programs for the United Methodist Women, worked with the modules for training Christian leaders designed by the Hispanic National Plan, and was instrumental in the preparation of a Comprehensive Plan for Hispanic Ministry adopted by the Florida Annual Conference at its 2000 session. At the time, Catalina was chairperson of the Hispanic Ministry Task Force.

Catalina was a committed and talented leader, always open to listen and help other people in need. She accomplished several significant things during her life journey. One of them was the creation of the Hispanic Family Camp, initiated with her husband in 1984 as a ministry for Hispanic families of the Florida Conference. For twenty-eight years Catalina served as its director, with the assistance of a team of capable leaders.

The Reverend Catalina M. Borbón passed away on April 22, 2013. A memorial service was held on April 27, 2013, at Epworth United Methodist Church in Hollywood, Florida, with the Reverend Dr. Cruz Edwin Santos officiating.

She is survived by her husband, the Reverend José A. Borbón; sons Miguel Alberto and José Antonio; daughter-in-law Lisa Marie; and granddaughters Gina Marie and Julia Carmela Elvira.

Submitted by the Reverend Tony Fernández

HENRY DAVID CRIBB, SR.

Henry David Cribb, Sr., was born on August 18, 1929, in St. Petersburg, Florida, to George F. Cribb, Sr., and Ruth Inez Hess Cribb.

He had three children: Jan Lee Cribb, born on January 1, 1951; Henry D. Cribb, Jr., born on May 13, 1954; and Mary Ruth Cribb, born on March 15, 1957.

Living in and around Gilchrist County most of his life, Hank was a general contractor and farmer before becoming a minister. He was ordained a deacon in 1972 and received as an associate member of the Florida Conference in 1978. He served the following appointments: Middleburg, 1978-81; Trinity, Winter Haven, 1981-83; Sopchoppy/Panacea, 1983-85; Lake Jackson, Tallahassee, 1985-87; Albright, St. Petersburg, 1987-92; and First, Chiefland, 1992-95. After retirement in 1995 he served for fourteen years at Trenton, which held a special place in his heart.

Hank died on December 28, 2013. A memorial service was held on January 3, 2014, at Trenton United Methodist Church in Trenton, Florida, with the Reverend Henry D. Cribb, Jr., officiating. Interment was in Crystal River, Florida.

He is survived by his children: Jan Grimes and husband Jerry, Henry Cribb and wife Pam, and Mary Ruth Anderson and husband Terry; two stepchildren, David Clinton and wife Sarah and Christina Pitts and husband Johnny; five grandchildren; four great grandchildren; two great great grandchildren; and his brother, George F. Cribb, Jr., and wife Sarah.

Hank is remembered for many things but mostly his hearty laugh and big heart.

Submitted by Henry D. Cribb, Jr.

DONALD ALLEN DENTON

Donald Allen Denton was born on November 6, 1940.

He served forty-six years as a local pastor in the Florida Conference.

He retired as Bradford County jail administrator. Prior to working at the jail he worked for sixteen years for the Bradford County Sheriff's Office

He died on December 25, 2013, at North Florida Medical Center in Gainesville, Florida, after an extended illness. Funeral services were held on December 30, 2013, at Keystone United Methodist Church in Keystone, Florida, with Dr. Craig Moore and Dr. Tom Farmer officiating.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-one years, Dorothy Denton of Keystone Heights; daughters, Tammy Denton and Tracie Brown and husband Shawn, of Keystone Heights; son, Todd Denton of Starke; eleven grandchildren; and ten great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a grandson, Joey Denton.

Submitted by the Memoirs Committee

ROBERT CAXTON DOGGETT

Robert Caxton Doggett was born on April 23, 1915, in Kossuth, Mississippi. He was the oldest of the six children of Bob and Jennie May Doggett, who in the midst of the Great Depression by self-sacrifice and hard work sent them all through college.

After graduating from Millsaps College in Jackson Mississippi, where he was editor of the campus newspaper, Caxton enrolled in Yale Divinity School. An outstanding student, he won academic awards and the praise of famed theologian, Richard Niebuhr, while at the same time working for the Associated Press and the New Haven *Journal-Courier* to pay his way through school. He preached his class graduation sermon in 1939 and again at the 50th reunion.

He courted Miss Florida, Rebecca Ashton, and they were married on October 19, 1940. They had two daughters, Maurine, born on December 20, 1943, and Abigail, born on June 16, 1946.

Caxton was admitted to the Florida Conference on trial in 1939, was ordained a deacon and received into full connection in 1941, and was ordained an elder in 1942. He served the following appointments: Coronado Beach 1939-41; Concord Park, Orlando, 1941-43; Mt. Dora, 1943-45; secretary of student work, General Board of Missions, 1945-50; Rader Memorial, Miami, 1950-57; First, Winter Park, 1957-63; First, Lakeland, 1963-67; Hyde Park, Tampa, 1967-69; Melrose Park, Ft. Lauderdale, 1969-73; Arlington, Jacksonville, 1973-1977; and Community, Delray Beach, 1977-79. He retired in 1979.

A man of courage and a force for justice, Caxton championed civil rights causes in the 1950s. Although reared and educated in rural Mississippi, he grew to become chaplain of the Miami chapter of the NAACP, president of the Florida Council on Human Relations, and aide to Thurgood Marshall in the notorious Groveland Boys rape case. In addition, as president of the Miami Chapter of the United Nations Association, he received a personal letter of thanks from Eleanor Roosevelt for his advocacy of the fledging UN. Later he stepped forward to bridge his denomination's gender gap by receiving Florida's first female United Methodist pastor, Charlene Kammerer, as his associate at Arlington. Now a retired bishop, she led his memorial service.

Vigorous and passionate, Caxton had a romantic's love of poetry, which he could recite from memory, and opera, which he played until losing his hearing. He also competed intensely at tennis and bridge, winning numerous tournaments in each.

Caxton passed away at the age of ninety-eight on January 13, 2014, at his home in Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. A memorial service was held on January 18, 2014, at First United Methodist Church in Waynesville, North Carolina, with Bishop Charlene Kammerer and the Reverend Sanford L. Giles officiating. A graveside service was held on June 18, 2014, at Edgewater Cemetery in New Smyrna Beach, Florida.

He was preceded in death by his adored wife, Rebecca Ashton Doggett, of New Smyrna Beach, Florida. He is survived by his daughter, Maurine Doggett and husband Jim Thacker of Elkins Park, Pennsylvania; his daughter Abigail Doggett Bordeaux and husband David H. Doggett Bordeaux of Atlanta, Georgia; four grandchildren; and four great grandchildren. Also surviving are sisters, Maye Evelyn Rogers and Karolyn Cain of Columbus Mississippi, and brother, Thad Doggett, of Denver, Colorado.

Submitted by Maurine Doggett and Abigail Doggett Bordeaux

HUBERT E. FLOYD

Hubert E. Floyd was born in Conway, South Carolina, to William Harvey and Flora Belle Richardson Floyd.

He was a graduate of Wofford College and Candler School of Theology at Emory University. He did graduate studies the University of Havana, Cuba, and at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

While serving on an Emory University missionary project in Cuba, he met Barbara Stewart, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Carl D. Stewart, who were missionaries there. They were married after Barbara's graduation from Asbury College.

Hubert was admitted to the South Carolina Conference on trial in 1950. He was ordained a deacon and received into full connection in 1951 and was ordained an elder in 1952. He transferred to the Florida Conference in 1953 and served the Spanish-American Methodist Church in Miami, 1953-55. In 1955 he and Barbara were consecrated as missionaries and sent to the Isle of Pines in Cuba, where he served as pastor of Nueva Gerona Church, supervised twelve congregations, and was chaplain of Cuba's National Prison in Nueva Gerona. He ministered to the political and criminal prisoners during the Cuban Revolution.

In 1961 the Board of Missions sent the Floyds to Costa Rica, where he was pastor, district superintendent, administrator of the youth camp, and professor in the seminary.

Upon their return to the United States in 1971, Hubert served the following appointments: Coral Way, Miami, 1971-75; Epworth, Hollywood, 1975-80; associate council director, coordinating Haitian and Hispanic ministries, 1980-81; Trinity, Lighthouse Point, 1981-82; Grace, Merritt Island, 1982-88; and Asbury, Maitland, 1988-94. Upon his retirement in 1994 he served as interim minister for Ebenezer Methodist Church in Nassau, the Bahamas.

Hubert died at home on July 18, 2013. Funeral services were held on July 20, 2013, at First United Methodist Church in Cordele, Georgia. Burial was in Evergreen Memorial Gardens in Cordele.

He is survived by his wife of sixty-three years, Barbara Floyd of Cordele, Georgia; his children: Kenneth Floyd and wife Cristina of Orlando, Florida; Kathryn Adams and husband Russell of Cordele, Georgia; Vincent Carl Floyd and wife Mary of Savannah, Georgia; and Miriam Skeim and husband Jeffrey of Dunedin, Florida; twelve grandchildren; and twenty-two great grandchildren. He is also survived by his twin brother, the Reverend Herbert Carl Floyd and wife Oneida of Spartanburg, South Carolina, and a sister, Margaret Thomas of Atlanta, Georgia. He was preceded in death by his siblings, Bernice Cox, Rudolph Floyd, and Harvey Floyd.

Submitted by the Memoirs Committee

JAMES BURTON GAYLER

James Burton Gayler was born on February 19, 1930, in a small farmhouse outside Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, to Chester Burton and Sadie Mae Gayler. He spent his formative years on the farm, with summers on the family homestead farm near Lyerly, Georgia.

At the age of fourteen Jim entered Emory University Academy in Oxford, Georgia, where he gave his life to Christ and was called to preach at age fifteen. He then attended both Emory Junior College in Valdosta for his A.A. degree and Emory University in Atlanta, receiving his B.A. in 1948. During this time Jim served several churches, pastoring his first at age sixteen, then graduated from Candler School of Theology in 1953 with a Master of Divinity degree. He is one of the few who attended four different schools—high school through graduate work—within the Emory University system. He later attended Asbury Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky, and in 1977 received a Doctor of Ministry degree from Luther Rice Seminary in Jacksonville, Florida.

While at Candler, he served as summer youth pastor at Reeves Memorial in Orlando, Florida, where he met his wife-to-be, Betty Ann Hathaway. They were married on September 6, 1951, and had three children: David, born in December 1952; Stephen, born in 1955; and Joy Annette, born in August 1964.

Jim joined the Florida Conference in 1954 and served Pinetta, 1954-56, and Glen Julia Circuit, 1956-57. He then served the Evangelical Methodist Congregation in Mableton, Georgia, 1957-59; founded the Youth for Christ Ministry in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, 1959-61; served the Holiness Tabernacle in Lakeland, Florida, 1961-62; and was youth pastor at Reeves Memorial in Orlando, 1962-63.

He was re-admitted to the Florida Conference on trial and ordained a deacon in 1963 and was ordained an elder in 1965. He served the following appointments: Union Park, Orlando, 1963-67; First, Jasper, 1967-71; Coral Way, Miami, June-October, 1971; Wesley Memorial, Gainesville, 1971-76; St. Marks, Ocala, 1976-82; Grace, Gainesville, 1982-84; Reeves Memorial, Orlando, 1984-85; Belleview, 1985-86; and Community, DeBary, 1986-94.

After retiring in 1994, Jim served DeLeon Springs, 1994-95; minister of visitation, First, DeLand, 1995-97; Osteen, 1998; and Oxford, 1998-2002.

Jim's ministry was centered on his philosophy of service beyond self. He always requested to be assigned to churches in need, rather than larger or thriving churches. His personal and spiritual gain was the knowledge that he was serving the Lord and helping others in the way God intended. Jim and Betty's ministry resulted in many hundreds of people giving their lives to Christ and serving as God's ambassadors.

Jim believed in "putting feet to your prayers" and wore out hundreds of pairs of shoes going door to door visiting church members and non-members. His engaging country smile, ability to connect with people, and relentless drive to call on those in need set him apart. The Lord has welcomed into Heaven a good and faithful servant, a humble farm boy who served the Lord with all his might. He will be missed greatly by his family and the many friends he made along his memorable life journey.

Jim went home to the Lord on March 19, 2014, after a long and courageous fight with cancer. His funeral service was held on March 22, 2014, at the Oxford United Methodist Church in Oxford, Florida, with the Reverends William Kennedy, Don Logue, and Walter Edwards officiating. Interment was at Pine Level Cemetery in Oxford.

Jim is survived by his loving wife of more than sixty-two years, Betty; son David and wife Winnie and granddaughter Josephine; son Stephen; daughter Joy and husband Les Wise; brother Bill of Boynton Beach; brother Bob of Baltimore; and sister JoAnn of Oregon.

Submitted by David Gayler

PAUL WHITEFIELD HAINES

Paul Whitefield Haines was born on May 2, 1923, in Japanese-occupied Seoul, Korea. He was the first of two sons born to Paul Ehret and Myrtle J. Neff Haines, missionaries serving in Korea under the Oriental Missionary Society. From childhood Paul was immersed in a unique reality that straddled his close-knit missionary community and the ancient Korean culture. He attended Seoul Foreign School until the final year of high school when World War II necessitated a family move to the United States. He graduated in 1941 from Hollywood High School in Los Angeles, California, before attending Asbury College and Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky.

Paul met Florence Alice Hall, of La Belle, Florida, shortly after he arrived at Asbury. They were married on May 29, 1946, after Florence completed nurse's training and returned to join Paul in studying at the seminary. Paul received his divinity degree in 1948 and traveled in a radio quartet ministry while Florence completed her master's in religious education, preparing them to be a team in their ministry for Christ.

Paul was admitted to the Florida Conference on trial in 1949 and was ordained a deacon and an elder in 1950. He served as assistant at First, Tampa, 1949-50, under the guidance of Dr. E.J. Pendergrass.

Just before the outbreak of the Korean War, the Florida Conference approved Paul and Florence's request to return to Korea as career missionaries under the Oriental Missionary Society. War re-routed them to Tokyo, where they taught together in the OMS Seminary until Paul was re-assigned to the war zone in 1951. He traveled in and out of Korea from 1951 to 1953, leaving the family in Japan. God used the sobering reality of the Korean War to deepen Paul's love for the Korean people and to magnify his personal faith in the saving grace of Jesus Christ. At the end of the conflict, the family joined him in Korea.

Paul and Florence were parents to four children: Judith Lynne, born on May 5, 1950; Paul Lowell, born on January 10, 1953; Douglas Wesley, born on January 19, 1955; and Terrel William, born on December 30, 1957.

For forty years Paul's passion for Christ took him in the footsteps of his father as he focused on evangelism and church planting throughout the villages of Korea. His charismatic personality and vocal musical talents together with fluency in the Korean language equipped him for a unique missionary career. In 1981 Paul received the Asbury College Alumni Award for distinction in Christian service and loyalty to the university. Near the end of his career, the Korean Evangelical Holiness Church honored Paul with a lifetime award for outstanding service to Christ in Korea.

Paul and Florence officially retired from OMS International (now One Mission Society) in 1990 and returned to their permanent home in Winona Lake, Indiana. Paul continued as OMS liaison to the Korean Evangelical Church in America while he traveled across the United States, speaking at churches and conferences until 2001, when Florence's failing health needed his full attention. Her fight with breast cancer ended on October 6, 2002. Paul resumed his schedule until 2003, when he suffered a stroke that limited his mobility. In 2004 he moved into Heritage Pointe United Methodist Memorial Community in Warren, Indiana, where he lived until his death on July 2, 2013, at the age of ninety.

Paul is survived by his daughter Judith and husband Scott Shively of Plano, Texas; three sons: Lowell and wife Sherry of Indianapolis, Indiana; Douglas of Winona Lake, Indiana; and Terry and wife Mary of Overland Park, Kansas; eight grandchildren; and one great granddaughter. Family and friends celebrated his life at a memorial service on August 30, 2013, at the Toney Chapel of the Southport Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis, Indiana. Burial was in Ft. Myers Cemetery, Ft. Myers, Florida.

Submitted by Judith Shively

JAMES HERBERT HANKINS

James Herbert Hankins was born on March 10, 1931, in Cedar Bluff, Virginia, to LeRoy and Florence Talbert Hankins. He was part of a clergy family, as his father and two brothers were Methodist pastors and his mother was a Quaker minister and teacher.

Jim married Eleanor Southard on June 23, 1954. She served beside him throughout his ministry. They had four children: David, Merri Lynne, Rebecca, and Steven.

He graduated from Asbury College with a B.A. in 1953, Candler School of Theology with a B.D. in 1956, Union Theological Seminary with an M.T. in 1965, and Drew University with a D.M. in 1977. He was admitted to the Holston Conference on trial in 1953, ordained a deacon in 1954, and ordained an elder in 1956. He transferred to the Florida Conference in 1973.

Jim served the Glendale Circuit, Abingdon, Virginia, 1956-58, and St. Andrews, Knoxville, Tennessee, 1958-60, before going as a missionary to Liberia, West Africa, in 1960. When he returned to the states in 1973, he transferred to the Florida Conference, where he served the following appointments: associate, First, Jacksonville, 1973-77; Hendricks Memorial, Jacksonville, 1977-86; First, Titusville, 1986-92; and executive director, Division of the Ministry, 1992-96. He retired in 1996.

His ministry and evangelism in Liberia for more than fourteen years was a challenging and exciting time in service to the church and in answer to God's call. He worked with eight Liberian pastors in the West African jungles of Liberia to spread the gospel in the villages and for his first two terms also served as chairman of Ganta Mission, the largest United Methodist mission station in the world at that time. Jim used his Appalachian mountain upbringing to good stead supervising the three hundred native Liberian workers in general maintenance and building projects. His third term he was appointed to the Firestone Rubber Plantation as chaplain and pastor. He always felt that it was a great privilege to share God's love in ministry in Liberia.

On returning to America to continue his ministry, he saw a great need for trained pastoral counselors. He became a certified member of the American Association of Pastoral Counselors and as part of his ministry worked part time at a counseling center for eleven years.

Jim was a gifted craftsman and artist. He loved woodworking and built a pulpit and communion table at his first church. Ganta Mission had a sawmill and carpentry shop, so he designed the first prototype of a Liberian African coffee table that the mission workers reproduced and sold by the hundreds. He also put his rural upbringing to use by raising chickens, ducks, pigs, and rabbits so that both missionaries and native Liberians could supplement an otherwise protein-deficient diet.

Jim had always enjoyed being an amateur cartoonist, but while stationed in Liberia he picked up a paint brush to paint Liberian scenes. His portrait of Liberian President William Tubman was so lifelike that President Tubman claimed it for himself when he came on official state business.

After retirement Jim served for several years as a full-time volunteer for Habitat for Humanity supervising the building of Habitat homes in Lakeland. He continued to enjoy playing tennis with clergy, friends, family, and parishioners throughout his adult life and into retirement.

Jim died from lung cancer on December 10, 2013. A Celebration of Life service was held on December 27, 2013, at First United Methodist Church in Lakeland, Florida, with Bishop Robert Fannin, the Reverend David McEntire, and the Reverend Bill Fraker officiating.

He is survived by his beloved wife of fifty-nine years, Eleanor, and their four children: Dr. David Hankins of Lakeland, Florida; Merri Hankins and husband Bill Hunt of Arlington, Virginia; Rebecca Hankins-Ivey and husband Barry Ivey of Orlando, Florida; and Dr. Steven Hankins and wife Yan Hua of Honolulu, Hawaii; and by eight grandchildren. His brothers, the Reverend John Paul Hankins and wife Willaine and the Reverend Robert Hankins and wife Carolyn, also survive him.

Submitted by Eleanor Hankins

JERRY CARL JOHNSON

Jerry Carl Johnson was born on March 17, 1951, in Tifton, Georgia, and raised in Jacksonville, Florida.

A 1973 graduate of the University of South Florida, he worked as a claims adjuster with Allstate Insurance Company in Orlando. During that time he took up audio recording as a hobby, later opening Ambidextrous Recording Studios, which he owned and operated for ten years.

He married Susan Padgett on April 28, 1984. They had three children: Kristen, born on April 13, 1988, and twins Wesley and Hannah, born on October 9, 1991.

In 1985 Jerry received a call to Christian ministry and the next year entered seminary at Emory University's Candler School of Theology in Atlanta, Georgia, earning his Master of Divinity degree cum laude in 1989. He was admitted to the Florida Conference as a probationary member and ordained a deacon in 1988 and was ordained an elder in full connection in 1991.

As a recipient of the Frank and Helen Sherman scholarship, he was honored by Emory as an outstanding and innovative preacher in 1990 and was named to *Who's Who in Religion* in 1992.

He served the following appointments: Lee, 1989-92; First, Alachua, 1992-96; Keystone Heights, 1996-98; Swaim Memorial, Jacksonville, 1998-99; sabbatical, 2000; Temple Terrace, Tampa, 2000-08. He retired in 2008 to his dream home on the Hillsborough River.

Jerry always considered himself "just an old rock'n'roller who fell in love with Jesus." He loved the ocean, engaging in deep theological discussions, listening to rock music, spending time with his family, and reading by the river.

He passed away on August 2, 2013. Funeral services were held on August 9, 2013, at Branch of Christ Church in Lutz.

Jerry will be remembered by his loving wife, Susan, and their three children, Kristen and twins Wesley and Hannah. Adopted at birth by his parents, Waldemar Carl and Mary Louise Edmondson Johnson, who predeceased him, Jerry is also survived by his biological family, with whom he was reunited in 2009.

Submitted by Susan Johnson

HARRIS CLEVELAND JONES III

Harris Cleveland Jones III was born in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, on July 8, 1934, to Harris Cleveland Jones, Jr., and Emma Fenny Jones. He graduated in 1952 from Hattiesburg High School, where he met his high school sweetheart, Myrtle M. Morris, whom he married in 1954.

With a strong Methodist heritage, Harris and Myrtle were active in their church youth programs. It was at a Methodist youth camp that Harris surrendered his life to the Lord. He also felt called into pastoral ministry, so at the youthful age of seventeen, he began studies for his license to preach. He preached and shared his testimony at various churches and served as pastor of Dixie United Methodist Church in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, 1954-55, while finishing his undergraduate work.

He received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1955, with majors in religion, philosophy, and sociology. Two years later he received a Master of Theology degree from Asbury Seminary. In 1957 Harris was also admitted on trial to the Alabama-West Florida Conference and ordained a deacon; in 1959 he was ordained an elder and received into full connection. He served churches there for fourteen years, also serving on the Conference Council, chairing the area of Christian Social Concerns, and working with the Stewardship and Finance Committee.

Harris transferred to the Florida Conference in 1971 and served the following appointments: Lake Jackson, Tallahassee, 1971-75; Main Street, Jacksonville, 1975-76; First, Chattahoochee, 1976-79; Tallahassee Heights, Tallahassee, 1979-80; General Board of Global Ministries, 1980-85; Grace, Orlando, 1985-86; Wesley Memorial, Lakeland, 1986-89; First, Eustis, 1989-94; and First, Lake Wales, 1994-97. He retired in 1997. He worked with the Conference Council in the area of Stewardship and Finance.

In 1980 the General Board of Global Ministries invited Harris to work in the National Division with Stewardship and Finance. He conducted financial campaigns helping churches all over the United States raise funds for budgets, property improvements, and new buildings. Harris was a strong believer in the Biblical concept of tithing, and having practiced this since his teen years, it was easy for him to preach and teach from God's word and his personal experiences. Myrtle traveled with him and assisted as a volunteer during these five fulfilling years of special ministry.

Harris' ministry touched many lives during his more than fifty-five years of service. He preached many revivals and some camp meetings in his younger years. After retirement he worked in prison ministries and Emmaus, as well as preaching and teaching.

Harris passed away rather suddenly on May 13, 2013. Funeral services were held at the Niceville United Methodist Church in Niceville, Florida. Officiating were two longtime friends, the Reverend Edward Chandler and the Reverend Douglas Newton, of the Alabama-West Florida Conference. They shared how Harris's greatest passion was to lead others to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and challenge them to make a personal commitment. His sons and his grandson Jake shared words of love and respect. Interment was at Highlands Cemetery in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, with the Reverend Douglas Williams officiating.

He is survived by Myrtle, his wife of fifty-nine years; their three children and spouses, Harris Cleveland Jones IV and wife Renee, Andrew Newman Jones and wife Rebecca, and Lori Elise Dobbs and husband Mike; eight grandchildren; and five great grandchildren.

Harris was a committed and faithful husband and father. To quote his children, "Daddy gave us our first glimpse of God's infinite love." He was a solid rock and a light for their path. He enjoyed God's beautiful world camping, hunting, and fishing with his family. He had a long and wonderful life serving his savior. Harris Cleveland Jones III was a true man of God . . . only because he had a Great Savior.

Submitted by Myrtle Jones

JOHN JOSEPH P. KINCAID, SR.

John Joseph P. Kincaid, Sr., was born on December 28, 1918, in Gastonia, North Carolina, to Walter Farris and Nettie Irene Harkey Kincaid. He graduated from Bessemer High School in Greensboro, North Carolina, in 1936. In 1950 he graduated cum laude from High Point College with a B.A. in English and went on to receive a M. Div. degree from Duke Divinity School in 1954.

He was married to Mae Geraldine Phillips from 1939 to 1960. From 1964 until her death in 2002 he was married to Nancy Chapmon Ross.

John's work in the ministry began in 1941 when he and three friends founded the "Chicken House" Church, now Brookhaven Baptist Church, in Greensboro, North Carolina. He was admitted to the Western North Carolina Conference on trial in 1950 and was ordained a deacon, received into full connection, and ordained an elder in 1953. He took a break from the pastoral ministry to serve as the Mid-South director of CROP in Memphis, Tennessee, from 1955 to 1960. In 1965 he transferred to the Florida Conference and served the following appointments: Jasper, 1965-67; Ellenton, 1967-70; Matecumbe, 1970-72; and Kirkman Road, Orlando, 1972-75. He took a leave of absence in 1975 and retired in 1978.

The Reverend Mr. Kincaid never completely retired, and from 1977 until his final retirement in 1992 he worked in the North Carolina Prison System, in the state mental health system, and with at-risk youth. His belief in the power of education and hard work to improve lives always guided his efforts as he touched many in seen and unseen ways. In October 1992 he was recognized by Governor James Martin for his work with disadvantaged youth. The network of walking trails and a boardwalk they built around the public access area at Lake Lure, North Carolina, are still used today.

John and Nancy shared a passion for collecting antiques, working with their Arabian horses, and planning and building their retirement home in Lake Lure, built with logs from tobacco barns in Rockingham County, North Carolina. He also built several parsonages over the years. He was an avid reader and published three books during the last ten years of his life. A generous man, he often extended assistance to strangers as well as friends. With a friendly smile and wave he traveled about on his scooter in Reidsville, North Carolina, where he lived in the later years of his life.

He passed away at his daughter's home in Ocala, Florida, on Friday, January 24, 2014. A memorial service was held at Wentworth United Methodist Church, in Wentworth, North Carolina, on March 1, 2014, with the pastor, the Reverend Herb McClintock, officiating.

The Reverend Mr. Kincaid is survived by six of his children and stepchildren: John Kincaid, Jr., and wife Renee of Greenville South Carolina; Joel Kincaid and wife Denise of Apex, North Carolina; Clark Ross and wife Pam of Candler, North Carolina; Diane Dean and husband Bobby of Greensboro, North Carolina; Luzette Kincaid Musen and husband Don of Ocala, Florida; and Kim Harless and husband Aubrey of Efland, North Carolina; brothers, Lamar Kincaid of Savannah, Georgia, and Bobby Kincaid of Greensboro, North Carolina; twenty-one grandchildren; and twenty-one great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Nancy; son, Stephen Kincaid; daughter, Yvonne Kincaid Hogland; two brothers; and four sisters.

Submitted by Luzette Kincaid Musen

ELEAZAR LEGRÁ

Eleazar Legrá was born in Holguin, Cuba, on March 6, 1930, to Amalio Eulogio Legrá and Rogelia Matos. His father was a local pastor in the Methodist Church of Cuba. The Legras raised their children with strong moral values and Christian principles. The whole family was always involved in the activities of Methodism in Cuba and in the United States.

Eleazar made the decision to go into the ministry while a secondary school student. After earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Institute of Holguin, Cuba, he was admitted to the Evangelical Theological Seminary of Matanzas, Cuba, in 1950. Three years later he finished all the requirements for his Bachelor of Theology degree and graduated on June 22, 1953. He was ordained an elder and received into full connection in 1955.

Less than a month after his graduation, on July 16, 1953, Eleazar married the former Maria Rosaura Partal, his first and only love. After their honeymoon they went to serve the pastoral circuit of Aguada de Pasajeros, Cuba, where they stayed for seven years. Sensitive to the need of good quality education for the children of that rural community, they established an elementary school sponsored by the local church.

Eleazar and Rosaura left Cuba in 1961 and established their home in South Florida. At the beginning Eleazar did not have the opportunity to serve as a minister. He started working in the business of his older brother, Elias, who had already been living in the United States for more than ten years. Eleazar also obtained a license as a realtor and worked in that field for some time. However, his heart was in church ministry and a couple of years after his arrival in Florida he had the opportunity to become a local pastor in the Florida Conference. With the support of his wife, he served the following appointments: West Palm Beach Hispanic; Wesley Hispanic, Coral Gables; First Hispanic, Hialeah; Lakeview Hispanic, Miami; and First Hispanic, Miami. The Reverend Mr. Legrá retired as a local pastor in 1995 but continued to serve First Miami Hispanic for a few more years.

After twenty years of service at First Miami Hispanic, he and his wife joined the Hispanic American United Methodist Church of Hialeah, a congregation he had served many years earlier. There he was supportive of the appointed ministers, helped as a pastor of visitation, and continued his evangelistic ministry with *The Upper Room* in Spanish, a devotional guide he put in the hands of hundreds of people. Rev. Legrá was a strong believer in the practice of a healthy devotional life. From their two appointments in the Cuba Conference to their service in several churches in the Florida Conference, Eleazar and Rosaura Legra served with love and faith for more than forty-five years.

Eleazar died on January 1, 2014. His wife of sixty years, Rosaura, preceded him in death on November 30, 2013. A service celebrating his life was held on January 3, 2014, at the chapel of Caballero Woodland Funeral Home in Hialeah, Florida, with the Reverends Danilo and Odalys Quevedo officiating. Interment was in the Vista Memorial Cemetery in Miami Lakes.

The Reverend Eleazar Legrá has left a rich spiritual legacy to all who had the privilege to know him. His family and friends have been blessed beyond measure to have this faithful man of God in their lives. As one of his colleagues in ministry aptly stated, “Eleazar served the Lord with grace and humility.”

Submitted by the Reverend Tony Fernandez

HILDELIZA AMORES LÓPEZ

Hildeliza Amores López was born in Buenaventura, Cuba, to Vicenta López and Benito Amores. She married Carlos Francisco de la Fe Delgado on May 24, 1975. They had two children, Maylis and May Rosi.

Hildeliza began her journey into ordained ministry by becoming a local preacher in 1957. She attended Pinzon College in Camagüey, Cuba, graduating in 1960, and continued on to theological studies at the Evangelical Theological Seminary, an ecumenical institution in Mantanzas, Cuba, graduating in 1964. She was ordained a deacon in 1963 and ordained an elder and received into full connection in the Cuba Methodist Conference in 1965.

She served as pastor in numerous churches in Cuba. She was also executive secretary for Christian Education, 1970-73, and was on the Board of Ordained Ministry 1980-82. She served as superintendent of the Havana District, 1982-86, before moving to the United States in 1989.

From her teenage years on she served on various regional and national committees. She always stayed deeply involved in ecumenical efforts, collaborating often with clergy from the Episcopal Church, the Presbyterian Church, and the Lutheran Church. Her specialty being Christian education, she contributed articles on a regular basis to publications of the Methodist Church of Cuba and held seminars on Christian education throughout the conference and at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Matanzas.

In the United States she and her family joined The United Methodist Church. She served as pastor of the Hispanic Mission of First United Methodist Church in Kissimmee, Florida, 1991-99. In 1999 her conference membership was transferred to the Florida Conference, but she was then appointed to the Northern New Jersey Conference, where she served at First, Union City, until her retirement in 2002.

Hildeliza passed away on July 2, 2013, at Good Samaritan Village in Kissimmee, Florida. A memorial service celebrating her life and ministry was held on July 13, 2013, at First United Methodist Church in Kissimmee, Florida, with the Reverend José A. Carrión Aquino, the Reverend Aldo O. Martin—a life-long friend and colleague—and the Reverend Daniel Martínez officiating. Burial was in Osceola Memory Gardens Cemetery in Kissimmee, Florida.

Survivors include her daughters, Maylis de la Fe Amores-Rodríguez and husband Aldo Luis Rodríguez, and May Rosi de la Fe-Joy and husband Tyler V. Joy; adopted sons, Héctor Amores and David Amores; grandchildren, Sofia, Samuel, Gabriel, and Caleb; sisters, Estrella and Bertha Amores López; and numerous beloved extended-family members. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Carlos Francisco de la Fe Delgado, and her brother Héctor Amores López.

Submitted by her daughters, Maylis and May Rosi

DAVID JOSEPH LOVE

David Joseph Love was born in Meridian, Mississippi. He graduated from Pensacola High School in 1946. Immediately following WWII he served in the U.S. Army with the occupation troops in Japan. He graduated from Auburn University with a degree in agriculture/animal husbandry and earned a Master's Degree from Emory University's Candler School of Theology.

He was admitted to the Alabama-West Florida Conference on trial and ordained a deacon in 1961. He was ordained an elder and received into full connection in 1963. That year he transferred to the Florida Conference and served the following appointments: Greensboro, 1963-65; Lakewood Park, Lakeland, 1965-70; Edge Memorial, Groveland, 1970-73; Edge Memorial/Mascotte, 1973-76; Azalea Park, 1976-78; and director, Children's Home, 1978-91. He took disability leave in 1991 and retired in 1992.

David died on December 31, 2013, at West Volusia-Flagler Hospice Center in Orange City, Florida.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-nine years, Dorothy Hopper; daughter, Deni Love Payne and husband Darryl; sister, Ann Rainey Love Suttle and husband Billy G.; and nieces, nephews, and numerous cousins throughout the United States.

His smile, positive outlook, and kindness will be remembered by all who knew him.

Submitted by the Memoirs Committee

LLOYD WILSON MULLIS

Lloyd Wilson Mullis was born on December 9, 1912, in Mound Ridge, Kansas. He graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University and attended seminary at Boston University.

He was admitted on trial in the Nebraska Conference in 1942, was ordained a deacon in 1944, and was ordained an elder and received into full connection in 1945. He transferred to the Florida Conference in 1959 and served the following appointments: Friendship, Clearwater, 1959-62; Mims, 1962-64; Ellenton, 1964-67; and Sylvan Abbey, 1967-68. He took a sabbatical in 1970 and retired in 1971.

He was past president of the TAT Civic Association in Holiday and enjoyed the friendship of the members of TAT and the activities there, especially billiards.

Lloyd died on July 12, 2013. He was preceded in death by his wife of sixty years, Virginia, and is survived by his four children: David, Robert and wife Denise, Linda and husband Tim, and Stephen and wife Marcia; five grandchildren; and five great grandchildren.

Submitted by the Memoirs Committee

CURTIS WAYNE NORTON, SR.

Curtis Wayne Norton was born in Tampa, Florida, on June 14, 1940, to the Reverend Daniel W. Norton and Myrtle Snair Norton.

He graduated from Milton High School in 1959, received an A.A. from Seminole Community College in 1966, and attended the University of Central Florida and the University of North Florida, 1968-72. He completed the Ministerial Course of Study at Emory University's Candler School of Theology in 1982.

His first church membership was in the Assemblies of God in Tampa, Florida, where his father was a pastor and his mother an evangelist. When his father became a Methodist pastor in 1955, the family became Methodist. Curtis preached in more than one hundred fifty Methodist churches as a lay speaker before answering the call to preach in 1968 while a member of First United Methodist Church in Orlando.

He married Nancy Bushnell on December 31, 1973. They had five children: Curtis Wayne, Jr., born on June 25, 1961; Catherine Renee, born on October 15, 1964; Susan Kay, born on October 30, 1966; Terra Michelle, born on September 15, 1970; and Troy A. Townsend, born in December 9, 1971.

A third-generation pastor, Curtis was licensed to preach in 1968 and was admitted as an associate member of the conference in 1975. He served the following appointments: Zellwood, 1968-71; Union Park, Orlando, 1971-72; Asbury and Calvary, Orange Park, 1972-73; Calvary, Orange Park, 1973-76; Southside Estates (renamed Grace), Jacksonville, 1976-80; Grace, Orlando, 1980-85; Lockhart, Orlando, January-June, 1985; Oneco, 1985-87; Wesley, Melbourne, 1987-90; approved evangelist, 1990-91; Silver Palm, Homestead, 1991-95; Grace, St. Augustine, 1995-2000; disability leave, 2000-01; and Christ, LeHigh Acres, 2001-02. He retired in 2002.

Curtis served on various conference committees, including UMCOR, and went with a team of pastors to Guatemala after the earthquake in 1974. He had a heart for evangelism and preached a balanced life that continues to grow while walking with Christ.

He received recognition from the conference in 1970 for church growth at Zellwood and in 1972 for church growth at Calvary and Asbury in the Jacksonville District. He was recognized for outstanding leadership during recovery following Hurricane Andrew in 1994.

Upon retirement he and Nancy moved to Cleveland, Georgia, in the beautiful North Georgia mountains and became active in the Cleveland United Methodist Church.

Curtis suffered a severe stroke in 2006 but was able to travel and stay active until cancer surgery in September 2012. He died on May 17, 2013.

A celebration of life service was held on May 19, 2013, at Cleveland United Methodist Church in Cleveland, Georgia, with the Reverend Richard Petry, the Reverend Richard Moeller, and the Reverend Thomas McElroy officiating.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy Bushnell Norton; sons, Curtis Wayne Norton, Jr., of Apopka, Florida, and Troy A. Townsend; daughter, Catherine Renee Plunkett of Apopka, Florida; daughter and daughter-in-law, Susan Kay Norton and Tiffany Daniels of Orlando, Florida; daughter Terra Michelle Merrell and husband Steve of Cumming, Georgia; son and daughter-in-law, Troy and Kaitlin Townsend of Phoenix, Arizona; brother, Daniel W. Norton of Gainesville; and ten grandchildren.

As a boy and young man Curtis was quite an entrepreneur and always worked. He was the Paperboy of the Year for the Tampa Tribune. He shined shoes, sold tomatoes and deviled crabs, and ran a lawn mowing business with one employee—his little brother Dan. He worked for Piggly Wiggly and A&P grocery stores. He earned a degree in business and worked at Domestic Finance as a manager.

Submitted by Nancy Norton

JOHN B. PEAVEY, JR.

John B. Peavey, Jr., was born to Shirley and John Peavey, Sr.

A local pastor, he served Braden River in Bradenton, 2008-2013. He was a devoted husband, proud father and grandfather, and avid boater and fisherman.

He died at the age of fifty-three on June 16, 2013, in Sun City Center, Florida. A Celebration of Life was held on June 30, 2013.

He is survived by his wife of thirty-three years, Marti Puckett Peavey; three children, Jessica Peavey Doherty, Joie Peavey Campbell, and John Peavey III; two grandsons, Jack and Jeremiah Campbell; parents; sister, Sherry Peavey Calhoun; and many nieces and nephews.

Submitted by the Memoirs Committee

RUSSEL MARION PETERS

Russel Marion Peters was born on October 5, 1937, in Knox County, Indiana, to Carl Russell Peters and Lillian Adaline Harral Peters.

He married Margaret Like on December 29, 1958. They had two children, Marion Averlyn, born in 1960, and David Joseph, born in 1961.

After graduation from Oaktown, Indiana, High School in 1955, he attended Vincennes University in Vincennes, Indiana, and Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky. He received a B.A. degree from Greenville College in Greenville, Illinois, in 1959; a B.D. from Asbury Seminary in 1962; and an M.A. in 1967 and Ph.D. in 1970 from Indiana University.

Russ became a Christian when he was a high school senior. He did friendship evangelism from the beginning and especially while attending Vincennes University. At Asbury College he added jail ministry, and as a senior at Greenville he increased his evangelistic preaching in churches.

After his seminary graduation the Peters and their two small children went to a mission in the Congo. After French study in Belgium and Swahili study in Burundi, Russ had less than a year to minister in the Congo because the war reached us, and missionaries left the area.

Russ then enrolled at Indiana University with a teaching assistantship. He participated in campus ministries both inside and outside the church. After completing class requirements and preliminary examinations, Russ began employment as an educator/administrator at Beatty Memorial Hospital in Westville, Indiana. He completed all requirements for his Ph.D. and continued at the hospital until he took a similar position at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. Eventually he became a cooperative extension state specialist at Auburn University. During his time in these positions Russ continued in Christian ministry, with Sunday school teaching, home Bible studies, and Youth for Christ.

Eventually he was led to affiliate officially with The United Methodist Church in educational and administrative work. He was consecrated a diaconal minister in the Florida Conference in 1990 and was ordained a deacon in 1997. He served the following churches: Murray Hill, Jacksonville, 1990-91; First, Homestead, 1991-96, Florida City/Redlands Community, 1996-97; and Grace, Venice, 1997-99. He retired in 1999.

Russ died unexpectedly of a heart attack on November 1, 2013. A memorial service was held on November 17, 2013, at Shell Point Village Church in Ft. Myers, Florida, with the Reverend Ken Nesselroade officiating. His ashes were buried in Fairbanks, Alaska. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; his daughter, Marion Jones; his son, David Peters; and three grandchildren.

Submitted by Dr. Margaret Peters

IRVIN HOWARD PRICE

Irvin Howard Price was born in Chicago, Illinois, on March 21, 1926, to John and Frieda Price. Upon graduation in 1944 from Ridgewood High School in Ridgewood, New Jersey, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He trained as a signalman and was assigned to the U.S.S. Essex. After the war he enrolled in Park College, Parkville, Missouri, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree. It was here that Irvin's love of theater blended with his musical talents.

As a navy reservist, he was recalled to active duty in the China-Korean Theater. Upon return to civilian life he went to work in the steel industry with Jones and Laughlin Steel.

Irvin met his future Scottish lassie bride at Albany Park Methodist Church in Albany Park, Pennsylvania. He and Maybelle Ferguson were married in April 1955; they were blessed with two children, Leslie and George.

Irvin followed the call on his life and entered the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Naperville, Illinois, now merged with Garrett-Evangelical Seminary. He received a Master of Divinity degree in 1972.

He was admitted to the Florida Conference on trial and ordained a deacon in 1971 and was ordained an elder in 1974. He served the following appointments: Davenport, 1972-74; Woodstock Park, Jacksonville, 1974-76; Riverview, Ormond Beach, 1976-79; Christ and Southwest, Miami, 1979-81; First, Alachua, 1981-83; associate, Trinity, Palm Beach Gardens, 1983-87; First, Chattahoochee, 1987-88; First, Avon Park, 1988-90; and First, Ft. Meade, 1990-91. He retired in 1991.

He loved to sing his sermons and was especially fond of old gospel tunes.

Maybelle and Irvin loved to summer at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, and later at the Methodist campgrounds in Natrona Heights, Pennsylvania. After twenty years of pastoral work he and Maybelle settled in Leesburg, Florida, where they became active members of Morrison United Methodist Church. With his great friends Irvin played pinochle, sang in quartets, and served as chaplain in Hawthorne Memorial VFW Post 6389 in Leesburg.

Soon after Maybelle's death at Thanksgiving 2009, Irvin moved to Dallas, Texas, to be near his children and grandchildren. He lived in a retirement community, where he was known as the Mayor of the Bentley. He took time to know everyone's name, background, and family history.

While not in poor health, Irvin was ready to be with the Lord. In God's perfect timing he passed away while sleeping on the afternoon of November 30, 2013, also the week of Thanksgiving.

He is survived by his daughter and her husband, Leslie and Scott Bumpas; his son and his wife, George and Julia Price; and five grandchildren: Lance Corporal William Ryan Bumpas, U.S.M.C., Alexandra Leslie Bumpas, Andrew Logan Price, Olivia Kathleen Price, and Stephen Patrick Price.

A small private memorial service was held at Christmas, and Irvin was later interred next to his wife in Hawthorne Gardens in Leesburg, Florida.

Submitted by Leslie Price Bumpas and George Howard Price

THOMAS JAMES PRICE, JR

Thomas James Price, Jr., was born on July 14, 1931, in Gainesville, Florida, to Thomas James Price, Sr., and Leonna Goin Price. He completed grades 1 through 12 at P.K. Yonge Development Research School at the University of Florida in Gainesville before earning his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Florida in 1953. He graduated from Candler School of Theology at Emory University in 1956 and received an honorary doctorate from Florida Southern College in 1985. Tom was admitted on trial in the Florida conference as a student at Candler in 1955, was ordained a deacon in 1957, and was ordained an elder and received into full connection in 1959.

Tom married Nancy Kennedy on December 31, 1961. They had three children: James Coleman, Laura, and Andrew Thomas.

He served the following appointments: Micanopy, 1957-60; Crystal River, 1960-65; Monticello, 1965-67; chaplain, Florida Southern College 1967-74; Riverside, Miami, 1974-76; First, Haines City, 1976-80; Alfalit, Costa Rica, 1980-82; Rader Memorial, Miami, 1982-83, superintendent, Miami District, 1983-86; and First, Winter Park, 1986 until his retirement in 1995. After retirement he served as visitation minister, First, Gainesville, 1996-97; pastor, Christ, Gainesville, 1999-2000, interim pastor, University, Gainesville, January-June 2003; interim pastor, Monticello, January-April 2008; interim pastor, Salem, Havana, January-June 2012; and the Board of Twelve Churches, Killearn, Tallahassee, 2011-12.

Tom died on September 24, 2013 at Big Bend Hospice in Tallahassee, Florida, after a struggle with lymphoma. A celebration of his life was held at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Tallahassee, Florida, on September 27, 2013. The Reverend Mark Becker, pastor of the church, officiated and was joined by the Reverend Gary Spencer, district superintendent, as well as the Reverend John Stroman of Killearn United Methodist Church, and son James C. Price.

Tom is survived by the love of his life, his wife of fifty-two years, Nancy Kennedy Price; sister Virginia Black and husband Hunter; son James Coleman Price and wife Renee and their sons, Stetson and Coleman; daughter, Laura Price Coombs and husband Tom and their children, Tommy, Billy, and Rachel; and son Andrew Thomas Price.

Tom and Nancy led numerous mission teams to Mexico, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua during their years of ministry. Mission work has been the core and spirit of their lives both domestic and foreign. For Tom the pinnacle of his ministry arrived with his appointment as minister of preaching at First United Methodist Church, Winter Park, where he delighted in writing and preaching sermons for ten years. However, Tom was at his best and truly came to life during his countless mission trips to Central America, where he felt his ministry was put to its best use. Finally, it would be an omission not to mention his service as chaplain at Florida Southern College, where Tom found his footing as a minister.

During his life he touched the hearts of countless people and served selflessly, without regard for his own gain. He was always devoted to God, his family, the church, and the service of others.

Submitted by Andrew T. Price

JAMES ESLEY RIDGWAY, SR.

James Esley Ridgway, Sr., was born on October 9, 1932, in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, to Walter and Sarah Ridgway.

He received a Bachelor of Science in Education from California Teachers College in California, Pennsylvania, and a Master of Divinity with Honors from Garrett Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois, in 1956.

He married Carol Mathis on July 1, 1968. They had two children, James Esley Ridgway, Jr., and Deborah Lee Ridgway.

He was admitted on trial in the Pittsburgh Conference and ordained a deacon in 1955 and was ordained an elder and received into full connection in 1957. He transferred to the Florida Conference in 1959 and served the following appointments: associate, Southside, Jacksonville, 1959-61; Lockhart, Orlando, 1961-67; St. Andrews, Ft. Lauderdale, 1967-69; conference evangelist, 1969-75; and administrative committee for Educational Opportunities, 1975-78. He retired from the conference in 1978.

As a result of the insights he had gained from traveling to Israel when he was a young pastor, in 1974 Dr. Ridgway founded Educational Opportunities, a Christian travel organization to help Christian leaders visit the lands of their faith. He served as executive director until his retirement in 1999 and as a consultant for the rest of his life.

More than four hundred thousand Christians have traveled with the company on tours of faith and mission trips. Church leaders have realized the impact of being able to see, feel, and walk the lands they read about every day. In addition to a better understanding of the Biblical text, Dr. Ridgway mandated that his tours promote cultural harmony between Israelis and Palestinians, through the use of an equal number of Arab and Jewish guides, shopping venues, buses, and hotels.

Dr. Ridgway has been given honorary citizenship in the City of Bethlehem, a designation shared with President Jimmy Carter. Among the other awards he received for his humanitarian efforts were the Chagall Medal, given by Israel for the promotion of peace; the King Hussein Medal, given by Jordan for promoting a better understanding of Arab culture; the Peace Tourism Award of Excellence, given by the prime minister of Israel; an Apostolic Blessing, given by the Vatican for promoting Christian unity; and the gifting of a Galilean Peace Forest in his honor.

He died on February 27, 2014, of acute kidney failure. Funeral services were held on March 5, 2014, at First United Methodist Church in Lakeland, Florida, with Bishop Robert Fannin, Dr. Warren Langer, Dr. Bob Duncan, and the Reverend Bill Hild officiating. Burial was in Lakeland Memorial Gardens.

Survivors include his wife of forty-five years, Carol M. Ridgway; daughter Deborah Ridgway and husband Gary Couey; son James Ridgway, Jr., and wife Melissa; and grandchildren Hannah Ridgway and James Ridgway III. He was preceded in death by his brothers, Walter Ridgway, Jr., Richard Ridgway, Sr., and Lee Ridgway.

Jim Ridgway was known by those closest to him for his passion, leadership, compassion, and friendship. His ministry touched thousands of lives.

Submitted by James E. Ridgway, Jr.

WILLIS M. RIGSBY

Willis M. Rigsby was born on August 21, 1920, in Madison, Georgia, to Mary Mathews and Shelly A. Rigsby. He graduated from Hillsborough High School in Tampa, Florida, and attended Emory University.

He met Louell Avery at a church sing-along in Parrish, Florida, and they were married on August 8, 1943. They had three children: Paul Milton Rigsby, born on September 16, 1944; Donald Matthews Rigsby, born on September 20, 1952; and Rebecca Marie Rigsby, born on August 24, 1954.

Willis served Citra, 1976-82, as a local pastor. He became an associate member of the Florida Conference in 1982 and served Grace in Hosford and Bristol, 1982-84, and Grace in Perry, 1984-85. After retirement in 1985 he served Parrish, 1985-87, and Interbay in Tampa, 1990-93.

He held Bible study classes at his assisted living facility until his failing eyesight made it impossible. He was an avid Florida State Seminole fan and enjoyed bluegrass and country music as well as bingo.

Willis died on January 31, 2014, from injuries sustained in a fall at Horizon Bay Assisted Living facility in Lutz, Florida. Funeral services were held at Adams Jennings Funeral Home in Tampa, Florida, on February 4, 2014, with Dr. Lynn Sayne officiating. Burial was in Parrish Cemetery in Parrish, Florida.

He is survived by his sons, Donald M. Rigsby and Paul M. Rigsby; his daughter, Rebecca M. Rigsby; three grandchildren; seven great grandchildren; and one great great grandchild.

Submitted by Donald Rigsby

ORVILLE HOWARD RIPLEY, JR.

Orville Howard Ripley, Jr., was born in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on November 24, 1921, to Maggie Gibb Stewart Ripley of Edinburgh, Scotland, and Orval Howard Ripley of Brantford, Ontario, Canada. He became a naturalized U.S. Citizen in 1943.

On May 17, 1941, Rip married the love of his life, Ruth Marie Marshall, in Everglades City, Florida. Rip and Ruth had five children: Howard Perry, born on May 23, 1942, and died on May 6, 1999; Sandra Jean, born on January 14, 1945; Brenda Joyce, born on April 4, 1950; Patricia Ann, born on July 15, 1952; and Robert Wesley, born on September 15, 1960.

After working in the construction business for many years and building a successful company, the Ripley Plastering Co., under the pastorate of the Reverend Robert B. Chapman, Jr., at Hialeah Methodist Church Rip felt the call to go into the ministry.

He received his local preacher's license in 1952 and began his ministry as a circuit preacher while attending the University of Florida, serving charges at Ellzey/Spring Hill, Crystal River/Homosassa, Anthony/Burbank, and Centenary (later Christ) in Gainesville. While attending Duke University, he served a student appointment at Fletcher's Chapel in the North Carolina Conference.

He graduated from the University of Florida in Gainesville in 1956 with a Bachelor of Arts degree and from Duke University Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina, in 1960 with a Master of Divinity degree. In addition, he did post-graduate studies at the University of Edinburgh in Edinburgh, Scotland, and at Hillsboro College.

Rip was admitted to the Florida Conference and ordained a deacon in 1958 and was ordained an elder and received into full connection in 1960. He served the following churches: Holleman Park, Miami 1960-62; Matecumbe, Islamorada 1962-65; Grace, Miami 1965-71; Wesley Memorial, Lakeland, 1971-76; First, Dade City, 1976-81; and First, Homestead, 1981-87.

He served on a number of conference and district boards and committees and was supervisory chairman of the Florida Conference Credit Union.

Rip retired in 1987 to the Florida Keys and later moved to Ellijay in North Georgia, continuing to preach and to be involved in ministry for many years into his retirement. He performed his last wedding in February 2013—for his son, Wesley, and his bride, Lucy.

A proud World War II veteran of the United States Coast Guard, he served aboard the U.S.S. *Vigilant.* He enjoyed an active life, both professionally and personally, as a master craftsman and journeyman plasterer, outdoorsman, expert horseman and former rodeo cowboy, licensed pilot, hunter, and fisherman.

Rip died peacefully in his sleep on October 31, 2013, at Piedmont Mountainside Hospital in Jasper, Georgia, after having lived a full and giving life. A memorial service was held at First United Methodist Church in Ellijay, Georgia, on November 4, 2013, with Dr. Danny Brown, pastor, and the Reverend E. Wayne Curry, pastor of Trinity United Methodist Church in Tallahassee, Florida officiating.

Orville Ripley is survived by his wife of more than seventy-two years, Ruth Ripley, whom he lovingly referred to as Bright-eyes, and their children: Sandra Goodman, Brenda Curry, Patricia Zolten and Wesley Ripley. He was pre-deceased by his oldest son, Howard. He leaves behind many grandchildren and great grandchildren, who all loved and adored him.

His life and warmth touched many, and he will be sorely missed.

Submitted by Brenda Ripley Curry

RALPH EUGENE RIVERS

Ralph Eugene Rivers was born on February 17, 1940, to Ralph and Minnie Ruth Smith Rivers in Lake Panasoffkee, Florida.

He graduated from Coral Gables High School in Miami, Florida, and attended Florida State University, Mercer University, Emory University, and Candler School of Theology. He was awarded an honorary doctorate from Coral Ridge Bible College and Seminary, Jacksonville, Florida.

Ralph had three children: Robin Anne Benton, born on September 13, 1964; Charles Kenneth Miller, Jr., born on November 7, 1965; and Jason Scott Miller, born on September 12, 1972.

He married Sharon A. Sebekow on January 1, 1988.

As a student pastor Ralph served in Georgia at Barton Chapel, 1976-79; College Park, 1979-80; Campbellton, 1980-82; and Emerson, 1983-85.

The Reverend Dr. Rivers was admitted to the Florida Conference as a probationary member and ordained a deacon in 1984 and was ordained a full elder in 1991. He served the following appointments: Lady Lake and Oxford, 1985-89; Lady Lake, 1989-93; First, Okeechobee, 1993-96; Roseland, 1996-99; Wesley, Melbourne, 1999-2001; and Good Shepherd, North Ft. Myers, 2001-08. He retired in 2008. In retirement he pastored Mr. Olivet, Goodfield, and Mt. Carmel in Decatur, Tennessee.

He served in various positions on conference boards and agencies. Before his retirement he was active in the Civil Air Patrol, Ranger Corps. He was talented in photography and music.

Ralph passed away from cancer at home in Riceville, Tennessee, on December 16, 2013. A memorial service was held on December 19, 2013, at Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church in Decatur, Tennessee, with the Reverend Joe Green, district superintendent, and the Reverend Hugh Bryan officiating. A graveside service was held at Pine Level Cemetery, Oxford, Florida, with the Reverend Bill Kennedy officiating.

He is survived by his wife, Sharon; his children: Robin Benton and husband Jeff of Monroe, North Carolina; Charles K. Miller, Jr., and wife Dona of Summerfield, Florida; and Jason Miller and wife Nancy of Athens, Tennessee; seven grandchildren; four great grandchildren; brother, Charlie Rivers; and sisters, Prudence Schubert, Martha Peiffer, and Robin Neeld, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

Submitted by Sharon Rivers

THURMAN RIVERS, JR.

Thurman Rivers, Jr., was born on March 12, 1937, in Bennettsville, South Carolina, the only child of Thurman and Ruth Modlin Rivers. The family moved to Ocala, Florida, when Thurman was three years old. He graduated from Ocala High School in 1955.

He married Virginia Faris in 1956. They had three children, Robert, Julie, and Jeffery.

He graduated in 1966 from Central Florida Community College in Ocala, where he was a member of Phi Theta Kappa fraternity, and from the University of Florida in 1968 with a Master of Arts in Education. He trained for the ministry at Candler School of Theology at Emory University, from which he received a Master of Divinity degree in 1971. Thurman was admitted to the Florida Conference on trial and ordained a deacon in 1969 and was ordained an elder in 1976. He served the following appointments: associate, Lakewood, Jacksonville, 1971-72; discontinued, 1972-75; Interlachen, 1975-81; Roseland, 1981-89; First, Port Orange, 1989-91; Skycrest, Clearwater, 1991-96; First, Bradenton, 1996-99; and First, Jacksonville, 1999-2000. He retired in 2000.

Thurman passed away suddenly of ventricular fibrillation on February 7, 2014. A graveside service was held at Oaklawn Cemetery in Jacksonville, Florida, on February 11, 2014, with Fr. Augustine George Nellarikayi officiating.

He is survived by his wife, Virginia; three children: Robert Rivers and wife Julie, Julie Hoffman and husband Robert, and Jeffery Rivers and wife Vickie; six grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

Thurman felt that it was an honor and privilege to be a pastor in The United Methodist Church and treasured the time he spent in the ministry.

Submitted by Virginia Rivers

JEAN WINONA KETWIG FRENCH RUSSO

Jean Winona Ketwig French Russo was born on July 6, 1933, in Rochester, New York, to Winona Wilson Ketwig and Clarence Ketwig. After her mother's untimely death in 1935, she was legally adopted by her aunt and uncle, Jim and Edith Crawford.

She graduated from West High School in Rochester, New York, in 1950 and then completed a nursing degree from Saint Mary's Hospital Nursing Program in Rochester in 1953. Instead of pursuing a nursing career, however, she decided to marry and raise a family. She married Gilbert French in 1953 and had three children: Faith, born in October 1954; Karen, born in April 1956; and Gilbert, born in March 1958.

As her children grew older, Jean worked as an accountant doing payroll for Sears, Roebuck and Company. When the family moved to Florida, she worked and attended Florida International University, from which she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious Studies in 1978. From there she attended Candler School of Theology, Emory University, completing a Master of Divinity degree in 1981.

Jean was admitted to the Florida Conference as a probationary member and was ordained a deacon in 1981 and was ordained a full elder in 1983. She served the following appointments; Indiantown, 1981-82; Cherry Lake, Madison/Greenville, 1982-84; Peace, Miami, 1984-89; Northwood, West Palm Beach, 1989-90; Dania, 1990-95; and Trinity, Arcadia, 1995-98. She retired in 1998.

She was the first female pastor to serve at Peace in Miami, and at Dania she was the fourth-longest serving pastor in the church's more than one-hundred-year history. She often delivered the invocation at meetings of the Dania City Commission, and before she left Dania in the summer of 1995, the city commission proclaimed Reverend Jean French Appreciation Day in her honor.

She married the Reverend James Russo, a member of the Florida Conference.

Jean never truly embraced retirement. Upon the death of her husband in 2000, she continued his work at the Jim Russo Prison Ministry and Development Center, serving for thirteen years as director and board chair. She also carried on her husband's tradition of collecting toys for prisoners to give to their children. In 2012 she secured a grant from the Manatee County Foundation to construct a new home for the men at the Development Center. Ground breaking for the new house took place on March 12, 2014.

Jean French Russo went home to be with the Lord on October 24, 2013, following a brief illness. A celebration of life service was held at Trinity United Methodist Church in Bradenton, Florida, on November 1, 2013, with the Reverends Jim Rosenburg, Karen Macduff, Gary Eldred, Bob Green, Don Ringland, and Jim Martin officiating. On November 2, 2013, following the All Saints' Day service, she was laid to rest on the grounds of Cherry Lake United Methodist Church in Madison, Florida. The Reverend Cherryl Register officiated at the service.

Three children, three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren survive.

Jean was an unwavering Miami Dolphins fan and loved going to Walt Disney World. She also loved traveling the globe, visiting Israel, Egypt, Russia, Europe, Canada, Alaska, and the Lower 48 states. She loved spending time with family and friends. Most importantly, she loved the Lord, and doing his work was what she truly enjoyed most, knowing that blessings and miracles are all around us and it's up to us to receive them.

Submitted by Heather Collier, granddaughter

DANIEL DENNIS SAIN

Daniel Dennis Sain was born on April 6, 1930, in Cleveland County, North Carolina, to Dennis and Cora Sain. He graduated from Belwood High School in 1948; from Lenoir Rhyne College in 1952; from Duke Divinity School in 1957; and from Emory University, with a master's degree in 1958 and a Ph.D. in 1964. He was admitted to the Western North Carolina Conference on trial in 1952, ordained a deacon in 1954, received into full connection in 1956, and ordained an elder in 1957. He transferred to the Florida Conference in 1978.

Dan spent his youth on his family's farm in western North Carolina. He first danced with his sweetheart, Lavada Wilson, at a Methodist youth district gathering. The two married in August 1952. A daughter, Danita, was born December 15, 1953; and a son, David, on April 22, 1956.

A lifetime of learning, living, and serving exemplifies Dan Sain. From 1950 to 1954 he served appointments in North Carolina: Millers Creek, Grace Chapel, Granite Falls, and Ansonville. The following year he served Lovejoy UMC in Covington, Georgia, and he was an instructor in Bible and college chaplain at Spartanburg Junior College, Spartanburg, South Carolina, 1957-58. From 1959 to 1961 he served Albemarle-Wesley Chapel in Meisenheimer, North Carolina, where he was also assistant professor of Greek at Pfeiffer College.

Dr. Sain joined the faculty of Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona Beach, Florida, in 1964. From 1967 to 1977 he served as faculty member and dean of Aeronautical Studies at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. He returned to Bethune-Cookman in 1977, serving as head of the Department of Religion and Philosophy until his retirement in 1993. Dan's Florida pastorates were Christ, Sanford, 1975-78; St Andrews, Daytona Beach, 1978-81; and Christ, Holly Hill, 1982-86.

Dan had articles published in several periodicals: *Christian Advocate*, *Journal of Aerospace Education*, *Circuit Rider*, and *Religious Education*. He led and participated in overseas seminars and studies.

He was involved in civic and professional organizations, including the North Coastal Division of the Children's Home Society, Daytona Beach Kiwanis Club, Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol, Florida Association of Colleges and Universities, National Aviation Education Association, and University Aviation Association.

Dan's work in the conference included the Committee on Career Counseling and Guidance, the DeLand District Council on Ministries, and Board of Directors of Christian Enrichment School, 1989. He received awards from Bethune-Cookman and Embry-Riddle and in 1970 was named an Outstanding Educator in America.

Dan and Lavada traveled throughout the world, as well as the United States. He loved golf, and his favorite hobby was assembling and flying model airplanes. Dan read fervently and enjoyed plays and movies, as well as old radio and TV shows. He valued humor. He had common sense and a practical way of doing things and solving problems.

Time with his family was the most precious part of life to Dan. Grandchildren loved to come to Pop's house, where they enjoyed stories, games, and flying airplanes in the yard, later cherishing times discussing literature, politics, and life in general. Dan and Lavada had many fun adventures in their retirement years, including time in North Carolina with his family.

Dan died August 5, 2013, in Volusia County, Florida. He is survived by his wife of sixty-one years, Lavada Wilson Sain; daughter Danita Stokes and husband Stan of Jacksonville, Florida; son David and wife Laura of St. Louis, Missouri; six grandchildren; and sisters Betty Lou Elmore and Julia Sain and brother Harry Sain and wife Helen, all of Cleveland County, North Carolina.

A memorial service was held on August 23, 2013, at First United Methodist Church, Port Orange, Florida, with the Reverend Tom Nelson officiating. On October 5, 2013, a memorial service with burial was held at St. Peters UMC in Lawndale, North Carolina, with the Reverend Kathy Earley officiating.

Submitted by Danita Sain Stokes

DAVID HAROLD SHAVER

David Harold Shaver was born in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, on December 9, 1928, to Milford and Hortense Crocker Shaver. He was the oldest of three children.

Upon graduation from high school in Dallas, Pennsylvania, he served in the U.S. Navy, and after getting a taste of Florida, he returned and attended Florida Southern College in Lakeland, graduating in 1959. He taught school in Bartow, Florida, for a few years until he was called to be a minister. He received his B.D. from Candler School of Theology at Emory University.

He was admitted to the Florida Conference on trial and ordained a deacon in 1962 and was ordained an elder and received into full connection in 1965. He served the following appointments: Davenport, 1964-69; Woodstock Park, Jacksonville, 1969-71; associate, First, Ft. Myers, 1971-74; Glynlea, Jacksonville, 1974-79; Ft. Myers Beach, 1979-80; North Hialeah, 1980-81; First, Dade City, 1981-84; First, New Port Richey, 1984-88; Trinity, Lighthouse Point, 1988-91; and First, Bonita Springs, 1991-95. He retired in 1995. He served on several conference committees.

While serving at Woodstock Park in Jacksonville, he met Jeannette Bussey, and they were married in November 1970. They had a wonderful time serving together in their ministry. After retiring, they moved to Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, where they enjoyed volunteering at the Lake and in church. David was minister of visitation at Central United Methodist Church in Canton, North Carolina, for about five years. After serving there, they joined First United Methodist Church in Waynesville, North Carolina.

David went to be with our Lord on January 28, 2014, at Homestead Medwest in Clyde, North Carolina, after a short illness with cancer. A memorial service was held on February 8, 2014, at First United Methodist Church in Waynesville, North Carolina, with the Reverend Sandy Giles officiating. Another service was held on March 8, 2014, at Tustenuggee United Methodist Church in Ft. White, Florida, with the Reverend Bill Peeler officiating

David is survived by his wife, Jeannette; son, Mark of Zephyrhills, Florida; daughters, Debbie Scavelli and Mary Bowles of Waynesville, North Carolina; and four grandchildren, Garrett Scavelli and Mackenzie, Jaxon, and Lauren Bowles.

David loved music, history, reading, and traveling. He will always be remembered for his gentle spirit and his smile.

Submitted by Jeannette Shaver

PATRICIA A. SMALL

Patricia A. Small was ordained a deacon in 1988 and was received as an associate member of the Florida Conference in 1998. She served Alexander and Bowden in Jacksonville, 1998-2001. She took voluntary leave in 2001 and retired in 2005.

She died on September 7, 2013. Funeral services were held on September 14, 2013, at First United Methodist Church in Jacksonville, Florida, with the Reverend Tony Chance and the Reverend Petry A. Chance officiating.

She is survived by sisters-in-law, Elizabeth W. Small of Newark, Delaware; Veronica E. Small of Jacksonville, Florida; Berthene S. Small of Germantown, Maryland; Loverna H. Small of Fayetteville, North Carolina; and Anita Johnson of Jacksonville, Florida; seventeen nieces and nephews; devoted cousins and other relatives; and a host of friends.

Submitted by the Memoirs Committee

DIACONAL MINISTER

BARBARA MOSLEY MITCHELL

Barbara Jeannette Florence Mosley Mitchell was born on May 23, 1926, in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, Canada. She was the youngest child of the Reverend Dr. Thomas Arthur Mosley and Ethel Huggons-Brown Mosley, joining her brother, the Reverend Dr. Ronald Arthur Mosley and sister, Elizabeth Ann Mosley Heyworth. Her father was a Methodist preacher who moved after WWI from England to Canada. He later moved to the New England Conference and retired as a member of the Florida Conference.

Barbara studied nursing at Simmons College in Boston, intending to be a flight nurse, but WWII ended. She then continued her college career at Florida Southern College in Lakeland, which she had visited a child. She graduated in 1948 with a degree in Christian education. During her college years, she joined First Methodist Church in Lakeland, worked for the Reverend Warren Willis, and was on the conference youth staff and team in Lakeland and Leesburg. Her first job after graduation was as youth and Christian education director at Park Temple Methodist Church in Fort Lauderdale. In 1949 she became the first director of Christian education in the Florida Conference to be consecrated.

She met a young pastor, Thomas Glenn Mitchell, at the Florida Annual Conference in June 1949. He visited her in Fort Lauderdale in July and proposed. In August he visited her at Martha's Vineyard and gave her the engagement ring. They were married on January 5, 1950, and when Tom died in 2009, they had been married fifty-nine years.

Barbara and Tom were seldom apart after their wedding. They had three children: Barbara Jeanne Mitchell Driscoll, Thomas Glenn Bosley-Mitchell, and James Arthur Mitchell. Barbara is now an assistant state attorney, while Glenn and Jim are pastors in the Florida Conference.

Barbara journeyed alongside Tom as a preacher's wife, often pursuing Christian education as Tom served in churches throughout Florida and as associate council director for Ordained Ministry in Lakeland and district superintendent in Tallahassee. Barbara served in conference leadership in many areas, including United Methodist Women, Family Ministries, and Health and Welfare Ministries. She also was elected twice as a Jurisdictional Conference delegate. After Tom retired in 1990, they moved to their home in Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. Missing the grandchildren, they moved back to Lakeland.

Over the years Barbara had several careers, including director of Christian education, director of the Baptist Children's Home in Lakeland, social worker for the State of Florida Division of Families and Children, director of a family counseling practice, fill-in at the former Maas Brothers store, and occasionally public school teacher. She earned a Master of Social Work degree from Barry College in Miami. Barbara was consecrated a diaconal minister in 1981 and retired in 1991. After retirement she continued her community service as president of Lakeland Habitat for Humanity, United Methodist Women at First United Methodist Church in Lakeland, and the Residents Association at Carpenters Estates.

Barbara died on November 6, 2013, at the Estates at Carpenters in Lakeland. A Celebration of Life was held at First United Methodist Church in Lakeland, Florida, on November 18, 2013, with participation by her children and grandchildren. Bishop Robert E. Fannin and Dr. Anne Kerr, president of Florida Southern College, also shared in the service, which concluded with the playing of bagpipes. Barbara's earthly remains were placed to rest in the columbarium at First United Methodist Church, Lakeland, next to her beloved Tom.

Barbara is survived by her brother and sister; her children: Barbara Driscoll, Glenn and Gaye Bosley-Mitchell, and Jim and Nancy Mitchell; thirteen grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews

Submitted by Barbara Mitchell Driscoll, T. Glenn Bosley-Mitchell, and James A. Mitchell

SPOUSES

FAY FLETCHER BAKER

Fay Fletcher Baker's earthly journey began on March 26, 1936, in Vancleave, Mississippi. Her parents were Carson and Lillie Fletcher. Fay grew up in Vancleave, where she graduated from high school in 1954, one of three, as salutatorian of the class. During her high school days she played on a girls' basketball team. She attended Pine Grove United Methodist Church, becoming a member there.

One of her cherished memories growing up was being taken to New Prospect Campground in the fall of the year. Her great grandmother, Martha Byrd, gave the land for the campground, which began in 1879. The tabernacle was floored with pine straw, and the enthusiastic gospel singing could be heard for miles around. The camp meeting lasted a week, with stirring preaching and fervent prayer meetings. The cabins, named tents after the original structures, were also floored with pine straw. Fay's family tent is still floored with pine straw today, one of three on the campground; the others now have concrete. The tradition was very dear to her heart.

In 1954 she met an airman from Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi, named Jesse Baker. He was a Yankee, but she fell in love with him anyway. She showered him with her southern charm, so much so that he fell deeply in love with her. After a whirlwind courtship of three months, they were married on July 7, 1955. This marriage lasted for fifty-eight years and was filled with joy. It proved to be a wonderful adventure.

Three children were born to this marriage: Bert, in 1958; Vera, in 1961; and Kenneth, in 1967. During this time Jesse received the call to ministry and began his studies toward ordination in The United Methodist Church. It was a lively parsonage family, with all the curiosity and adventure that comes to all children. Fay and Jess offered them love and sought to treat them as normal, given the life in church families.

Fay's faith was solid and unshakable. The death of their daughter Vera in 1984 brought her and Jess closer to God. She loved to express her faith in arranging flowers, letting their beauty add to worship. She sang in the choir, expressing her faith in song. She was a solid partner with her husband in ministry. You saw one, you saw the other. She worked as a taxpayer's representative for the IRS, a part-time career that lasted for nineteen years, until retirement in 1998. Another passion of her life was square dancing, which she began in 1979 and enjoyed until her death. These moments were expressions of joy and just pure fun.

In the latter years of her life Fay was a part of the Emmaus community, serving on several weekends in various capacities. It was a life-changing experience that motivated her to bring others to Christ and His love.

Her life has been tragically cut short, but her spirit lives on in the lives of her family as well as the lives of those in the church community. She is survived by her husband; two sons, Bert and Ken; grandchildren, Michele, Nick, Nicole, Kena, and Kenny; and great grandchildren, Jacob, Amelia, and Olivia. Her brother, Bertis, died in 1935, when he was three years old.

On September 1, 2013, Fay left her earthly journey and entered in to a heavenly one that has no end. To God be the glory! A celebration of life service was held on September 6, 2013, at First United Methodist Church in Ormond Beach, Florida.

Submitted by Jesse L. Baker

HILDA ELSBREE BARRETT

Hilda Elsbree Barrett was born on September 4, 1923, in East Smithfield, Pennsylvania, to Claude and Hazel Thomas Elsbree.

She married the Reverend Allen Barrett in 1945. They served churches in New York and Pennsylvania before transferring to the Florida Conference in 1958. They served at Tavernier, York Memorial in Miami, Eau Gallie, Westwood in Miami, and Flagler Beach. They retired to Pembroke Pines in 1978 and then moved back to Flagler Beach in 1990. Allen died in 1997.

Hilda was active in her retirement community of Benton Village and in Flagler Beach United Methodist Church, where she was a beloved Sunday school teacher, member of United Methodist Women, and member of the Staff-Parish Committee.

In her seventies and eighties she enjoyed driving her motor home several times to Alaska, as well as to Montana, where each summer for many years she was manager of a motor home park. She was also known to drive the full-sized RV to her home atop a mountain in North Carolina, where the switchback roads made driving such a large vehicle a challenge.

In addition to traveling in the RV, Hilda enjoyed swimming and listening to music. She was a talented player of the piano, organ, and ukulele.

Hilda died on May 12, 2013, at the Stuart F. Meyer Hospice House in Palm Coast, Florida. Funeral services were held on May 17, 2013, at the Jay E. Lowery Funeral Home in Athens, Pennsylvania, with the Reverend Anne Bey Canfield officiating. Burial was in Union Cemetery in East Smithfield, Pennsylvania.

A memorial service was held at Flagler Beach United Methodist Church, with the Reverend Jeanine Clontz and the Reverend Tom Otto officiating.

Hilda is survived by her sister-in-law, Elizabeth K. Elsbree of North Canton, Ohio; nieces and nephews, Charles Thomas Elsbree of Miami, Florida; Susan Elsbree Darnell of Dayton, Maryland; Sandra Elsbree Soni of North Canton, Ohio; and Sally Elsbree Gordon of Chester, New Jersey; and many close friends. In addition to her husband, she was predeceased by her brothers, Donald Elsbree and Charles Elsbree.

Submitted by the Memoirs Committee

FAE BROCIOUS BRABHAM

Fae Brocious Brabham was born on July 28, 1918, in Reynoldsville, Pennsylvania, to Minnie Fish Brocious and Robert Brocious. She moved to Florida with her family when she was seven years old and graduated from Miami High School in 1937.

Fae married Spivey Madison Brabham on June 26, 1939. They had four children: Eevalyn W., born on August 26, 1941; Barbara A., born on September 12, 1946; Danny E., born on November 20, 1948; and David A., born on September 8, 1955. Fay and Spivey had been happily married for fifty-two years when he died in 1991.

Fae loved her life as a minister's wife, a homemaker, a mom, and a grandmother. She loved music—especially the old hymns—played the piano and ukulele, and enjoyed singing with family and church friends. She loved to go fishing and camping. She was a great cook, seamstress, and gardener. She raised butterflies and spent many hours crocheting and sewing for family and friends. She made jam and pickles for all to enjoy. For birthdays she requested donations for her favorite charity. Even though confined to a wheelchair and then bed during the last year of her life, she knitted more than four hundred winter caps for various charities and also for family and friends.

She always said that if someone is hard to love, you love them harder. She loved the Lord and witnessed to all who came to see her. Even if she wasn't having a good day, she always had a warm smile and hug for you. Her legacy is love and kindness.

Fae died peacefully at home with her daughters on October 20, 2013, after having been ill and homebound for almost two years. A celebration of life service was held at Bear Lake United Methodist Church in Apopka, Florida, on October 23, 2013, with the Reverend Dawn Liphart officiating. Her grandchildren and great grandchildren sang her favorite hymns. Burial was in Highland Memorial Cemetery in Apopka.

She is survived by her sisters, Thelma Heath, Theoma Deml, and Shirlea Brown; her brother, Burnell Brocious; her children, Eevalyn Edmonds, Barbara Williams and husband Winton, Danny Brabham and wife Marie, and David Brabham and wife Sarah; fifteen grandchildren; twenty great grandchildren; and two great great grandchildren.

Submitted by Barbara Williams

KEITH JAMES BRAYMAN, SR.

Keith James Brayman, Sr., was born in Warrensville Heights, Ohio, on December 7, 1953, to Theron Richard Brayman, Sr., and Shirley Hard Brayman.

He graduated from Florida State University in 1986 with a major in computer science. He was a member of the Florida State Marching Chiefs and the Kappa Kappa Psi fraternity.

He was active in the youth group at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Tallahassee, Florida, where he sang in the 8:30 a.m. choir and the contemporary choir, Selah. He was employed with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, being named Distinguished Member of the Year in 2002. He retired from FDLE in July 2003 to relocate to Delaware, Ohio, while his wife attended seminary at Methodist Theological School in Ohio.

Keith was received into the Kingdom of God on November 21, 2013, after a lengthy battle with cancer. His memorial service was held on November 26, 2013, at Venice-Nokomis United Methodist Church, with the Reverends Steve and Catherine Price officiating.

He is survived by his wife of thirty-seven years, the Reverend Glenda J Brayman; daughter, Amanda Joy Walker; son, Keith James Brayman, Jr., and wife Michelle; grandchildren, Devin Rose Brayman, Amelia Faith Walker, Katherine Elizabeth Walker, Charlotte Rose Brayman, and Matthew Nicholas Brayman; and brother, Theron Brayman, Jr., and wife Mary. He was predeceased by his parents and his brother, Bruce Brayman.

Keith was an avid F.S.U. fan. He performed in local theaters, including the Suwannee River Players and the Little Theater of Venice. He also coached Pee Wee flag football with John Goodson in Tallahassee for eleven years. He was active in the Big Bend Emmaus Community. He will be remembered for his sense of humor and encouraging nature and as a man who loved God and his family.

Submitted by the Reverend Glenda J. Brayman

DOROTHY SCOTT BRAZZELL

Dorothy Scott Brazzell was born on July 19, 1932. She was married to the Reverend James Brazzell, who died in 2009.

She passed away on December 9, 2013. Funeral services were held on December 14, 2013, at Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Sanford, Florida.

Submitted by the Memoirs Committee

DOREATHA KELLY DELL

Doreatha Kelly Dell was born on September 2, 1930, one of eleven children of Benjamin and Myrler Johnson Kelly. She was raised in Bradford County and attended historic Boylan Haven School in Jacksonville, Florida, and Campbell Street High School in Daytona Beach, Florida.

She met her husband, Roosevelt Dell, Jr., in Starke, Florida. Married for sixty-five years, they had three children: Kelvin, Vera, and Lowee. The family was guided by Doreatha's loving and nurturing spirit. She was a dedicated mother and homemaker. Later, as Meme, she was a doting grandmother and great grandmother.

Doreatha was an educator and community servant. Her love of learning and dedication to nurturing young minds was her passion early in life. She became a teacher at Bethlehem Community Center in Atlanta, Georgia, where she also furthered her education.

While the Dells were in Tampa, 1970-74, she became a committed advocate for early childhood education, teaching at Rosa Valdez Center in West Tampa, where she served as teacher to hundreds of children and mentor to many young teachers.

She was a dutiful wife and helpmate in support of her husband's ministry in appointments throughout Florida. She was active in many roles in each congregation she served. She was a Bible school teacher and choir member and held positions in United Methodist Women and the Ministers' Wives Association. Whenever she was called upon to do something, Doreatha answered with a servant's heart. She ended her ministerial travels as a gracious district superintendent's wife.

Doreatha turned her desire to become a business owner into reality, becoming a successful independent consultant and district trainer for Home Interiors, Inc. Her enthusiasm, energy, and bright spirit propelled her to great success. She achieved top salesperson status and was named queen of the Marsden Branch in Jacksonville for two consecutive years. She won numerous sales and achievement awards, trips, and company recognition for her displays and sales events. She continued to be a top salesperson and a mentor to countless other Home Interior consultants for more than thirty years. Her expertise and showmanship brought the beauty of interior design, unique accessories, and one-of-a-kind home decorations to hundreds of homes across Florida.

In retirement the Dells made their home in Brandon, beginning another fulfilling chapter of their sixty-five-year journey together. Doreatha was a dedicated member of Keeney Chapel United Methodist Church, where her prayerful presence, loving demeanor, and spiritual way of life brought joy to the congregation that she loved and served.

Doreatha died on October 26, 2013. Funeral services were held on November 2, 2013, at First United Methodist Church in Brandon, with the Reverend Louis Jones officiating. Interment was in Garden of Memories in Tampa, Florida.

She was preceded in death by her parents; six brothers, Lawton, Isaac, Swerainger, Aaron, Fletcher, and Acie Kelly; and two sisters, Elsa and Azalea Kelly. She is survived by her loving husband, Roosevelt; her children: Kelvin and wife Zoy of Brandon, Florida; Vera Dennis and husband Willie of Brandon, Florida, and Lowee Jones and husband Elmer of Lithonia, Georgia; five grandchildren; three great grandchildren; brothers Seeber Kelly of Lake Wales, Florida, and Herman Kelly of Jacksonville, Florida; six sisters-in-law; a brother- in-law; and a host of nieces, news, cousins, and friends.

Her steadfast love of God, deep abiding faith, and devotion to family were the pillars of her life. She lived her faith.

Submitted by Roosevelt Dell, Jr.

GARY DOLES

One evening at a concert in Miami, after Gary finished an original storytelling song called "Blackberry Lullaby" that featured his Uncle Tabernacle and Aunt Glossolalia Doles, someone in the audience called out, "Was that a true story?" Not missing a beat as he tuned his guitar for the next song, Gary replied, "Well, it's true, but it's not exactly what you'd call factual."

Gary Doles knew that the facts cannot always convey what is most true. To get at the essential mystery of our lives, we need story and song. We need poetry and liturgy and theater. Gary devoted his life to these forms of exploring and evoking what is most true.

Gary Paul Doles was born in Birmingham, Alabama, on November 17, 1951, to Harold and Shirley Sansbury Doles. The family moved to Miami, where he grew up and graduated from North Miami Beach High School in 1969. He spent the rest of his life in various parts of Florida, becoming a nearly-native Floridian whose love of the state was a source of inspiration in his creative life.

Gary moved to Orlando in the 1980s and became involved in the theater community. He was one of the founders of Theatre Downtown, where he produced, acted, directed, designed, and wrote for the stage. He worked for Nickelodeon Studios and then had his own business before launching into a full-time vocation as a performing songwriter and storyteller.

In addition to becoming an award-winning songwriter in the national folk music scene, Gary created a remarkable ministry called the Song Chapel, performing across the United States and engaging audiences with his fresh approach to scripture that drew them deeper into the heart of God. Gary, who performed as Garrison Doles, became widely known for his distinctive style. His ministry embodied his belief that the work of the church is to tell the story in ways that transform our hearts and minds and imaginations so that we can live this story in the world.

Gary frequently collaborated with his wife, the Reverend Jan Richardson, in conferences and retreats around the country, where they offered their unique intertwining of word, song, art, and story. They also ministered together to an international audience through their popular online retreats for Advent and Lent. They created and for eleven years led the Wellspring service at First United Methodist Church of Winter Park, a contemplative worship gathering that drew an eclectic community. The songs he created for Wellspring remain part of his enduring legacy.

Gary died on December 2, 2013, several weeks after experiencing complications during what was expected to be routine surgery to address a brain aneurysm discovered in the summer of 2013. His celebration of life, held at First United Methodist Church of Winter Park, Florida, on December 6, 2013, with Dr. Bob Bushong, the Reverend Brenda Lewis, and the Reverend John Christiansen officiating, was a testimony to the depth and breadth of Gary's impact.

In addition to Jan, whom he married on April 24, 2010, Gary's family includes his beloved son, Emile, born in 1993; his father and stepmother, Harold and Dee Doles; his brothers Jeff, Greg, and Jon Doles; and many cherished nieces and nephews.

At the time of his death, Gary had nearly finished two new CDs of original songs, to join his collection. In the title song of one of those, *This Bittersweet Life*, Gary sings,

A broken heart ~ Is not too much to pay ~ For savoring the wine ~ This bittersweet life

Though brokenhearted, we who know and love Gary Doles also know ourselves blessed and changed by the lasting gift of his life.

Submitted by Jan Richardson

MARIE INEZ PADGETT EVANS

Marie Inez Padgett Evans was born on April 29, 1919, in Live Oak, Florida, to the Reverend Gus Padgett and Callie Shealy Padgett.

She married Harry Leo Evans on August 3, 1951. Harry was admitted to the Florida Conference in 1965. He served several rural pastorates during his early ministry, then he and Marie went as missionaries to India and Rhodesia. After their return to the United States, Harry's ill health necessitated his retirement in 1973. He died on August 28, 1974.

Marie died on August 8, 2013, at the Bailey Center in St. Augustine, Florida. A memorial service was held on August 13, 2013, at the Crescent Beach Baptist Church, Crescent Beach, Florida. Graveside services were held at Ft. McCoy Cemetery, Ft. McCoy, Florida on August 15, 2013.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Harry Leo Evans; four siblings, Faith Padgett Priest, Wellington E. Padgett, Lorenzo D. Padgett, and Flora Padgett Moore. She is survived by twelve nieces and nephews and a number of great nieces and nephews.

Submitted by the Memoirs Committee

GLADYS IDA AGREN JENKINS

Gladys Ida Agren Jenkins was born in Rumford, Rhode Island, on May 6, 1924. Her father Emil was born in Sweden and her mother Anna Hamerlund Agren was first-generation American.

She attended Schauffler College for Religious Workers in Cleveland, Ohio, and always wanted to be missionary. Instead she opted for the life of a United Methodist minister's wife. She was married to Robert M. Jenkins on April 27, 1946. She helped him through the University of Florida and worried with him as he coached and taught school for five years.

In 1954 she influenced Bob in answering the call to the ministry, and they moved to Atlanta, Georgia, and the Candler School of Theology, from which he graduated 1957. They received their first appointment at Wesley Memorial in St. Petersburg and together served eight other churches in the Florida Conference, retiring in 1989. They then served in a visitation capacity at First United Methodist in Pinellas Park for fifteen years.

Gladys raised two children, Katherine Helen and Daniel Andrew. Daniel died in 2011. She loved all six of her grandchildren with great passion, transporting them to and from school and spending quality time with them in their plans and play. They all witnessed to the fact that she was famous for her love of desserts.

She was a great cook and baker and enjoyed entertaining her family and friends at the parsonages. She enjoyed sewing, fashioning many of her own clothes and those of her grandchildren. She liked to paint and always revered and copied the great artists. She also dabbled in the game of golf, with a natural swing. She and Bob took meaningful golf weeks at various golf resorts in North Carolina.

Gladys quietly and peacefully passed on to her heavenly Father on March 31, 2014, with Katharine and Bob at her bedside. For two years she had been in a nursing facility where she captivated everyone with her glowing smile.

A memorial service was held on April 6, 2014, at First United Methodist Church in Pinellas Park, Florida, where many witnessed to her loving personality and faith in God. The Reverend Jeffrey Ice was the officiant. She was buried at Bay Pines National Cemetery in Bay Pines, Florida.

She is survived by her loving husband, the Reverend Robert M. Jenkins; her daughter and son-in-law, Kathy and Jarrell Britts; six grandchildren; and eight great grandchildren.

Submitted by Kathy Jenkins Britts and Robert M. Jenkins

MARÍA ROSAURA PARTAL LEGRÁ

María Rosaura Partal Legrá was born on November 30, 1930, in Palma of Mallorca, Spain, to José and Magdalena Partal. She spent the years of her childhood in that beautiful island in the Mediterranean Sea. Rosaura was a teenager when the whole family crossed the Atlantic, moving to the city of Holguin, Cuba, in the eastern part of the island.

It was there that she met Eleazar Legra and fell in love with him. Eleazar was a young member of the Methodist Church in Holguín. They married on July 16, 1953, after Eleazar graduated with a Bachelor of Theology degree from the Evangelical Theological Seminary of Matanzas. Following their honeymoon, they went to serve the first pastoral appointment of Eleazar in the Cuba Conference.

Rosaura was a supportive pastor's wife as her husband served churches in the Cuba and the Florida Conferences. She was well loved by everyone, dedicated to The Methodist Church, and always active in the United Methodist Women units. Rosaura was beautiful in appearance and in spirit.

In 1961 they left Cuba and joined several other members of the Legrá family who had been living in the United States since the early fifties. They established their home in the South Florida area.

Rosaura and Eleazar did not have biological children, but in 1962, when Eleazar's older brother lost his wife, they helped him raise his two children until they both became college students.

After the Reverend Mr. Legrá retired, they became active at the Hispanic American Church in Hialeah, Florida, a congregation they had served many years earlier.

Rosaura died at home, suddenly, on November 29, 2013. Her husband passed away thirty-three days later. They were happily married for sixty years.

A memorial service was held at the chapel of Caballero Woodland Funeral Home in Hialeah, Florida, with the Reverend Emilio Chaviano officiating. She was buried in Vista Memorial Cemetery in Miami Lakes, Florida.

Submitted by the Reverend Tony Fernandez

SAMUEL DOWNS LEWIS

Samuel Downs Lewis was born in rural Alabama on July 9, 1934, to Mary Cook and Joseph Lewis and was raised in Montgomery. He made his commitment to ministry while still in high school and served as a pastor while attending Huntingdon College.

He met and married Charlotte Bond while at Huntingdon, eventually becoming the father of Kathryn Jean, Robert Wayne, John Randolph, and James Richard.

Sam graduated from Florida Southern College, having served as student associate pastor in Lake Wales while he was in school. While earning his Master of Divinity at Candler School of Theology, he served circuits in Apalachee and Barnesville, Georgia,

He was admitted to the Florida Conference and ordained a deacon in 1962 and was ordained an elder and received into full connection in 1966. He served the following appointments: associate, First, Bradenton, 1965-66; Terra Ceia, 1966-67; associate, First, Ft. Myers, 1967-68; Riverview, 1968-72; Grace, Perry, 1972-74; and Southside, Tallahassee, 1974-76. For health reasons he withdrew from the conference and was granted voluntary location in 1976.

After that, for some thirty years he worked with senior citizens as what he jokingly called a Geriatric Transportation Specialist and as unofficial associate for Charlotte while she went to seminary and served churches in the conference.

During Christmas 2013, while on a trip to Ohio, Sam fell, breaking his hip in three places, and then suffered a series of serious heart issues that took his life on February 4, 2014. His memorial service was held on March 28, 2014, at Community United Methodist Church in Fruitland Park, Florida, with the Reverends Mike Fordham and Chris Jones officiating.

He is survived by his wife, Charlotte; his children: Kathryn Jean Pierce and husband Steve, Robert Wayne Lewis and wife Blanche Marie, John Randolph and wife Nancy, and James Richard Lewis and wife Karol; and seven grandchildren

Sam leaves a great legacy, not only with his family, who are all active leaders in their own churches, but also in visitation, teaching Bible study classes, working with children, teaching woodworking, and caring especially for the elderly. He loved books, crossword puzzles, rock hounding, camping, and making all kinds of wooden gifts for family and friends. He will be sorely missed.

Submitted by his wife, the Reverend Charlotte Lewis

DOROTHY JEAN SAYRE LIEVING

Dorothy Jean Sayre Lieving was born to George Elden and Edith Francis Sayre in Point Pleasant, West Virginia, in the home of her Grandma and Grandpa Church.

She married Bernard H. Lieving, Jr., who became a chaplain in the U.S. Army. In 1995 he transferred from the West Virginia Conference to the Florida Conference and served as associate at Hyde Park in Tampa until his retirement in 2005.

As Dorothy traveled the continental United States and Europe as an Army chaplain's wife, she held various positions focused primarily in education, including pre-school teacher, instructional aide, and library assistant. Following her retirement from education, she started her own catering business, DJ's Delicacies, specializing in unforgettable pies made from the recipes of her father.

Dorothy always set a leader's example in caring for soldiers and their families, keenly aware of the need for support during the many transitions of Army life. She was the hostess par excellence, whether creating intimate dinners or big parties as part of her role as an army chaplain’s wife, a duty she loved and took seriously.

Living out of the foundation of her strong Christian faith, Dorothy had a heart for the disenfranchised and victims of injustice and discrimination. She did not tolerate bigotry and lived by example. When at Hyde Park United Methodist Church in Tampa, Florida, she started the Peanut Butter Buddy sandwich ministry. With a couple of loaves of bread and jars of peanut butter and jelly, she provided Sunday morning food for the disadvantaged. Today that ministry has evolved into the Open Arms ministry that serves hot breakfast every Sunday and provides monthly haircuts and clothing distribution to two hundred individuals in need.

Through sixteen moves and all the life changes associated with them, Dorothy always put her own needs second and made her first priority her children, ensuring every house became a home the moment they arrived at each new location.

Dorothy will be remembered for her independent spirit, her brilliant smile and infectious laugh, her life-long stand for justice and equality, and her love and strength as a wife and mother.

Dorothy died on February 26, 2014, of Alzheimer's disease. She was at home, surrounded by her family. A memorial service was held on March 1, 2014, at Hyde Park United Methodist in Tampa, Florida. Her ashes are being held by the family until Bernard's death, at which time they will be inurned together at Arlington National Cemetery

She is survived by Bernard, her husband of fifty-four years and the love of her life; son, Bernard III and wife Kristen of Santa Fe, New Mexico; daughters, Debra Kleesattel and husband Robert of Tampa and Melissa Lieving-Austermehle and husband Paul of Fountainville, Pennsylvania; grandchildren, Luke Jackson Austermehle and Susie Sayre Lieving; sister, Ruth Uebelhoer and husband Herbert of Sacramento, California; brothers, George Sayre and wife Lorraine of Whiting, New Jersey, and Harold and wife Freda of Ft. Davis, Texas; numerous nieces and nephews; and countless friends around the world. She was predeceased by her sister, Barbara.

Submitted by the Memoirs Committee

BEVERLY SUE BERTHELOT LOVEDAY

Beverly Sue Berthelot Loveday was born in Warsaw, North Carolina, on March 10, 1947, to Willie Mae Dail Berthelot and Ferdinand Berthelot. The family moved to Sasser, Georgia, in 1960. She attended Georgia Southern College in Statesboro, Georgia, graduating in three years and receiving her teaching certificate.

On March 10, 1968, Bev and the Reverend Lawrence J. Loveday were married in the Sasser United Methodist Church. They had two children, David and Lisa. Beverly was a teacher in the Florida Public School System for thirty-six years. Full of energy, she was often referred to as the Energizer Bunny. She was loved by everyone and was an inspiration to students, faculty, church members, and all she came in contact with.

Among Bev's many interests were singing, sewing, and crafts. She sang in the church choirs and helped in the church offices with bulletins, newsletters, and directories. She did craft projects with youth groups, was craft leader in the vacation Bible schools, made puppet costumes, and was the person to contact when craft and sewing projects were needed. She served in several leadership positions, both professionally and in the churches we pastored. In a couple of churches parishioners said that they didn't mind if I moved, but they wanted Bev to stay. Bev was a good Christian woman adored by everyone.

Bev died on June 25, 2013, in Fort Pierce, Florida. When word reached former students and other friends of her death, several wrote that she was probably already working on a project in heaven; she was always on the go. Her Celebration of Life Service was held on July 13, 2013, at the White City United Methodist Church in Fort Pierce, with her husband delivering the life-affirming eulogy. Her ashes were spread by the family on Casperson's Beach in Venice, Florida. The Venice beach held a special place in Bev's heart during forty-five years of marriage, so it was appropriate that the beach should be the place for her mortal remains. But we know that she is in heaven with her Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ and other loved ones.

In addition to her husband of forty-five years, Lawrence J. Loveday, she is survived by a son, David Loveday and wife Nikki of Fort Worth, Texas; a daughter, Lisa Loveday of Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida; three sisters, Glenda Stone and husband George of Fleming Island, Florida, Mickie Kennedy and husband Ernie of Dawson, Georgia, and Donna Frye and husband David of Lakeland, Florida; two brothers, Tony Berthelot and wife Janet of Santa Rosa Beach, Florida, and Billy Johnson of Lakeland, Florida; and two granddaughters, Kira Loveday and Makenzie Loveday.

Bev is dearly missed, but Revelation 14:13 is a good scripture to describe Bev and the way she was loved and how she inspired others to do good.

Submitted by her husband, the Reverend Lawrence J. Loveday

JERELENE SELLERS BROCK OLIVENT

Jerelene Sellers Brock Olivent, third child of Arthur Alone Sellers and Gussie Martin Sellers, was born on August 30, 1932, in Cairo, Georgia.

Jerry dropped out of school in ninth grade and married Isaac A. Brock. They had three children: Isaac Dewaine Brock, Lavaughn Brock, and Imaglen Brock. Her husband died of a heart attack. They had been married for thirty-eight years.

Jerry loved to work with the public. She was a clerk in A.L. Wilson Department Store in Quincy, Florida, from the mid-1950s until the store closed in 1986. She was a seamstress at Higdon Casket Co. for four years. She then became a sales clerk at Massey Drugs, a career that lasted for fifteen years, until her marriage to the Reverend James Olivent in June 2003.

She was a devout member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, where she raised her family, and later of Forest Hills United Methodist Church in Quincy. She was known and loved by the people of Quincy.

Jerry's health began to deteriorate in 2007, and she succumbed to Alzheimer's on March 12, 2014. Graveside services were held in Hillcrest Cemetery in Quincy, Florida, where she was laid to rest beside her first husband, Isaac Brock.

She is survived by her sons, Dewaine Brock of Quincy and Lavaughn Brock and wife Brenda of Lady Lake; daughter Imaglen Parramore and husband Danny of Quincy; sister, Irene Bennett and husband Ty of Quincy; brother, Arthur Sellers and wife Linda of Quincy; and husband, the Reverend James Olivent of Hannatown, Georgia; seven grandchildren; and seven great grandchildren. In addition to her first husband, she was predeceased by her brother, Neal Sellers, and sister, Virginia Todd.

Jerry loved sewing and crafting. When she worked at Massey's Drugs, she used her crafting talents to make beautiful Easter baskets for the children of the area. She loved collecting porcelain rooster figures.

Submitted by James H. Olivent

AGNES DOLLY DURST PARSONS

Agnes Dolly Durst Parsons was born on November 27, 1922, in Vanceburg, Kentucky, to Elsie Gertrude Click and Peter Michael Durst. She attended Racine High School in Racine, Ohio.

On August 31, 1940, she married Randall Lorentz Parsons, and they had five children: Joan Ruth, born on August 13, 1941; Patty, born on December 29, 1943; Darrell, born on December 11, 1945; Eloise, born on May 10, 1948; and Carolyn, born on December 10, 1952.

Agnes and Randall served churches in Cairo and Shepherdstown, West Virginia, and Mount Savage, Maryland, before transferring to the Florida Conference in 1962. Here they served at Fellsmere; Sebastian; First, Tavares; Community, Belle Glade; First, Apopka; and First, Williston. In retirement Randall was interim pastor at several churches in Idaho.

Throughout their ministry Agnes stood beside Randall as his wife, mother of their children, and church leader, devoting herself to maintaining their family life and lending her many talents to their shared service to these church communities.

Agnes was also a successful retail clerk/buyer, administrative assistant at Tavares High School, and dynamic tour director on several U.S. and international tours for Educational Opportunities. Always active in church activities, she sang in the choir, taught Sunday school, and took a leading role in women's groups. She was a terrific cook and loved gardening and animals, especially dogs.

She and Randall retired to Tavares, Florida, in 1983. Subsequently they lived in Franklin, North Carolina, before returning to Florida to live at Lakeview Terrace in Altoona.

Agnes died on November 14, 2013, of congestive heart failure. Services were held at First United Methodist in Tavares, Florida, with the Reverend John Barham officiating. Her ashes were placed in the family grave in the Ohio River Valley.

Survivors include her husband of seventy-three years, the Reverend Randall Parsons; son, Darrell and wife Julie of University Park, Maryland; daughters, Patty Tewson and husband Bill of Sun Valley, Idaho; Eloise Gerecitano and husband Paul of Roswell, Georgia, and Carolyn Cutler and husband Ken of Orlando, Florida; eight grandchildren, Cody Parsons, Maria Tagliarino, BethAnne Welischar, Keith Gerecitano, Talia Gerecitano, Nicholas Gerecitano, Katharine Parsons, and Jon Randall Parsons; and two great grandchildren, Ethan Gerecitano and Isidor Parsons. Agnes was preceded in death by her infant daughter, Joan Ruth Parsons, and her brother, Chester Durst.

Submitted by Carolyn Parsons Cutler

JAMES MERRILL PATCH

James Merrill Patch was born on August 30, 1944, in Dubuque, Iowa, the third child of Russell and Mary Juno Birch Patch.

Jim graduated from Newtrier High School in Chicago, Illinois. He attended Michigan State and graduated with a B.S. from CalPoly. He earned an M.A. in English and drama from Western Michigan.

In 1989 Jim married the Reverend Sharon Ellison at First United Methodist in Jacksonville, Florida. At the time he was president of Jones College and she was the associate pastor of First Church. Jim accepted the role of clergy spouse with enthusiasm and even hosted the Clergy Spouses Luncheon at Annual Conference. He became an educational consultant so that he could relocate as needed. He and Sharon served in Oldsmar for seven years, and then served the Ft. Myers District for five years. They completed their years of ministry at First United Methodist in Clearwater. Jim loved teaching and used his skills at each church by leading Bible studies and teaching Sunday school.

Following their retirement in 2009 they traveled to Europe, spending three months in Italy and traveling about the area. In 2012 they returned to Europe and spent two months exploring northern Europe. They thoroughly enjoyed their time together. After ten relatively healthy years, Jim's cancer returned in late 2012, and following unsuccessful treatments, he died June 21, 2013. Services were held on June 24, 2013, at First United Methodist Church in Clearwater, with the Reverend Dr. Scott Baker officiating.

Jim was the very proud father of Amanda Kathleen Patch and loving step-father to Randy Ellison, Tamara Ellison Mortti, Anita Ellison Taylor, and Paula Ellison Denmon.

In addition to his wife and children, Jim is survived by a brother, Rusty Patton; sister, Mary Baker; several nieces and nephews; six grandchildren; and one great grandchild.

Submitted by Sharon Patch

LUZ RAQUEL PÉREZ

Luz Raquel Pérez was born on June 25, 1933, in Jovellanos, Matanzas, Cuba. The oldest of six children, she was the daughter of Antonio Ramón and Brigida Pelay. Her parents were dedicated Christians who had a great influence in the lives of their children. Raquel's mother prepared her children every week to attend the Sunday school of the Methodist Church of Jovellanos.

Raquel had three sisters, Damaris, Eva, and Gloria, and two brothers, Jose Daniel and Saul. Her brothers received the call to ministry and served the Lord faithfully in the Florida Conference. They both preceded Raquel in death.

Raquel, who was quite talented, was involved in all the activities of the local church. Because of her leadership abilities, she was elected to serve as the secretary of the Methodist Youth Fellowship of the Cuba Conference.

After finishing the requirements in business administration, Raquel was hired as the secretary of the Civil Court of Jovellanos. She held that position for several years until the Communist regime, installed in Cuba in 1959, replaced most of the officers and employees at governmental offices. She was then called to be administrative assistant to the president of the Evangelical Seminary of Matanzas. Raquel accepted the position and moved to the Seminary, where she spent some of the happiest years of her life. She was not only an excellent administrative assistant but also a valuable member of the Seminary Choir that in those years offered concerts at local churches in the island. It was on one of those tours that Raquel met her husband, the Reverend Candido Perez.

Candido and Raquel married in the summer of 1963 and immediately moved to the small town of Pina, Camaguey, Cuba, where they served that Methodist church for several years. While serving there, they were blessed with the arrival of their first son, Jose Antonio. In February 1968 Candido and Raquel left Cuba with their four-year-old son.

After arriving in the United States, Candido was called to serve the Methodist Church of the Virgin Islands. Later they were appointed to a church in Arecibo, Puerto Rico. In that congregation Raquel worked with youth groups and was instrumental in organizing musical and social events for the whole community. Their second son, Daniel, was born while they were serving that church.

In 1980 Candido was transferred to the Florida Conference to serve the Hardee County Spanish Mission in Zolfo Springs. Later they moved to South Florida, where they served several appointments—Leisure City, Peace, Allapattah, Riverside, and North Hialeah Hispanic—until his retirement in 1999. Raquel supported her husband's ministry at every church he served.

Raquel's abilities and memory were diminished over the last ten years of her life when she struggled with the symptoms of Alzheimer's. She died in Cayey, Puerto Rico, on July 30, 2013. Her husband, Candido, preceded her in death in 2009. Survivors include her sons, Jose Antonio and Daniel, Daniel's wife Lorena, and two grandchildren, Alejandro and Christian.

Raquel will be remembered for her cheerful spirit and her love of the Lord. What a joyful celebration in heaven in her reunion with her loved ones.

Submitted by the Reverend Tony Fernandez

HARRIET EDNA ORR REARIC

Harriet Edna Orr Rearic was born at home in Kittanning, Pennsylvania, on December 13, 1926, to George Lawson Orr and Edna Brown Orr.

She graduated from Kittanning High School in 1944 with several years of perfect attendance from grade school on.

She married Ronald Lamont Rearic on December 19, 1946. They were the parents of three children: Ronald Dennis Rearic, born on April 6, 1948; Debora Lynn Rearic, born on August 4, 1952; and David Mark Rearic, born on August 13, 1955.

Her husband entered the ministry in 1950 in the East Ohio Conference, where he served several churches. He transferred to the Florida Conference in 1979. Harriet served with him at Anthony, Sparr, and Rainbow Lakes. They retired in 1989. Ron died in 2001.

Harriet was raised to adulthood in the Great Depression years and thus was easily amused by the simple things in life. She looked forward to yearly trips in June to conference in Lakeside, Ohio. She was an enthusiastic Sunday school teacher wherever needed and was also actively involved in kitchen duty at church functions. Harriet was the perfect hostess to the many dignitaries visiting the churches she and Ron served. Being a clergy spouse is not an easy job, but she rose to the occasion.

Harriet died on August 12, 2013, at Sylvia's Hospice House in Ocala, Florida, surrounded by her sons, her daughter-in-law, and her granddaughter Amy.

A memorial service was held on August 14, 2013, at Anthony United Methodist Church in Anthony, Florida, with the Reverend Carmen Arnett, pastor, officiating. Her ashes joined those of her husband in Armstrong County, Pennsylvania.

She is survived by her sons Ronald of Ocala, Florida, and David of Coshocton, Ohio; daughter-in-law Diana; and six grandchildren. She was predeceased by her daughter Debora Snedeker.

Submitted by David M. Rearic

EMMA HEWLETT WELCH RIVERS

Emma Hewlett Welch Rivers was born on January 21, 1924, in Tampa, Florida.

She was a 1942 graduate of Hillsborough High School in Tampa. Her early work was at the Camera Center in downtown Tampa. Later she worked at Sears, Roebuck & Company for more than twenty years.

She was a life-long Methodist, and for many years was organist, choir director, Sunday school teacher, and secretary for Sarah Spencer Memorial United Methodist Church, renamed Calvary, in Tampa. She later became a member of First United Methodist Church and then Forest Hills United Methodist Church.

She lived a quiet, religious life and attempted to follow her Christian beliefs in all she did.

She became the wife of the Reverend Ralph W. Rivers following his retirement in 1987. He predeceased her in 1995.

She died on March 2, 2014. Funeral services were held on March 8, 2014, at Forest Hills United Methodist Church in Tampa, Florida. Interment was in Myrtle Hill Memorial Park Cemetery in Tampa.

Submitted by the Memoirs Committee

BARBARA ELLEN STILES SEGHERS

Barbara Ellen Stiles Seghers was born on August 31, 1943, in Orlando, Florida, to Clarence A.R. and Mary McCree Stiles.

She was a graduate of Boone High School in Orlando, attended Treveca Nazarene College in Nashville, Tennessee, and graduated from Bethany Nazarene College in Bethany, Oklahoma.

She married Frank B. Seghers, Jr., on June 30, 1967.

As a state-certified music teacher, Barbara taught in several public schools in Florida. An accomplished musician, vocalist, and committed Christian, she traveled with her husband while he was an evangelist for the Florida Conference and served as organist in several churches, most recently at First United Methodist Church in Green Cove Springs, Florida. She produced two record albums of sacred music.

Barbara died on December 26, 2013, having experienced an unexpected heart attack. Funeral services were held on January 3, 2014, at Faith United Methodist Church in Jacksonville, Florida. Interment was in Greenlawn Cemetery in Jacksonville.

She is survived by her husband of forty-six years, the Reverend Dr. Frank B. Seghers, Jr., of Jacksonville, Florida; their son, Jeremy Frank Seghers of Brooklyn, New York; her sister, Mary Louise Henry of Snellville, Georgia; and three nephews, a niece, and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Submitted by the Memoirs Committee

ELIZABETH MODELL POTTS SHARP

Elizabeth Modell Potts Sharp was born on October 3, 1923, in Harrison, Boone County, Arkansas, to Jewell Stephen Potts, Sr., and Lois Myrtle Van Atten Potts. She and her family moved to Florida in 1935, residing in the Cocoa Beach area. Modell graduated in 1944 from Cocoa High School, where she was a member of the National Honor Society. She was immediately employed as a bookkeeper at Barnett Bank.

Modell united with First Methodist Church in Cocoa and was active in the choir. She was president of the Methodist Youth Fellowship in 1946, at which time she met Raymond Joseph Sharp, a U.S. Navy Petty Officer stationed at Banana River Naval Air Station. A member of the church, he was licensed as a local preacher in 1947.

On Mother's Day, May 11, 1947, Modell and Ray were united in marriage, which lasted just forty-seven days short of sixty-six years.

Committed to being a pastor's wife, Modell served well. Through her adult life she was a member of the Wesleyan Service Guild, Woman's Society of Christian Service, and United Methodist Women. She taught several membership training classes in various churches her husband served. She taught four of their children to read before they entered first grade and was a teacher in the Lauback Literacy Program.

Modell was also a loving homemaker, creative seamstress, and outstanding gardener and horticulturist. Every parsonage yard demonstrated her talents and care. She was a member of the Groveland Garden Club and the Mims Jacaranda Garden Club.

Elizabeth Modell Sharp left for her Father's house of many mansions on March 4, 2013, in her husband's arms after a short four months of an unexpected illness. Memorial services were held at First United Methodist Church in Cocoa, Florida, on March 9, 2013. Her husband delivered the memorial message, as he had promised Modell he would do. Pastor Gene Yotka assisted. A private interment took place in the Brevard Memorial Park, Frontenac, Florida, before the service.

Modell is survived by her husband, the Reverend R.J. Sharp; her son, Raymond; her daughters, Kris Elizabeth Berman and Kimberly Ann Ensign; four grandsons; one granddaughter; one great grandson; and three great granddaughters. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Kathleen Modell, in 1965, and by her parents, three brothers, and two sisters.

Submitted by her husband, the Reverend Raymond J. Sharp

ADELAIDE STEVENS WARE

Adelaide Stevens Ware was born on January 26, 1915, in Forrest City, Arkansas. She was the daughter of Helen Nichols and Walter Stevens. After graduation from Agnes Scott College in Atlanta, Georgia, she enrolled at Candler School of Theology at Emory University. There she met Melton Ware, who was studying for the ministry. They were married on Thanksgiving Day in 1936 in her home church, Graham Memorial Presbyterian Church in Forrest City.

Together she and Mel served churches throughout the conference, and he was the second director of the Conference Council on Ministries.

Adelaide's college career included degrees in Biblical studies and sociology. She participated in her husband's ministries, specifically in the arena of spiritual formation, and established intercessory prayer groups in each church they served. She wrote several booklets on various aspects of prayer, including "Stand Still a While and Listen."

Adelaide was the initial chairperson of the Conference Spiritual Formation team under the Work Area on Prayer and Evangelism in the early 1980s. She led the fifteen-member team to offer the School of Prayer at the Life Enrichment Center in Leesburg, bringing people from the conference together to train lay people to return to their local churches to promote spiritual formation experiences. She helped to bring national speakers to the conference to stimulate deeper individual and corporate spiritual growth. Because of her smart mind, quick humor, dedicated spirit, and commanding presence, those who followed her were confident of her leadership.

In retirement she was trained as a spiritual director. She met with individuals to hear of their journeys with God. She proved to be a good listener, with a sensitive heart and prayer-filled discernment. She spent her days writing and reading, hoping to complete more material on intercessory prayer. Her library was filled with books about spiritual development. One met one's match when sitting with her to discuss formative issues. She was well read and quite communicative of her beliefs.

She and Melton have given the conference a gift that represents their lives in ministry. They have shared with the conference the Prayer Chapel at the Life Enrichment Center. It was her desire that it be a place for only a few at a time and that the space would cause people to be drawn inward. The specifics of the space were considered from a spiritual formation perspective.

Two personal notes describe her well. Each time "Amazing Grace" was sung, she would change the "that saved a wretch like me" to "that saved a soul like me." She would exclaim, "I am not a wretch! I am a divine soul." At a Chinese meal together, Adelaide's fortune cookie said it all in describing her and her vision: "The philosophy of one century is common sense of the next."

Adelaide died at her home at the Estates at Carpenters in Lakeland, Florida, on August 9, 2013. Graveside services were held on August 15, 2013, at Forrest Park Cemetery in Forrest City, Arkansas. A memorial service was held on August 16, 2013, at the Estates, with the Reverend Henry Schmidt officiating. She is survived by her niece, Edwene Stevens McCollum of Forrest City, and three great nieces. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Melton Ware, in 2008; her brother, Walter Edwin Stevens, Jr.; and her nephew, Walter Edwin Stevens III.

Submitted by Dr. Trudy Corry Rankin