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Mrs. Lawson Passes; Rites Last Saturday

Mrs. Ruby Hinson Lawson, of Mooresville, route 11, died at 7:30 a.m. May 2 at Mercy Hospital in Charlotte.

Born in Iredell County, Mrs. Lawson was a daughter of the late Christopher C. Hinson and Magie Levan Hinson.

A member of Mooresville's Southside Baptist Church, Mrs. Lawson, prior to her retirement, was an employee of Burlington Industries.

Mrs. Lawson's husband, James C. Lawson, preceded her in death on June 2, 1981.

Surviving are: one son, James P. Lawson of Mooresville; and three sisters, Mrs. Joyce H. Sigmon and Mrs. Edna H. Beaver, both of Mooresville, and Mrs. Ruth H. Hamlin of Cornelius.

A funeral for Mrs. Lawson was conducted at 2 p.m. May 4 at Southside Baptist Church, with the Rev. Terry Below and J.E. Brown officiating. Burial was in Glenwood Memorial Park in Mooresville.

Memorials may be made to the Building Fund of Southside Baptist Church, 525 South Broad Street, Mooresville, North Carolina 28115.

Obituaries

Hazel E. Jackson, Well-Known Prospect Area Resident, Dies

Hazel Edward Jackson, well-known resident of the Prospect area, died at 11 p.m. May 1 at Lake Norman Regional Medical Center in Mooresville.

A resident of Mooresville, route 3, Mr. Jackson was 89. Born in Rowan County on Aug. 28, 1901, Mr. Jackson was a son of the late William P. Jackson and Lodemia Lipe Jackson.

Mr. Jackson, who attended Mount Pleasant Military Academy, was a life-long member of Prospect Presbyterian Church, where, over the years, he served as a trustee, deacon, elder and Sunday School teacher.

One of Rowan County's most successful farmers and businessmen, Mr. Jackson was active in numerous community affairs.

Surviving are: the wife, Mrs. Louise Hart Jackson, whom he married on Nov. 30, 1918; one son, the Rev. Winter V. Lentz of Daytona Beach, Fla.; and two nephews, Allen Jackson and Wil-



HAZEL E. JACKSON

liam Jackson, both of Mooresville.

A funeral for Mr. Jackson was conducted at 11 a.m. April 4 at Prospect Presbyterian Church, with the pastor, Dr. Stephen Hundley, officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Active pallbearers were: Harley Norman, Ronnie Puckett, Brian Jackson, Eddie Jackson, David Jackson Jr., and Bob Edmiston.

Honorary pallbearers were the elders and deacons of Prospect Presbyterian Church.

Memorials may be made to Prospect Presbyterian Church, Route 3, Box 720, Mooresville, North Carolina 28115.

John McGee Dies April 26 At Age Of 95

John Franklin McGee, 95, a former resident of Mooresville, route 8, N.C. 150 West, died April 26 at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Salisbury following a period of declining health.

A native of Lincoln County, Mr. McGee was born on Dec. 1, 1895, a son of the late Thomas Elihu McGee and Rosa Zoadder Beatty McGee.

A veteran of World War I, having served in the U.S. Army Infantry, Mr. McGee, prior to his retirement, was a self-employed carpenter. He was a member of Rehoboth United Methodist Church at Terrell.

Mr. McGee's wife, Mrs. Edna Gabriel McGee, preceded him in death on March 5, 1988, and a daughter, Mrs. Betty M. Mahala, died on Oct. 21, 1978.

Surviving are: one son, Herman McGee of Mooresville, route 11; three daughters, Mrs. Hazel M. Johnson and Mrs. Hilda M. Horn, both of Greensboro, and Mrs. Carolyn M. Isehour of Catawba.

Twelve grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren also survive.

A graveside service for Mr. McGee was conducted at 11 a.m. April 29 in the Rehoboth United Methodist Church cemetery, with the Rev. Phil DeBerry and the Rev. Carl Johnson officiating.

Memorials may be made to Rehoboth United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 356, Terrell, North Carolina 28682.

Mrs. Lail Laid To Rest Tuesday At 2

Mrs. Beulah Mae Vickers Lail, 90-year-old resident of Troutman, route 2, died at 5:20 p.m. May 4 at her home following a lengthy illness.

A native of Alexander County, Mrs. Lail was born on Nov. 9, 1900, a daughter of the late James Robert and Della Mae Honeycutt Vickers.

A retired textile employee, Mrs. Lail was a member of Troutman Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday School for more than 30 years.

Mrs. Lail's husband, Ralph George Lail, preceded her in death on Jan. 9, 1986.

Surviving are: six sons, George (Buck) Lail, Ray V. Lail, John C. Lail and Bobby R. Lail, all of Troutman, Glenn P. Lail of Knoxville, Tenn., and Thomas A. Lail of Mickleton, N.J.; two daughters, Mrs. Nancy Westmoreland of Mount Morris, Mich., and Mrs. Ruth Goodin of Troutman; and five sisters, Miss Bertha Vickers of Hazelwood, Mrs. Sarah Hammer of Stony Point, Mrs. Lucie Mullis of Danville, Va., and Mrs. Cindy James and Mrs. Josephine James, both of Taylorsville.

Thirty-one grandchildren also survive.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Lail was preceded in death by two sisters, Mrs. Birchie Miller and Mrs. Bessie Little.

A funeral for Mrs. Lail was conducted at 2 p.m. May 7 at the Troutman Baptist Church, with Dr. Robert Goode, Dr. J.B. Parker Jr., and the Rev. J.C. Gwaltney officiating. Burial was in Iredell Memorial Gardens, located south of Statesville on U.S. 21.

Memorials may be made to Troutman Baptist Church, Route 1, Troutman, North Carolina 28166.

Edwin Malcolm, Huntersville Resident, Dies

Edwin Rowe Malcolm, 76-year-old resident of 1220 Lake Haven Dr., Huntersville, died April 29 at University Memorial Hospital in Charlotte.

A native of Iredell County, Mr. Malcolm was born on Sept. 7, 1914.

A veteran of World War II, Mr. Malcolm was a member of the Huntersville Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, Post 321 of the American Legion, the Croft Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a retired welder for Quality Products.

Surviving are: the wife, Mrs. Betty Strider Malcolm; two sons, Edwin Malcolm of Huntersville and Hazel Malcolm of Mount Mourne; two daughters, Mrs. Joan Yost and Mrs. Iris Abernathy, both of Mount Mourne; and two sisters, Mrs. Floy Kelly of Mount Mourne and Mrs. Pauline Chappell of Troutman. Eleven grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren also survive.

A funeral for Mr. Malcolm was conducted at 2 p.m. May 1 in the chapel of the Almond, Raymond and McConnell Funeral Home in Huntersville, with the Rev. Richard Cash officiating. Burial was in the Huntersville Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

Mrs. Wojcik, Former Local Resident, Dies

A former Mooresville resident, Mrs. Esther Ruth Sherrill Wojcik, 42, of Goldsboro, Maryland, died April 30 at her residence.

Born in Mooresville on Oct. 13, 1948, Mrs. Wojcik was a daughter of Hal L. Sherrill and Rachel Freeze Sherrill of Mooresville.

A member of Bethel Wesleyan Church in Goldsboro, Maryland, Mrs. Wojcik was employed by the Maryland AAA Motor Club in Baltimore, Maryland.

Surviving, in addition to the parents, are: the husband, John Wojcik; one daughter, Mrs. Angel Call of Goldsboro, Maryland; one brother, Jonathan Sherrill of Mooresville; and a grandmother, Mrs. Esther Sherrill of Catawba.

A memorial service for Mrs. Wojcik was conducted at 4 p.m. May 7 at the First Wesleyan Church in Mooresville, with the pastor, the Rev. Bill Finlun, officiating. Another memorial service was conducted at 7 p.m. May 7 at Bethel Wesleyan Church in Goldsboro, Maryland.

Memorials may be made to First Wesleyan Church, c/o the Rev. Bill Finlun, 851 Fieldstone Rd., Mooresville, North Carolina 28115 or to Bethel Wesleyan Church, P.O. Box 141, Goldsboro, Maryland 21636 or to Hospice of Caroline County, P.O. Box 362, Denton, Maryland 21629.

Awards Needed For People Who Make A Difference

This material was written by Dr. Larry McGee, vice president for development and professor of religion at Wofford College. It was provided free to newspapers by the Spartanburg, S.C. School.

ing. They've already begun doing that with the quadrennial Olympic and political party nominating conventions. Or, as another option, if there is some reason the whole nation should have access to the whole ceremony, show the awards ceremonies without commercials on C-Span, the network that runs the congressional hearings.

Read these questions and see if your answers agree with mine.

Q. Are there enough awards night ceremonies on television?

A. Oh, yes.

Q. Are the awards given in the right fields (e.g., pop music, country music, gospel music, movies, television, daytime television, theatre, beauty, bodybuilding, longevity, athletics, horseracing, advertising, cooking, etc.)?

A. No, not entirely.

Q. Are there fields of achievement which should have televised awards but which currently do not?

A. Yes. Why not an award for the television evangelist with the fewest diamond rings and least-decorated hair?

Seriously, though, why not televised award ceremonies for best teachers, best police check-out cashiers, best savings-and-loan companies, highest percent of personal income given to charities, academic Special Olympics contestants, best litter collectors, best improvisers in school grades, or best fresh ideas in politics?

Q. You are saying that there are too many televised awards shows and yet not enough of them. Aren't you really saying that television underplays the heroism and service of common people and overdoes the self-congratulations of the already rich and famous? We need more representative heroes than we are being given.

A. Yes.

Q. But isn't that because the masses of viewers care more about the elevated and distant life-styles of the rich and famous than about the unnoticed notables all around them everyday? Don't television networks cater to what people will watch, for the sake of ratings and the advertising revenues ratings bring them?

A. Perhaps. But that's like asking if we aren't a nation of closet readers of "National Enquirer". Viewers still have some sense of taste. I don't have any figures for them, but surely awards ceremony television ratings can't be very high. The programs are too long, they all have essentially the same repetitive presentations and entertainment format, the same people sit in the audiences or read the envelopes, the acceptance speeches are all predictable. The whole event could be reduced to a single-page news release to newspapers and radio and television news desks.

Alternatively, perhaps, let the "peers" in any field continue to get together to recognize each other, but spare the nation by showing only five minutes of highlights rather than a whole event.

ing. They've already begun doing that with the quadrennial Olympic and political party nominating conventions. Or, as another option, if there is some reason the whole nation should have access to the whole ceremony, show the awards ceremonies without commercials on C-Span, the network that runs the congressional hearings.

Q. Other than the ratings and profit motives, why do the networks show so many awards programs?

A. Because the viewing clock runs 24 hours a day and something has to fill that time. We are a nation of television addicts. We

started trying it 30 years ago because it was new and entertaining, but then we got hooked on it, just as marijuana addicts are hooked on the habit. In Europe, people used to get the cold turkey treatment for television. At 10:00 every night, the stations there just stopped telecasting. But with VCR's and satellite dishes now available, of course such prohibition is pointless.

The real problem with award shows is that the television medium thrives on making heroes of photogenic people. We have known that ever since the Kennedy-Nixon debates of 1960.

JFK was virtually unknown before then.

The awards programs are not really malicious villains, but they are handy examples of the problem of filling time with television programs for video addicts. Other examples are those simulated afternoon court cases, the home video comedy clips, and re-enacted unsolved crime shows. Maybe the best example are the weekend golf matches. People complain about how slow-moving and time-consuming watching a baseball game on television is, but compared to following a slow-motion golf tournament over three days, baseball looks like it

runs on Fast-Forward.

Do you have a cure for this "television addiction"? A. No. If I did, I wouldn't sound half so cynical about the problem as I do. I'm as much a couch potato as anyone else.

I suppose it would be nice for the networks to show some leadership by setting higher standards for what they show, even at the cost of making less profit from it, but most of what we see today isn't even coming from the traditional Big 3 networks at all. There are dozens of channels available from many independent and younger networks. Profit and lowest-common-denominator

standards in that competitive marketplace mean are not about to be displaced by network public service and cerebral exercise shows.

Perhaps time and evolution will bring solutions automatically. Radio and the movies once replaced the backbones of American culture. But they were replaced by television. Something new likely is being created even now that will replace television. Until it comes along, television addiction may begin to cure itself by gradual withdrawals, which apparently have already begun among viewers.

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