

MEMOIRS

MINISTERS

Louis Randall Abbey

Reverend Louis Randall “Randy” Abbey, 71, of Jacksonville, FL, passed away November 2, 2009 following a brief illness. He was born in Cleveland, OH, son of the late Louis Neal and Helen Randall Abbey.

Randy served a term in the United States Army in the early 1960’s. A longtime employee of GE Aerospace, he retired in 1992 so that he could return to school and earn his Master’s of Divinity Degree. He served several congregations as a pastor in the Kansas West Conference of the United Methodist Church; Wellington First, Pleasanton/Preston and Concordia First. He returned to Florida after his retirement from the church.

Randy is remembered by his friends and family as a man who dedicated his life to his family and service to others. He served as an adult volunteer for many years with the Boy Scouts of America. Prior to entering full time ministry, he spent many tireless hours in service to God and the church. He enjoyed reading, singing in the choir, and spending time with his family and friends. Most notably, he will be remembered as a man of great faith and inspiration. He was truly a gentleman and a gentle man.

Surviving are his loving wife of 48 years, Sue; three children, Kathy Haworth (Walt) of Jacksonville, Tom Abbey (Holly) of Dacula, GA, Chris Abbey (Sandra) of Rockwell, NC; six grandchildren (Erin, Trent, Quinn, Julia, Katie , Ali) and many, many dear friends.

A Memorial Service was held on November 7, 2009 at Lakewood United Methodist Church. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial gifts to be made to Lakewood United Methodist Church Music Ministry or Northwest Florida Community Hospice.

LeRoy A. Bott

LeRoy A. Bott., 85, died May 26, 2009. Funeral service was held at the Salem United Methodist Church in Newton. Survivors: sons, Ervin and wife, Denise of Newton, Kenneth of Wichita, Terry and wife, Brenda of Paola; daughter, Charlotte Rathke and husband, Eric of Hays; brother, Carl of Dighton; sister, Ruth Ann Wright of Monmouth, IL; 9 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren. Memorials may be given to Salem United Methodist Church in Newton.

William Cecil Findley

William Cecil “Cecil” Findley, born March 12, 1930, in Drummond, OK, passed away peacefully at his home at Oakwood Village, Madison, WI on April 13, 2010.

The son of the Rev. Cecil and Ruby Findley, he followed his father’s footsteps into the ministry. He graduated from Newton, KS. High School in 1948; North Central College in Naperville, IL., in 1952; and Evangelical Theological Seminary in Naperville, IL., in

1955. He received a Ph.D. in higher education administration from Peabody/Vanderbilt University in 1979.

While in seminary, Cecil met and married the love of his life, Helen (Farnham) Findley, who survives him after 55 years of marriage. Surviving family also includes three sons and daughters-in-law, Brian (Kate), Keith (Susan), and Greg (Hayley); four grandsons, Michael, David, Parker and Benjamin; a brother, Stanley (Jeanie) Findley; and two sisters, Margaret (Richard) McGlachlin and Elaine Solomon.

Cecil devoted his career in the ministry to serving the needs of the downtrodden and fighting for justice for the disadvantaged. After starting a new parish in Manhattan, KS, he served three years as a missionary in higher education in the Philippines from 1963 – 1966. Upon his return to the United States in 1966, he began work in campus ministry at Wichita State University. While at Wichita State, he became a leader in the Civil Rights and Anti-war movements. After serving in leadership roles in united ministries in Higher Education, he spent the last 18 years of his career teaching religion at Southwestern College in Winfield, KS.

In 1995, Cecil and Helen retired and moved to Madison to be near grandsons. In Madison, he continued an active life volunteering and working in Campus Ministry at The Crossing at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and leading an active adult Sunday school class at First United Methodist Church in Madison.

Cecil's career and values are perhaps best captured by his favorite Bible verse, Amos 5:24: "But let justice roll down like waters And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

A memorial service was held in Madison at the First United Methodist Church, April 19, 2010, with fellowship time immediately following the service. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in his name to the Cecil R. Findley Scholarship fund at Southwestern College in Winfield, KS or to The Crossing at the University of Wisconsin-Madison

Richard Carlton Fraley

Reverend Fraley died September 24, 2009 at Brandon Woods at Alvamar. Funeral services for the Rev. Richard Carlton "Dick" Fraley, 76, Lawrence, were held at Central United Methodist Church, Lawrence. Graveside services were at Fairlawn Cemetery in Hutchinson.

Rev. Fraley graduated from Hutchinson High School in 1950. He received a degree in broadcast journalism from Kansas State University in 1954. He worked in radio broadcasting at KFH in Wichita, KVOE in Emporia and KWBW and KWHK in Hutchinson.

He left the radio business in 1974 to become executive director of the Dodge City Chamber of Commerce from 1974 until 1986. In 1986 he entered the St. Paul School of Theology to become a United Methodist minister. He began serving the United Methodist Church of Healy in 1987 and was ordained in 1994.

Rev. Fraley retired from the ministry in 1995 and moved to Lawrence with his wife. He remained active in the United Methodist ministry.

He was a member of the Lawrence Jayhawk Breakfast Rotary Club and received the Paul Harris Fellowship Award from the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. He enjoyed stamp collecting and was a member of the Lawrence Stamp Club. He was a supporter of public radio and Audio-Reader. He was a member of Central United Methodist Church.

He married Madge M. Salisbury on June 9, 1957, at the United Methodist Church in St. Marys. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with their family in June 2007. During their marriage, they lived in Hutchinson, Dodge City, Healy, and Lawrence. Madge died on May 14, 2009.

Survivors include a son, James A and wife Amber, Lawrence; Two daughters, Linda Martin and husband Larry, and Nancy Childers and husband David, all of Lawrence; five grandchildren, Jeremy and Tyler Martin, Sara Gillum, Michael Childers and Jordan Fraley, and five nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, John "Jack" Edward; and a nephew Garold

John H. Hastings

Reverend Dr. John H. Hastings passed away Wednesday, Dec 23, 2009. John had received a heart transplant in June of 1998 and enjoyed good health with his new heart until recently, as his heart began to fail.

John began his ministry at Fairview United Methodist Church, outside of Hutchinson, in 1961. He then served United Methodist churches at Mentor, Beattie, Oketo, Grantville, Dodge City, Halstead, Hays and Mulvane. He was currently serving a dual charge at Strong City and Elmdale, preaching his final sermon Sunday, Dec, 20, 2009.

John was born the 10th of 16 children to Ray and Dorothy Hastings. He is survived by sisters, Elmira Fillis, Ginny Rhodes, Beth Barr and husband Leon, Mary Blumanhourst and husband Wayne, and Arvella and husband Wayne; brothers, the Rev. Lauerence and wife Aleta, Bob and wife Joyce, and Paul.

His is survived by his wife, Millie; son, John Jr., his wife, Ermine, and son, Grant; daughter: De Anne, her husband , Dan, and daughter, Taylor and Connor Heersche; son, Steve and his son, Matthew; and son Ron, Kathy and children, Jacob, Ciera, Kayna and Jeron; and many other family members, friends and loved ones. As an organ transplant recipient, John believed strongly in donating what he could, so his eyes have been donated, making vision possible for two people.

A celebration of life ceremony was held January 2, 2010 at Central Community Church, Wichita, KS.

Paschal Monroe Jackson

Chaplain Colonel Paschal M. Jackson passed away on July 2, 2009 in Colorado Springs, CO. He was born on May 23, 1931 in Toms River, NJ to Paschal and Melta Jackson.

On May 25, 1952 he was married to Margaret Knowles. They had one daughter, Margaret Louise born in 1955.

Paschal served as a local pastor at the Dexter Methodist Church in 1952. He was a graduate from Drew Theological Seminary and a member of the Kansas West Conference. He was ordained an elder in 1956 and at that time served the Enterprise Methodist Church.

In 1960 he became a Chaplain in the US Army. He served until 1981 when he retired

Survivors include his wife Margaret Patricia and his daughter, Margaret Louise Seddon and her husband Andrew.

Funeral services were held in the Lehmborg Chapel at the First United Methodist Church in Colorado Springs with burial at Ft. Logan. Chaplain John Sargent and Dr. Larry Purvis officiated.

Glenn Edward Matthew

Reverend Dr. Glenn Edward, 93, of Wichita, died peacefully on June 13, 2009. In 1945 he was ordained an elder in the Kansas West Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church. He served with distinction in several Kansas congregations (Burrton, Winfield, Wichita, Topeka) and in annual conference administration (Conference Program Director, Salina District Superintendent, and Kansas Area Superintendent of Ministries), during his ministry. He retired in 1981. Glenn was born in 1915 near Leon. He was a graduate of Leon High School, Friends University, and Perkins School of Theology, SMU. He was married to Helen Louise Long of Leon in 1937. They remained together in life and love until parted by her death in 1996. One son, Mark Edward, died at birth. Survivors include a daughter, Joyce (Jodi) Ediger of Topeka and son, Steve Matthew of Dallas, and their families (four grandchildren and three great grandchildren). Glenn was married to Eva Mae Crough of Wichita in 1997. They lived in the Wichita area; surviving him are Eva Mae and Patrick Crouch and family of Rose Hill. A memorial service celebrating Glenn's life was held on June 18, 2009, at East Heights United Methodist Church, Wichita, KS.

Terry Lee Murray

Terry Lee Murray, 63, retired United Methodist minister and Kansas Army National Guard chaplain, passed away August 28, 2009. A memorial service was held on Wednesday, at West Heights United Methodist Church, Wichita, KS. Terry was preceded in death by his parents Kenneth and Maxine Murray, and son-in-law Aaron Cunningham. Terry is survived by his wife of 42 years, Ann; his son Aaron (Vicki) Murray of Denver, CO; his daughter Tara Cunningham of Wichita; three grandchildren, Dane, Lane and India; step-mother, Jane Murray of Honolulu; step-sisters, Rosa Mitchell and Chris Cook; and step-brother, Richard Webster. In lieu of flowers, memorials have been established with United Methodist Open Door and Inter-Faith Ministries.

Donald O'Hara

The Reverend Donald D. O'Hara, 85, died January 7, 2010 at the Ralph Thorne Care Center, Wesley Towers, Hutchinson, KS. He was born November 22, 1924 at Nickerson, the son of Dwight S. and Nina Anderson O'Hara. He was a graduate of Hutchinson High School, Southwestern College at Winfield, and Drew Theological Seminary at Madison, NJ.

He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, serving for three years. For most of that time, he was an Ensign on the Destroyer Douglas H. Fox. His ship was severely damaged by a Japanese suicide plan in May of 1945.

He was a member of the Kansas West Conference of the United Methodist Church and had served as pastor of the following churches; Langdon-Lerado, Burr Oak, Munden-Haddam, Luray-Lucas-Vincent, Salina Grand Avenue, Salina Quayle, Sublette, Courtland-Montrose, Syracuse, and Lewis-Garfield. He retired in Hutchinson in 1989.

Survivors include three sisters; Carrol Ann Rogers, Pretty Prairie, Dorothy Stagner, Ames, IA, and Kathleen Krob, Rochester, MN. Also surviving are several nephews and nieces.

Reverend O'Hara was known as "the puzzle man." At one time he had 1200 worded jigsaw puzzles displayed on the ceiling, wall and floors of this home. He also had on display over 1100 wood, wire, and plastic puzzles. He also enjoyed listening to classical music. He had traveled extensively to Europe, the Soviet Union, the Holy Land and throughout South America. For vacations he had enjoyed the beaches of many Caribbean Islands.

Funeral services were held at the Wesley Towers Chapel, Hutchinson. Private burial took place at Partridge Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the "Pass the Torch" Scholarship Fund, in care of the Kansas Area United Methodist Foundation, or to Wesley Towers.

SPOUSES

Patricia Jones

Patricia Jones, 65, died July 17, 2009. She was born in May of 1944 in the farm home of her grandparents, Frank and Josephine Zelenka south of Wilson, KS to Levi and Irene Miller. She attended public schools in Wilson and graduated with honors from Wichita State University with a degree in nursing. She was a hospital nurse and a home health nurse. She was a member of East Heights United Methodist Church and Chapter GV PEO. Services were held at East Heights United Methodist Church. Internment followed at Wilson Cemetery, Wilson, KS. She was preceded in death by her parent. Survivors: husband, Reverend Jon Jones; children, Taylor and Tiffany Jones of Manhattan, KS and Paige and Scott Nelson of Wichita; sister, Katherine Miller of Shawnee Mission, KS; brother, Luther Miller of Shawnee Mission, KS; grandchildren, Levi Jones and Hunter Jones. Memorial have been established with East Heights United Methodist Youth Ministry, Manhattan Marlins Swim Team and GraceMed Health Clinic.

Evelyn Jeannine Steele Tromble

Evelyn was born on January 9, 1930 in Colby, KS. She was the daughter of Ruby Rachel Branden and Everett J. Steele. She had one sister Kathryn Coralyn Steel and one brother, Edward Everett Steele.

On December 28, 1950 she married Gene Meredith Tromble. They were blessed with three children; Meredith Jeannine, Galen Roy and Kristen Elizabeth and three grandchildren; Tanya Linette, Roy Wesley and Evan Meredith.

She died on January 31, 2010.

Evelyn was a homemaker, a minister's wife and a secondary language arts teacher. She was grateful to God for the family she was born into, grateful for the wonderful man she married and the family she married into. She was grateful for the congregations who welcomed their family and shared their struggles and their faith. She was thankful for eyes to see and ears to hear the sights and sounds of God's creation and blessed by the peace God gives in joy and sorrow.

Margaret Elaine Chipman

Margaret was born on December 5, 1935 to Charles and Elaine Keiser in Dayton, OH. She graduated from Lanier High School, West Alexandria, OH in 1954 and attended Lindenwood College in St. Charles, MO. On June 7, 1959 she married Charles J Chipman.

Children from the marriage were: Karen Elaine Bake and husband Scott of Argonia, Ks. Michael Charles Chipman of Littleton, CO.; Charles F and Joan Keiser of Springfield, MO.; Ulrich Werner and wife Tara of Christine Lake, BC, Canada; and Gary Mikesell (deceased). Grandchildren are: Lisa Mikesell Wiebe and husband Paul of El Dorado; Christine Mikesell Green and husband Ian of Salina; and Greta and Andrea Werner of Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Margaret died on January 10, 2010 in Wichita, KS. Rev. Cindy Watson and Rev. Amy Jaime-Wood officiated at her funeral service that was held at St. Paul's UMC in Wichita, KS. Burial was at the Mt Hope Cemetery in Independence, KS.

Madge M Fraley

Madge Fraley died Thursday May 14, 2009 at her home. A memorial service was held at Central United Methodist Church and inurnment at Fairlawn Cemetery in Hutchinson.

She was born February 24, 1936 in St. Marys, the daughter of Wayne Millard and Irene Annabelle Ward Salisbury. She graduated from St. Mary's High School in 1954 and attended Baker University and Emporia State University.

Mrs. Fraley was a caretaker, homemaker, secretary and church volunteer. She was a member of Central United Methodist Church, a certified Stephen Minister and trained lay speaker. Mrs. Fraley was occasionally the pianist at the various churches she and her husband attended or helped serve. She received the Paul Harris Fellow recognition from the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. Mrs. Fraley enjoyed gardening, crossword puzzles and crocheting.

She married Richard Fraley on June 9, 1957, in St. Marys. During their marriage, they lived in Hutchinson, Dodge City, Healy and Lawrence. The Rev. Richard Fraley survives, of the home. Other survivors include a son, James A. and wife Amber; two daughters, Linda Martin and husband Larry, and Nancy Childers and husband David, all of Lawrence; a brother, Ward Salisbury, Greenville, IN; five grandchildren, Jeremy Martin, Tyler Martin, Sara Gillum, Michael Childers and Jordan Fraley; five nieces; and a cat, Max.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Garold Wayne Salisbury; and a nephew, Garold.

Marjorie L. Mugler

Marjorie was born on October 16, 1934 in Baca County, CO to Clark and Ruby Brinkley Davis. She graduated from Pritchett High School in Pritchett, CO in 1952 and attended Kansas Wesleyan University in 1952. She was married to Rev. Paul Mugler on December 22, 1953.

Children from the marriage were: Jeff Mugler (Sonja) St. Peters, MO; Greg Mugler (Patty) Oxford, KS; Donna Surlis (Tim) Kannapolis, NC; Marcy Cone, Derby, KS. Other survivors include a brother, Dean Davis, Longmont, CO and grandchildren: Shawn Mugler, Carly Waller, Brooks Mugler, Paul Pittman, Autumn Mugler, Ashley Pittman, Josh Mugler, Kayla Mugler Amanda Surlis and Jessica Mugler. Great Grandchildren include: Cedric Waller, Madison Mugler, Gracie Mugler, Bradon Mugler Anna Belle Mugler and Lydia Waller.

Marjorie was a homemaker. She was involved in the Belle Choir, Crusaders Sunday School Class at the First United Methodist Church in Salina, KS. She was also involved in the Kansas Wesleyan University Auxiliary and PEO

Marjorie died on January 25, 2010. Her funeral was at Salina First UMC with burial in the Roselawn Cemetery in Salina. Rev. Troy Bowers officiated.

T. Ferne Bowersox

T. Ferne Bowersox, 94, of Hutchinson, died May 13, 2010 at Thorne Care Center, Hutchinson. She was born April 18, 1916, in Fortescue, MO. She was a retired elementary school teacher and a member of Trinity United Methodist Church.

On November, 29, 1942, she married Richard B. "Dick" Bowersox in Longford. He died May 15, 1999. Survivors include: sons, Stephen, Derby, KS, and Scott and wife Sandy, Fort Worth, TX; and a daughter, Susan Fieser and husband, Dean, Plains.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service was held June 19, 2010, at Trinity United Methodist Church. Private scattering of the ashes was held at a later date. Memorials may be sent to Wesley Towers, the American Diabetes Association, or the Ferne Bowersox Memorial Fund.