

Obituaries

Barbara J. Pearson



Barbara J. Pritts Pearson, 67, Delphi, passed away unexpectedly Dec. 26, 2007, at 5:20 a.m. in her home. She had been in failing health the past few months.

She was born Nov. 1, 1940, in Flora, to Roy and Betty Mabbitt Pritts. Her marriage was to Richard L. "Dick" Pearson in Flora on Dec. 30, 1957, and he survives.

Mrs. Pearson attended Flora High School. She was a homemaker. She had attended Flora Presbyterian Church.

She enjoyed reading, crocheting and riding with her husband on their motorcycle.

Surviving are: her husband in Delphi; four daughters, Peggy Allen (husband: Jim), Tammy Brovont (husband:

Mike) and Penny Stevens (husband: Ron), all of Delphi, and Tina Pettiner (husband: Roger) of Camden; two sons, Scott Pearson (wife: Tracy) of Delphi and Steve Pearson (wife: Jenny) of Camden; a sister, Cindy Van Meter of Delphi; Paul Harshbarger, who was raised in the Pearsons' home, and wife, April, of Ruskin, Fla.; a niece, Lucinda King of Delphi, who was raised in their home; 11 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Pearson was preceded in death by one sister and one brother.

Services were Dec. 29 at Abbott Funeral Home in Delphi, and were officiated by the Rev. Ed Selvidge. Burial was at Camden Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Rheumatoid Arthritis Foundation or Carroll County Cancer Association. Envelopes are available at the funeral home.

Walter Joseph Spear



Walter Joseph "Joe" Spear, 68, of Lafayette, died at his residence on Monday, Dec. 24, 2007.

He was born in Brookston, on Dec. 9, 1939, to the late Thomas E. and Lenora Kirts Spear. He married to Linda Walton on March 26, 2000, in Delphi, and she survives.

Mr. Spear worked for Spear's Soil Service, a family business. Later, he worked at Tate and Lyle for 30 years.

He was a member of Pine Grove Baptist Church.

Surviving with his wife are

a son, Joseph "Bub" Spear of Brookston; a daughter, Deena Joe Spear of Lafayette; four stepchildren, Bobby Dicks of North Carolina, Cynthia Maxwell (husband: Rodney) of Camden, Teresa Durbin of Lafayette, and Tina Ragan of Camden; his stepmother, Mary Margaret Spear of Brookston; three brothers, Tom Spear (wife: Sandy) of Lafayette, Hal Spear (wife: Pat) of Arizona, and Jack Spear (wife: MaryLou) of Rossville; one sister, Wendy Fogleman (husband: Mike) of West Lafayette; three grandchildren; and seven stepgrandchildren.

Services were held Saturday in Lafayette. Interment was at EUB Cemetery in Colburn.

Frank L. Wertz



Frank Lee Wertz, 60, of Kokomo, died at 3:30 a.m. Dec. 31, 2007, at his residence.

Born Jan. 1, 1947, in Flora, he was the son of

William and Bonnie K. Sheagley Wertz. He was married on July 1, 1967, to Delores Coles and they are divorced.

Mr. Wertz was a hair stylist in Kokomo for 35 years.

He attended Kokomo Business College and House of James Beauty School in Indianapolis.

He was a former member of the Moose Lodge in Kokomo.

He enjoyed buying and collecting antiques and was an

avid bingo player.

Surviving are two sons, Eric Wertz (wife: Carla), presently serving in the U.S. Navy, and Marc Wertz, all of Kokomo; his former wife; a half sister and her family, Kathy Whitehead (husband: Lowell) of Scottsburg; and three step-grandchildren, Kyleigh, Skyler and Trista.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, John Michael; and a sister, Mina Ann.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday at Baker Funeral Home, Flora (www.bakerfh.com). Burial will be at Ball Hill Cemetery, Cutler. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to We Care/WWKI, 519 N. Main St., Kokomo, IN 46901.

George E. Denton



George Edward Denton, 89, passed away Sept. 17, 2007, in Rancho Bernardo, Calif.

He was born Oct. 27, 1918, in Flora, Indiana, to William H. and Pearl Mentor Denton. On April 18, 1937, in Nappanee, Indiana, he married Esther Van Sickle, who survives. They celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary earlier this year.

He graduated from Flora High School in 1936. After graduation, he worked as a tool designer for the Bendix Westinghouse Company in South Bend. He then worked as a machinist at the Rock Island Arsenal during World War II and served in the U.S. Army Air Force.

After the war, Mr. Denton worked for 23 years at the Ford Motor Company, achieving the

position of Manufacturing Engineering Manager for Ford of Europe. He then joined Rockwell International as President of Golde GmbH in Frankfurt, West Germany.

Before his retirement, he was President of Arrow Development for Rio Grande Industries in Mountain View, Calif. Arrow Development designed and built roller coasters for the Six Flags Amusement Parks of America, and also for parks in Europe and Australia.

Surviving with his wife are four children, David Van Denton (wife: Janet) of Hong Kong, William Richard Denton (wife: Linda) of Sunnyvale, Calif., Deanna McHose of Escondido, Calif., and Mary Ellen Roderick (husband: Steve) of Boca Raton, Fla.; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Cremation burial with military honors was in the Fort Rosecrans Military Cemetery in San Diego, Calif.

Births

Ryan and Carol Brubaker of Avon, are parents of a 9-pound, 8-ounce son, Gideon Paul, born Dec. 27. Grandparents are Lee and Susan Gerbig, and Dale and Anita Brubaker, also of Avon. Great-grandparent is Mary Louise Brubaker of Lafayette.

Troy and Ashli (Forgey) Reneau of Burlington are parents of a 9-pound, 1-ounce son, Dominyk Charles-Lee, born Dec. 19 at Home Hospital, Lafayette. Grandparents are Charles Forgey of Camden, Roger and Vicki Reneau of Burlington, and Sharon Short of Frankfort. Maternal great-grandmother is Annabelle Sparks of Bringham.

Chad and Stefanie (Berkshire) Skiles, 5109N St. Rd. 75, Frankfort, are parents of a 6-pound, 8-ounce daughter, Madison Elaine, born Dec. 1 at Home Hospital, Lafayette. Grandparents are Terry and Cathy Berkshire of Flora and Chris and Jane Skiles of Rossville. Maternal great-grandparents are Mary J. Trapp of Camden and Keith and Beverly Berkshire of Burnettsville. Paternal great-grandparents are Tom and Sue Skiles of Rossville and Emmett and Pat Frey of Rossville.

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James L. Pearson



James L. "Jim" Pearson, 66, Delphi, passed away unexpectedly Dec. 29, 2007, at 5 p.m. in his residence.

Mr. Pearson was born Jan. 19, 1941, in Logansport to the late Truman and Lena Rivers Pearson. He was a 1959 graduate of Delphi High School. His marriage was to Mary A. Allen in Delphi on Jan. 5, 1961. She preceded him in death June 17, 2004.

He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, having served 12 years on active duty and two years with the Indiana National Guard Reserves.

Mr. Pearson worked for the City of Delphi Street Department for 25 years before he retired due to health reasons.

He had attended Delphi United Methodist Church.

His hobbies were hunting, fishing and computer card games.

Surviving are two sons, James Pearson Jr. (wife: Linda) of Delphi and Dale Pearson of Camden; three daughters, Penny Blackman (husband: Brian) and Jamie Hutchison (husband: Dave), all of Delphi and Susan Hillman (husband: Anthony) of Logansport; a brother, Dale Pearson (wife: Sue) of Delphi; a sister, Pam Crapse of Delphi; 10 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Nancy.

Friends may call today, Wednesday, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Abbott Funeral Home in Delphi. Services will be held there Jan. 3 at 11 a.m., and will be officiated by the Rev. Nathan Powell. Burial with Delphi American Legion and Delphi Veterans of Foreign Wars full military rites will be at I.O.O.F. Memorial Gardens in Pittsburg.

Memorial contributions may be made to Carroll County Cancer Association. Envelopes are available at the funeral home.

William E. Hughes



William E. Hughes, 65, of Delphi, passed away Dec. 28, 2007, at 11:25 p.m. at Monticello Healthcare Center. He had been a resident there since June and had battled colon cancer for the past three years.

Mr. Hughes was born Jan. 13, 1942, in Rossville, Ill. to the late Willard and Lavena Holstine Hughes.

He was a 1960 graduate of Rossville High School in Illinois.

A U.S. Army veteran, he served from 1962 to 1966 stationed at Ayers Kaserne, Germany, and Fort Benning, Ga., with Company B, 2nd Battalion, 29th Infantry, specializing in artillery.

Mr. Hughes worked for N&S Railroad for 18 years. He then worked for Peek Trucking in Camden for five years and most recently at Eikenberry Trucking in Flora for two years.

He was an avid fisherman

and a lifetime member of Bass Masters and the North American Fishing Club. He enjoyed NASCAR and driver Jeff Gordon and Green Bay Packers football.

Surviving are four sons, Steven Hughes (wife: Lynn) of Catlin, Ill., Michael Hughes (wife: Ann) and Matthew E. Hughes, all of Delphi, and Marcus Hughes (wife: Sharina) of Monticello; a daughter, Michelle L. Robinson of Lafayette; three sisters, Mary Zemke (husband: Fred) of Hoopston, Ill., Jean Johnson (husband: Wil) of Lafayette and Susan Queen of Scarborough, Maine; four brothers, David Hughes (wife: Heather) and Russ Hughes, all of Hoopston, Bob Hughes (wife: Barbara) of Peoria, Ill. and Joe Hughes of Watseka, Ill.; and 14 grandchildren.

The family will receive friends today, Wednesday, from 10 a.m. until the memorial service begins at 11 at Abbott Funeral Home in Delphi. Pastor Micah Hudson will officiate. Burial will be at I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Delphi.

Unapproved budget creates problems for commissioners

By Debbie Lowe
Staff writer

The agenda for the end-of-the-year Monday morning Carroll County Commissioners' meeting indicated county leaders would be approving contracts for county department heads, plus the commissioners' attorney. After the contracts arrived from the attorney's office, county auditor Beth Myers reported a council action that threw the proceedings into confusion.

Myers said the county received a letter from the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance last week that recommended the county hold spending to the 2007 level until the 2008 budget is approved. She reported the council decided to follow that recommendation at last week's council meeting, which meant salaries would remain at 2007 levels for the time being.

Commissioners had not reviewed the contracts prior to the meeting and were stymied for a time to reach a solution. It was decided to approve the contracts with 2007 figures, with increases as determined in a 2008 approved budget, except in the cases when the 2008 figures were less than 2007 due to mathematical errors or budget reductions for 2008. County attorney Barry Emerson presented each contract separately for approval.

All contracts approved were for one year, except for Carroll

Manor superintendent's contract, which was for four years. No one present could explain why the contract was for that length of time, however it was approved for the extended time period.

Other contracts approved were:

- Attorney - Barry Emerson;
- Courthouse custodian - Charles Appleton;
- Courthouse assistant custodian - Sheryl Shockley;
- Transfer station operator - Russell Smith;
- Highway superintendent - Ron Francis;
- EMS medical director - Dr. Marc Estes;
- EMS director - Mike Durr;
- E-911 coordinator - Jay D. Cree; and
- Carroll Manor assistant superintendent - Diane Brown.

Carroll County resident David McDowell was named Emergency Management Agency Director, replacing Justin Darling, who left the position to become Delphi

Chief of Police.

Doris McLeland and Jane Smith were appointed to the Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals and Clayton Hutson was appointed to the Alcoholic Beverage Board.

Meeting dates for 2008 were announced. They will be: Jan. 7 and 22; Feb. 4 and 18; March 3 and 17; April 7 and 21; May 5 and 19; June 2 and 16; July 7 and 21; Aug. 4 and 18; Sept. 2 and 15; Oct. 6 and 20; Nov. 3 and 17; and Dec. 1 and 15. All meetings will be at 9 a.m. in the commissioners' meeting room on the second floor of the courthouse unless otherwise reported.

Other business

The Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs extended the deadline for completion of the Carroll Manor renovation project from Dec. 31 to Feb. 29, 2008.

The next meeting will be Monday, Jan. 7 at 9 a.m. The drainage board is scheduled to meet at 8:30 a.m.


Republican Women offer scholarships

Applications for scholarships to be presented by the Carroll County Republican Women's Club are available in the guidance offices of Carroll, Delphi, Rossville and Twin Lakes high schools.

Seniors pursuing a college

education in the field of political science, government, journalism, radio, or television may apply, however they must be a Carroll County resident.

Home school Seniors may request an application by calling 765-566-3917.




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