

Obituaries

Lewis L. Hayden Jr.

Lewis L. "Butch" Hayden Jr., 66, of Delphi, died unexpectedly Jan. 6, 2008, at 11 a.m. in his home.

He was born Feb. 7, 1941, in Peru, to the late Lewis and Bessie Newburn Hayden.

Mr. Hayden formerly worked in the manufacturing of agricultural products in Delphi.

Surviving are two daughters,

Mildred S. Peters

Mildred Suzanne Peters, 81, of Elida, Ohio, died at 3:35 p.m. Jan. 6, 2008, at her residence.

Born March 6, 1926, in Clinton County, Ind., she was the daughter of Russell and Cora Gascho Flory.

Her marriage was on March 6, 1948, to Everett C. Peters, who preceded her in death on Dec. 7, 2003.

She was a homemaker.

Surviving are five children, Lynn Peters (wife: Sharon) of Bringhurst; Loren Peters (wife: Diane) of Elida; Mark Peters (wife: Kris) of Elida; Mary Helen Filbrun (husband: Norm) of Anderson; and Mike Peters (wife: Kim) of Elida; one brother, David Flory of Rossville; a brother-in-law, Lloyd Peters (wife: Mary Alice) of Elida; one sister, Carol Flory of Rossville; a half-sister, Esther Flora (husband: Ralph) of Covington, Ohio; two sisters-in-law, Laura Robinson of Lima, Ohio, and Virginia Peters of Bradford,

Brenda L. Denim of Flora and Laurel Lee Richey (husband: Jeff) of Monticello; two sisters, Dixie Witt (husband: Fred) of Newark, N.Y. and Pearl Puhfal of Monticello; and four grandchildren.

Services are today, Wednesday, at 10 a.m. at Abbott Funeral Home in Delphi. Burial of ashes will be at I.O.O.F. Memorial Gardens in Pittsburg.

Ohio; 17 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two brothers-in-law, Merle Flory (wife: Mary Kathryn) and Lawrence Peters; a half-sister, Mary Kathryn Flora; and two sisters-in-law, Catherine Peters and Donna Belle Flory.

Services will be Thursday, Jan. 10, at 10 a.m. at Ash Grove Old German Baptist Church with brethren of the church officiating. Friends may call from 2-8 p.m. today (Wednesday) at the Chiles-Laman Shawnee Chapel in Lima, Ohio. A prayer service will be held at 9 a.m. Thursday at the Shawnee Chapel. Burial will be in Ash Grove Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Allen County Council on Aging and Delphos Visiting Nurses, 602 E. 5th St., Delphos, Ohio 45833.

Condolences may be expressed through the funeral home web site, www.chiles-lamanfh.com.

Robert Huff

Robert "Bob" Huff, 81, of Delphi, unexpectedly passed away Jan. 4, 2008, at 9:25 a.m. in his home.

He was born Sept. 6, 1926, in Hazelcrest, Ill., to the late Robert H. and Leeta Lou Adams Huff. His mother died when he was a child. His father then married Dorothy Weiland Huff, his stepmother. His marriage was to M. Darlene Kempf in Delphi on Oct. 26, 1946, and she preceded him in death Jan. 2, 2007.

Mr. Huff graduated from Delphi High School. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving from Sept. 27, 1944, to Aug. 5, 1946, as a tank driver in the European Theatre. He received the following medals: German Occupation Medal; Victory Medal; European Eastern Theater Ribbon with 2 bronze stars; and a Good Conduct medal.

He worked for Snyder & Lehmen Sheet Metal in Lafayette for 41 years. After retiring from there, he worked for 10 years at the Delphi Senior Citizens Housing.

Mr. Huff was a member of the Camden First Baptist

Church and Delphi American Legion Post #75. He was a 40-year member and past Grand Master of the Delphi Masonic Lodge. He belonged to Sheet Metal Union Local #20 for 59 years and was an active member for 42 years.

His hobbies were auto racing, camping and traveling.

Surviving are a son, Robert T. "Robb" Huff (wife: Debra) of Delphi; a brother, Donald Huff (wife: Betty) of Delphi; three grandchildren, Michelle Rogers (husband: Denny) of Monticello, Angie Finn (husband: Mike) of Plymouth and Rob Huff (wife: Kari) of Knox; and five great-grandchildren.

Mr. Huff was preceded in death by a daughter, Marcia, an infant sister, Dorothy, and an adult sister, Jenny.

Services were Jan. 7 at Abbott Funeral Home in Delphi, and were officiated by Rev. Ed Selvidge. Private family burial was held at Paint Creek Cemetery in Camden.

Memorial contributions may be made to Camden First Baptist Church. Envelopes are available at the funeral home.

Ralph L. Layer

Ralph L. Layer, 74, of Delphi, died at 11:45 a.m. Monday, Jan. 7, 2008, at his residence.

Born Nov. 11, 1933, in Royal Center, he was the son of Fred and Nellie Reinholt Layer. His marriage was on Sept. 18, 1958, in Logansport, to Lena Robertson. She preceded him in death on Nov. 14, 2001.

He was a graduate of Royal Center High School and was a Korean conflict veteran, serving in the Army.

He retired from the labor and construction department at ALCOA in Lafayette.

Mr. Layer was a lifetime member of the Delphi VFW and also was a member of the Delphi American Legion.

His hobbies were crafting,

reading, and traveling.

Surviving are one daughter, Debra Webb (husband: Harlin) of Monticello; one son,

Michael Hall (wife: Kathy) of Salem, Ore.; a stepson, William Tom Hall (wife: Pam) of Delphi; a sister, Waunita LeDonne of Logansport; 13 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, one brother, Bill, and two sisters, Mary Mangold and Delora Layer.

Services will be Thursday, Jan. 10, at 1 p.m. at Davidson Funeral Home, Delphi. Visitation will be Thursday from 11 a.m. until time of the service. Burial will be in IOOF Memorial Gardens, Pittsburg, with military rites by the Delphi VFW and American Legions posts.

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

Jack Heinzelman

John C. "Jack" Heinzelman, 68, of Cutler, passed away at 5 p.m. Tues., Jan. 1, 2008, at St. Joseph Hospital in Kokomo.

Born March 20, 1939, in Wolcott, he was the son of John and Isabel Mull Heinzelman. He was married to Linda Langston on Aug. 2, 1963, at the Burlington United Methodist Church. She survives.

Mr. Heinzelman was a farmer, retiring in 1997.

He graduated from Wolcott High School in 1957 and then served in the U.S. Air Force.

He was a member of Crossroads Community Christian Church, Burlington Masonic Lodge No. 111, F & AM, and IBN-Saud Grotto, Kokomo.

Surviving with his wife are his father of Wolcott; a son, Ted Heinzelman (wife: Jennifer) of Noblesville; a daughter, Amy Rudolph of Kokomo; two granddaughters, Haley Heinzelman of Noblesville and Riley Rudolph of Kokomo; a sister, Mary Longster of Lafayette; and a brother, Russell Heinzelman (wife: Kathy) of Arizona.

Services were held Saturday at Neptune Funeral Home, Burlington. Pastor Dan Butcher officiated. Burial was at Burlington Cemetery.

Other Death Notices

John W. Smith, 81, of Lafayette, formerly of Wolcott, died Jan. 1, 2008. He was born July 3, 1926, in Wolcott. He married Marilyn Kelly in 1950, in Delphi, and she preceded him in death in 1995. Mr. Smith worked with the Tippecanoe County Highway and Health departments. Survivors include his daughter, Jacqueline M. Gates of Delphi, and a son, Larry S. Smith (wife: Christeen) of Sweetwater, Tenn. Services and burial were held Jan. 5 in Lafayette.

Arlene Z. VanTyle, 79, of Frankfort, died Jan. 2, 2008. She was born June 24, 1928, in Clinton County. She married Clayton E. Donoho, in 1948, and they later divorced. She married Clifford E. VanTyle in 1974, and he preceded her in death in 2004. She retired from PR Mallory Company in Frankfort in 1990 after 30 years of service. Among the survivors is a son, Ted Donoho (wife: Sherry) of Flora. A private graveside service was held Saturday at Kilmore Cemetery, Frankfort.

Marjorie Ann Connelly Yost, 85, of Lafayette, died Jan. 1, 2008. She was born Aug. 7, 1922, in Royal Center. Her marriage was to Jarrold Gilbert Connelly in 1942, and he died in 1967. She married Lester M. Yost in 1981, and he preceded her in death Jan. 10, 2007. She farmed and worked various jobs. Among the survivors are six daughters, including Sharon Connelly Buck (husband: Jack) of Delphi, and a sister, Doris Yates of Flora. Services and burial were held Jan. 5.

Carolyn J. Gray, 70, of Brookston, died Jan. 7, 2008, at 8:10 a.m. in her residence. She was born Dec. 28, 1937, in Lafayette. Her marriage was to Lee "Cotton" Gray on Feb. 12, 1956, and he preceded her in death May 18, 1985. Mrs. Gray worked at the Indiana Veterans Home. Survivors include a son, Gerald Gray (fiancee: Patty Robinette) of Delphi. Visitation will be today, Wednesday, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Hartzler-Clapper Funeral Home in Brookston. Services will be held there Jan. 10 at 10 a.m. Burial will follow at Battle Ground Cemetery.

Lynn Thomsen



Lynn Thomsen passed away at 10:45 a.m. on Jan. 3, 2008, at the IU Medical Center, Indianapolis. She was born in Lafayette

July 30, 1957, and lived with her parents in Delphi until her graduation from Delphi Community High School in 1975.

Lynn graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Herron School of Art in Indianapolis. She went on to teach at Marion College, IUPUI, St. Richard's School, and for the past seven years she chaired and taught in the art department at Park Tudor School.

Lynn was a landscape artist and concentrated on scenes of rural Indiana. She has works hanging at IU Medical Center, the Anderson Hospital Women's Wing, and in the permanent collection of Indiana artists at the Indiana State Museum, along with many private collections.

She was a courtroom artist at the 1992 Mike Tyson rape trial, during which her drawings were aired on Channel 6 News and ESPN. She currently has a 22-piece show at the Mary Anderson Center for the Arts, Loftus House Gallery, 101 St. Francis Dr., Mount St. Francis, Ind. The exhibit will run through March 1.

Lynn is survived by her husband, Clifford Hull; a stepson, Clifford Jr.; her parents, Cliff and Jean Thomsen of Delphi; a brother, Eric (wife: Carole) of Delphi; a sister, Teresa Holeman (husband: John) of Charleston, S.C.; four nieces, Amber Cleavenger (husband: Kyle) of Colburn, Cassandra Rowley (husband: J.T.) and Erienne Thomsen, all of Terre Haute, and Justine Holeman of Charleston; three great-nephews; and innumerable wonderful friends and colleagues.

A gathering and services in celebration of her life were held Jan. 7 at Flanner & Buchanan Funeral Center - Broad Ripple.

Persons who wish to express their condolences may do so by recycling. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Coburn Place Safe Haven, 604 E. 38th St., Indianapolis, IN 46205, and Mary Anderson Art Center, 101 St. Francis Dr., Mount St. Francis, IN 47146.

Richard D. Sass

Richard Dean "Rick" Sass, 63, of Monticello, died Dec. 31, 2007, at 9 a.m. in White County Memorial Hospital in Monticello.

He was born March 11, 1944, in Chicago, Ill. to the late Ernest and Carol Eding Sass. He married Dawn Powers on July 6, 1979, in Monticello.

Mr. Sass served in the U.S. Army. He was a construction worker.

Surviving are: two sons, Donald Sass (wife: Cheryl) of Arkansas and Douglas Sass (wife: Trish) of Lakeland, Fla.; a stepson, Clinton Craig (wife: Sonia) of Monticello; a sister, Ida Mullins of Florida; a brother, Donald Sass (wife: Pat) of Delphi; one grandchild; eight step-grandchildren; and three step-great-grandchildren.

Mr. Sass was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, a grandson and two step-grandchildren.

Services were Jan. 5 at Springer-Voorhis-Draper Funeral Home in Monticello.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.

Send a private message of condolence or sign an online guestbook at www.springer-voorhisdraper.com.

Rev. James W. Rankin



Rev. James William Rankin, 90, of Delphi, passed away Jan. 1, 2008, at 2:10 p.m. at St. Mary Health Care Center in Lafayette,

where he had been a resident since 2004.

Rev. Rankin was born Jan. 8, 1917, at his family home in Brownstown, the youngest of seven children born to David Franklin and Jessie Bell Rankin.

He was a 1935 graduate of Brownstown High School. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Hanover College in 1939, where he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity. He then continued his studies at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, earning his degree in 1942. He was examined for ordination at Hanover and ordained in the Presbyterian Church in March 1942.

Rev. Rankin married Laura Huber, his college sweetheart, on June 24, 1942, in Hanover. After their marriage, they moved to Palestine, Ill., where he served the city's Presbyterian church.

When WWII broke out, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served as a chaplain on Guam and Tinian Islands in the Pacific Theatre from 1942 to 1946. When the war ended, he returned to Illinois and served the Presbyterian church in Assumption until 1950. He was then called to serve at Delphi First Presbyterian Church, where he enjoyed a long and successful pastorate.

He was called to active duty again in 1952 and served as a U.S. Navy chaplain stationed in the Philippines during the Korean Conflict. Until his death, he held the rank of Lt. Commander in Ready Reserve of the U.S. Navy.

In 1965, Rev. Rankin was called to serve the Presbyterian church in Janesville, Wis., where he did so faithfully until his retirement in 1980. During his pastorate there, he was instrumental in coordinating youth activities within the church as well as Presbyterian church camps in southern Wisconsin. He also led youth caravans across the continental United States and Alaska.

In 1980, he and Laura returned to Delphi to enjoy their retirement years among old friends. In 1992, the Delphi church elected to honor him with the distinction of Pastor Emeritus.

Rev. Rankin was very involved in the Delphi community through work with the Carroll County Mental Health and Tuberculosis associations. He served for many years as an elections worker and on jury selection committees. He donated blood for more than 58 years and was awarded a 20-gallon donor pin.

He served on the council of the Presbyterian Synod of Indiana and on several Wabash Valley Presbytery committees. Even after his retirement, Rev. Rankin continued to serve the church by filling vacant pulpits throughout northern Indiana.

Surviving are: a son, Tom (wife: Pam) of Round Lake, Ill.; a daughter, Jean Dille (husband: Jim) of Janesville; six grandchildren, Jessica Thicksten (husband: Zach) of Escondido, Calif., J.R. Rankin of Delphi and Jace, Alyson, Jim and Kyle Dille of Janesville; a great-grandson, Evan of Delphi; and many cherished relatives including Jeanne Rankin, Louis Huber, Bill and Jane Huber and several nieces and nephews.

Rev. Rankin was preceded in death by his wife, who passed away Jan. 2, 2005, and six brothers and sisters.

Services were Jan. 5 at Delphi First Presbyterian Church, and were officiated by reverends Bill S. McLean and Bruce A. Jones. Military rites were conducted by Delphi American Legion and VFW. Burial will be at Hanover Cemetery in Hanover at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Presbyterian churches of Delphi and Janesville.

Davidson Funeral Home in Delphi was entrusted with arrangements.

"The world has lost a wonderful person, but Heaven has gained one great soul."

Ruby A. Thompson



Ruby Alice Thompson, 96, of Lafayette, formerly of Flora, died at 11:35 a.m. Fri., Jan. 4, 2008, at Regency Place, Lafayette.

She had been a resident there for three years.

Born Nov. 27, 1911, in Bloomington, she was the daughter of James W. and Orpha G. Percifield Richardson. She graduated from Romney High School in 1930 and attended Purdue University on a four-year 4-H scholarship, graduating in 1934.

On Dec. 22, 1934, in Romney, she married Harold H. Thompson, who died Jan. 2, 1996.

They moved from Flora to rural Lafayette in 1976.

Mrs. Thompson had been employed as a sales clerk at D.E. Cripe & Company in Flora for 14 years and as a receptionist at Hanaway Plumbing and Heating in Flora for seven years.

She was a member of Flora Presbyterian Church, Beta Alpha Chapter of Psi Iota Xi in Flora, Purdue University Choral Society, John Purdue Club, and a past Extension Homemakers president. She was a National 4-H Achievement Girl in 1930.

Mrs. Thompson was an avid Purdue sports fan. She was also proud to serve as a Pink Lady at Lafayette Home Hospital for ten years.

Surviving are a daughter, Mary Jo Kirkham (husband: Gary) of Muncie; a son, James W. Thompson (wife: Barbara) of Lafayette; five grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death were her parents and a brother.

Services were held Monday at Baker Funeral Home, Flora. Pastor Charles Compton officiated. Burial was at Tippecanoe Memory Gardens, West Lafayette.

Memorials may be made to Flora Presbyterian Church, 211 S. Center St., Flora, IN 46929.

Baker Funeral Home (www.bakerfh.com) was in charge of arrangements.

Lois Wolf Cowger

Lois Wolf Cowger, 83, of Monticello, died at 3:04 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6, 2008, at Home Hospital, Lafayette.

She was born and raised in Camden and graduated from Camden High School.

Arrangements are pending at Springer-Voorhis-Draper Funeral Home, Monticello.

Gerald E. Christiansen



Gerald Edward Christiansen Sr., 71, of Monticello, formerly of Flora, died at 5 a.m. Jan. 3, 2007, at his residence.

Born Oct. 19, 1936, in Manistee, Mich., he was the son of Carl Louis and Wilma Marie Ferrier Christiansen. He was married on May 3, 1966, in Delphi, to Frances Adele Bernauer, who survives.

Mr. Christiansen was employed as plant engineer for Stephen A. Young Corporation in Flora for over 40 years.

He was a member of the Logansport Eagles, Flora Country Kickers, Society of Engineers, and the Industrial Bowling League at Delphi.

Surviving with his wife are five daughters, Sharon Christiansen, Sandy Christiansen, Sheryl Shockley (husband: Mike), Laura Christiansen, and Theresa Espy; one son, James Christiansen; five sisters, Cathy McCarty (husband: Jerry), Joyce Shanks (husband: Mike), Wilma Marie Butler, and Carol Pinkard (husband: Hugh), and Connie Watts; and four grandchildren, Katelyn and James Christiansen, Megan Espy, and Michelle Morgan.

A son, Gerald Edward Christiansen, preceded him in death.

Services were held Saturday at Baker Funeral Home, Flora.

Memorials may be made to the American Lung Association.

Baker Funeral Home, Flora, (www.bakerfh.com) was in charge of arrangements.

Births

Jason and Sheila Brubaker of Camden are parents of a 7-pound, 6-ounce daughter, Heidi Marie, born Dec. 12. Grandparents are Eugene and Faye Wolf and William and Michele Brubaker, all of Camden.

Doug and Marcie (Johns) Penn of Logansport are parents of a 7-pound, 7-ounce son, Silas Gared, born Jan. 3. Grandparents are Mark and Jalayne Johns of Marana, Ariz., and Jerry and Lou Fincher of Logansport.

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