

I N M E M O R I A M

Major Notes

Carl D. Barron, B.A. 1962, of Madison died on July 18, 2005.

Josephine W. (Wingfield) Beck, B.A. 1929, of Ocean Springs died on July 11, 2005.

Allan P. Bennett, B.A. 1971, of Jackson died on July 25, 2005.

May (Chichester) Bickart, B.S. 1939, of Lakeland, Fla., died on July 19, 2005. While at Millsaps, she was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

Isabel O. (Orrego) Blackwell, B.A. 1970, of Houston, Texas, died on Aug. 22, 2005. While at Millsaps, she was a member of Sigma Delta Pi, Kappa Delta Epsilon, and Pi Delta Phi.

Dr. Oscar D. Bonner, B.S. 1939, of West Columbia, S.C., died on April 11, 2005. While at Millsaps, he participated in athletics.

Helen Grace Welch Cavalier, B.S. 1930, of Ocean Springs died on March 4, 2005. While at Millsaps, she was a member of Kappa Delta sorority, Alpha Epsilon Delta, and the Science Club.

The Reverend Charles D. Christian Jr., M.D., B.A. 1974, of Madison died on June 11, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, Omicron Delta Kappa, Chi Chi Chi, Alpha Epsilon Delta, and the Millsaps Singers. He also participated in the Heritage program.

George C. Curtis, 1946, of Smyrna, Ga., died on Aug. 10, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of the Science Club and played tennis. He attended Millsaps as part of the Navy V-12 officer training program.

The Reverend Clifford E. Davis Jr., B.A. 1945, of Tupelo died on July 11, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Emily H. (Humphrey) Davis, 1948, of Como died on August 20, 2005. While at Millsaps, she was a member of Chi Omega sorority.

Georgie Ann Davis, B.A. 1962, of Dallas died on Sept. 7, 2004. While at Millsaps, she was a member of Alpha Psi Omega, the *Bobashela* staff, Wesley Fellowship, and participated in intramural sports. She served as women's sports editor of the *Purple & White*, secretary-treasurer of the YWCA, and stage manager for the Millsaps Players.

Dr. Paul E. Edwards, B.S. 1953, of Brandon died on April 4, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity and played varsity football.

Jeremy (Jerry) J. Eskridge, 1955, of Tupelo died on May 11, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity and the Millsaps Players.

Allen W. (A. W.) Evans, B.A. 1950, of Gulfport died on March 6, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Kappa Alpha fraternity.

Maxyne M. (Madden) Grimes, B.A. 1945, of Jackson died on June 15, 2005. While at Millsaps, she was a member of Beta Beta Beta, Sigma Lambda, Kappa Delta Epsilon, the International Relations Club, and the *Purple & White* staff. She served as vice president of Phi Mu sorority, junior class editor on the *Bobashela* staff, and later, associate librarian for Carnegie-Millsaps library.

Annie M. Gunn, B.A. 1940, of Jackson died on August 30, 2005.

Marion C. (Cartledge) Hall, 1949, of Starkville died on June 15, 2005.

Ralph S. Hamil, B.B.A. 1996, of Jackson died on Sept. 13, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of the Adult Student Association.

Gertrude G. (Gibson) Hamilton, 1943, of Jackson died on June 11, 2005. While at Millsaps, she was a member of Chi Omega sorority, the Majorette Club, and the International Relations Club. She later served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors.

William (Bill) L. Hardin, 1950, of Florence died on Feb. 23, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

Betty C. (Canon) Hill, B.S. 1947, of Gulfport died on June 19, 2005.

Daree W. (Winstead) Jenkins, B.A. 1934, of Newton died on July 13, 2005. While at Millsaps, she was a member of Delta Zeta sorority.

The Reverend Barry Kimbrough, B.A. 1952, of Centennial, Colo., died on Aug. 2, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity, and he played varsity football, baseball, and basketball. He also served as student manager, trainer, and president of the M-Club.

James W. Kitching, 1972, of Merigold died on April 24, 2005.

Rodney A. Little, B.A. 1954, of Hattiesburg died on June 18, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity.

Ida Cole (Moffitt) McCool, B.S. 1935, of Jackson died on June 8, 2005. While at Millsaps, she was a member of Delta Zeta sorority.

Dr. James N. McQueen, B.S. 1959, of Madison died on June 16, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and Alpha Epsilon Delta.

Lillian C. (Carole) Metts, B.A. 1950, of Cookeville, Tenn., died on March 28, 2005. While at Millsaps, she was a member of Beta Sigma Omicron sorority.

Eva L. (Lessley) Oliver, Grenada College 1932, of Grenada died on Sept. 12, 2005.

Dick T. Patterson, B.S. 1950, of Clinton died on July 6, 2005.

DeWitt Clinton Peteet Jr., 1959, of Greenwood died on April 19, 2005.

Helen L. Rees, B.A. 1942, of Ridgeland died on April 25, 2005. While at Millsaps, she was a member of the YWCA.

Nancy Stallings Roach, 1958, of Jackson died on May 16, 2005. While at Millsaps, she was a member of Kappa Delta sorority.

Benjamin A. Root, B.S. 1950, of Jackson died on June 24, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Alpha Epsilon Delta.

Edith C. (Cortright) Schimmel, 1944, of Jackson died Aug. 20, 2005. While at Millsaps, she was a member of Chi Omega sorority, the Beethoven Club, the Millsaps Players, and the *Purple & White* staff. She had been a diabetic for more than 70 years. In her honor, the Mississippi chapter of the American Diabetes Association established the Edith Cortright Schimmel Victory Award to annually recognize the lifetime achievements of adults with diabetes.

Judge William L. Stewart, B.S. 1953, of Gulfport died on June 24, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity, the Millsaps Players, the Psychology Club, and he played varsity football. He also served as senior class president.

John W. (Bill) Tarver III, 1966, of Ridgeland died on June 3, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

Dr. Robert C. Tibbs III, B.S. 1986, of Cleveland died on July 25, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Alpha Epsilon Delta, Phi Alpha Theta, and Phi Eta Sigma.

The Reverend Resa Elijah Wasson, 1931, of Inverness died on April 30, 2005.

Wilbourn W. Wasson, B.A. 1938, of Hammond, La., died on May 30, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, Eta Sigma Phi, the Millsaps Singers, the Spanish Club, Kit Kat, and the YMCA. He also served on the *Bobashela* business staff and as the exchange editor and bulletin board manager for the *Purple & White*. He later served on the Millsaps Board of Trustees and was a member of the Heritage Society. He and his wife established the L. P. and Ella Wasson Endowed Scholarship Fund at Millsaps.

B. F. (Billy) Weathers, 1948, of Carthage died on Sept. 6, 2005. He attended Millsaps as part of the Navy V-12 officer training program, and he also played varsity football.

Dr. Ess A. White Jr., B.S. 1941, of Stockbridge, Mass., died on Feb. 23, 2005. While at Millsaps, he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, Omicron Delta Kappa, Alpha Epsilon Delta, Eta Sigma, Alpha Psi Omega, the Student Executive Board, and the *Purple & White* staff. He also served as editor of the *Bobashela*, president of the Millsaps Singers, and business manager for the Millsaps Players.

Vera Burkhead Williams, B.A. 1940, of Ridgeland died on May 26, 2005. While at Millsaps, she was a member of Chi Omega sorority, the YWCA, and the Millsaps Singers. As a junior, she served as secretary-treasurer of her class.

Dr. Joseph Ottis (J. O.) Wood, 1951, of Summit died on Feb. 21, 2005.

FRIENDS

Rex Roy Latham of Pearl died on May 17, 2005. He served as maintenance supervisor at Millsaps for 40 years, from 1956 to 1996.





Edward L. Jameson

Bookstore manager and beloved supporter of the College

Edward L. (Eddie) Jameson, retired manager of the Millsaps Bookstore, died May 25, 2005, following a lengthy bout with heart problems. Friends and family gathered in the Fitzhugh Chapel of the Millsaps Christian Center for a memorial service, paying tribute to one who had worked alongside them, shared the special events in their lives, and was known to be a good listener and compassionate friend to staff and students alike.

A native of South Portland, Maine, Jameson served in the U.S. Army from 1949 to 1956, moving south in 1958 to work in the college textbook industry. He was an active member of the Presbyterian Church USA, worked with the Boy Scouts, and held several leadership positions, including president, in the Mississippi Association of College Stores.

Eddie, as he was known by the Millsaps community for the 16 years that he managed the bookstore (1980–96), was called “Mr. J” by the students who worked for him, as well as those who frequented the store just to talk or visit, or sit by the fireplace in winter. During his tenure, the bookstore was on the main floor of the College Center and was always bustling with activity.

While Eddie was interested in all of the activities of the College, it was the Millsaps Players to whom he gave his greatest support. He never missed a play and was always ready to help with props or ideas for promoting the productions. He not only requested that his memorial service be held in the Millsaps chapel, but he also asked that memorials be sent to the Millsaps theatre department.

For Eddie, work, just like his marriage, was a partnership. He and his wife, Betty, brought up two children, Kelly and Katrina, and worked together in the book business for a total of 40 years. They also helped rear countless young Millsaps faculty children by training them as workers in the bookstore.

You seldom saw one without the other. They were in many ways partners with the late Mittie Welty, who managed the post office. And whenever there was a big project involving heavy boxes to be weighed and posted, it was Eddie, along with his student workers, who handled the task.

The Reverend Don Fortenberry, retired chaplain, referred to his humor as “mildly sardonic” at times. And it is true that one was never quite sure what to expect when visiting Eddie at the bookstore. “Those of us who worked with Eddie and Betty were blessed with Eddie’s good humor, his deep love for Millsaps and the Millsaps community, and his commitment to providing the best possible service to students,” Fortenberry said. “Eddie and Betty exemplified the kind of individuals who have made Millsaps a caring place to work.”

“What I miss is his great sense of friendship,” said Dr. Catherine Freis, chair of the classical studies department. “His love for others always flowed over, and he was always there for his friends.”

—K. B.

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Donald D. Kilmer

Professor emeritus of music and consummate keyboardist

Donald D. Kilmer, professor emeritus of music, died on October 16, 2005, at his home in Indianapolis. He was 72.

A native of Indiana, Kilmer studied organ with Oswald Ragatz at Indiana University, where he was the first recipient of the Indiana University Organ Performance Award. He did graduate work at Union Theological Seminary in New York City and studied with David Lumsden at New College, Oxford.

He taught organ, harpsichord, church music, and music history for 32 years at Millsaps College, where he also served as College organist. He was organist-choirmaster at St. James Episcopal Church in Jackson for 30 years. He founded and directed the Musica Sacra Singers of Jackson, a semiprofessional choral music ensemble specializing in English cathedral music. After retiring from Millsaps in 1992, he moved to Indianapolis, where he served as organist-choirmaster at All Saints Episcopal Church for seven years.

“Donald Kilmer had a long and productive tenure at Millsaps College,” said Dr. Timothy Coker, chair of the Department of Performing Arts. “His performance at the organ rivaled that of top professionals at the time, and many Jacksonians remember with great appreciation his performances with Musica Sacra, the choral group he organized and conducted. A significant number of his organ students hold some of the most important and influential choral/organist positions around the United States.”

He is survived by his partner of 45 years, McCarrell Ayers, emeritus professor of voice at Millsaps. Memorials may be made to the American Guild of Organists, Indianapolis Chapter, or the music fund of All Saints Church in Indianapolis. —J. Y.



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Martha Poole

Unparalleled professional and esteemed colleague

Martha Poole, who worked in the development office at Millsaps as the gift recorder from the late 1970s through the late 1980s, died on June 26, 2005. In her day, the development office was located on the first floor of Whitworth Hall, and it was a source of vital information.

There were few staff members on campus more respected than she. When Poole was at Millsaps, laptops and personal computers were not a part of the College inventory. She did have an electric typewriter—and a memory that worked overtime. No donation was too small for her immediate attention, and each honor gift or memorial was acknowledged on the day it was received.

It was her responsibility to keep records of all donations made to the College and to deposit those donations into the proper funds. It is not known just how she accomplished it, but she consistently finished all of her work before the end of the day, and she knew the name of all the donors and the specific funds to which they contributed. As Vice President for Finance Lou Burney recalled, “She never made a mistake, and her phone number was 383—I called her regularly.” Burney also said Poole was like a mother to many of the younger staff, like herself. “Lauri Stamm and I called her ‘Grandma Poole.’”

Poole’s daughters, Janet Youngblood and Jodie McGehee, said they remembered that she loved the College and loved working here. “She cared so much for her work,” Youngblood said. “She didn’t work 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; she worked until the job got done. She took great pride in her attention to detail and felt like she knew everybody who ever sent in a donation.”

Many of those who worked with Poole are no longer at the College, but none of us will forget her calm demeanor and her courteous responses to numerous and sometimes unreasonable requests. We recall her sense of humor as she described the donors she knew only by telephone voice and donor record, never having seen most of them in person. “I was sure he would be taller,” she would say upon meeting one donor. “On the telephone, he sounded like a redhead,” she’d say when meeting another.

Poole was from the small Mississippi town of Gloster. A graduate of the University of Mississippi, she was married for 56 years to Barney Poole, an Ole Miss athlete who came to Jackson in the early 1980s to manage Mississippi Memorial Stadium after coaching at Mississippi Southern. Her conversation was filled with stories about Barney—and about Gloster. When she retired from the College in the late 1980s, the couple went home to Gloster.

Martha Poole will be remembered at Millsaps as one who set the standard for professionalism and collegiality, as one who was highly respected for the way in which she carried out her duties, and as one whose sense of humor helped to keep the minor irritations of the day in their proper perspective.

“To work with Martha,” said the Reverend Don Fortenberry, retired College chaplain, “was to be treated with kindness, sympathetic attention, and appreciation by a fellow Methodist who valued the College and its history.”

We were privileged to know her.

—K. B.

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