

Local writer passes away after long illness

Madalene McIntosh Wasson, an Estill County woman who wrote several books and thousands of poems, has passed away at the age of 82. The following is a story written about her and printed in The Estill County Tribune on July 8, 2015:

An Estill County woman is sharing her memories of 79 years in her fourth book called "The Good Old Days," about neighbors and family from the Tipton Ridge, Furnace and surrounding areas.

Madalene McIntosh Wasson was born on January 14, 1936, the seventh child of eleven children born to Floyd and Mary Caroline Profitt McIntosh. She spent her early life at what was then called Union Hall and attended a one-room school at Gum Springs for eight years.

She operated a grocery store near Furnace for 18 years and also worked at the Christmas tree factory in Lexington and a shoe factory in Stanton. She operated a country store in Stanton before working at The Wise Place furniture store in Ravenna until retirement.

As a child, she crocheted and worked at anything needed to help the family, including picking blackberries for 15 cents a gallon to be sold at Kelley's on Kirkland Avenue in Irvine.

She still crochets donated items for the annual McIntosh and Profitt reunions. In 1993, when her brother-in-law was suffering from cancer of the brain, he told her his head was cold. She went home and crocheted him a toboggin to wear to keep his head warm.

Wasson could always recall from memory the birthdates and death dates of family and friends. And, despite health problems in recent years including cancer and heart problems, her memories of her childhood and adulthood are still vivid and accurate.

Madalene wrote and published her first book in 1998 and called it "Memories of Madalene." She has since then written two more books with similar titles, each also containing information she remembered from growing up and living at Tipton Ridge.

Wasson started her writing career with poems; the first of which was a poem in memory of her brother, Orval,

who passed away at middle age. That poem was used as a song in church which was sung many times by she, her son, Kenny, and his wife, Reva.

Madalene has altogether written over 300 poems including one which won the "Greatest Poets" award. She would have received \$1,000. for it but could not travel to Pennsylvania for the presentation.

She was raised in a three room house built of rough lumber with homemade doors and cardboard used to insulate the walls. Two of her older brothers passed away as infants. Another son came along later, and at one time the family slept four each in double beds. They heated their home with a tin heater or a 55-gallon barrel with a door cut in the side.

The family had to do whatever they could during the hard times and her mother canned fruits, vegetables and even pork sausage to put in the cellar under the house. The children walked up to three miles to get milk and butter from their grandparents' at Marbleyard.

Times were even harder, says Madalene, when some of the men would gather in the woods to "shoot dice" or play poker for money, and the wives of many of these men and children would have to go without food.

Despite the hardships, Madalene's mother, Mary, loved all her children and grieved deeply over the two she lost at an early age. As the seventh of eleven children, Madalene once asked her mother why she had wanted so many children. Mary told her that she wanted everyone of her children and that she loved Madalene and all of them very much.

The McIntosh children attended school at the one-room Gum Springs School where they carried water from a nearby spring. After petitioning the school board, the community was allowed to hold church services in the school building.

Later, the Gum Springs Church was built nearby, and Madalene said a special thing happened in 1947 when she was eleven years old and her father gave his heart to the Lord at the first service held in the new Gum Springs church building.

"This was so special because from that day on, our life changed," said Madalene. "When there was a church anywhere close by, we were in attendance." She still attends church when she can at Knowlton Church of God where her son, Kenny, is the pastor.

Today, Madalene's son, grandchildren and great grandchildren are as special to her as she and her brothers and sisters were to her mother and father. She tell you that the best years of your life is when you have children.

Wasson's book contained 60 pages.



Madalene McIntosh Wasson holds a copy of her fourth book, called "The Good Old Days," which is about family and friends from the Tipton Ridge, Furnace, Fitchburg, Cob Hill and surrounding areas of Estill County.

OBITUARIES

Sunday, May 27, 2018

Juelma Jane Blackwell, 87

Juelma Jane Marlowe Blackwell, 87, of Irvine, Kentucky, loving wife of Emanuel Blackwell Jr., passed away Sunday, May 27, 2018, at the University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington.

She was a native of Estill County, born September 23, 1930, a daughter of the late Jasper N. and Rose Anderson Marlowe. Juelma was a graduate of Saint Joseph School of Nursing and spent her career as an RN. She was a lifetime member of the Irvine United Methodist Church and the Marcum Wallace Hospital Auxiliary. Mrs. Blackwell was preceded in death by her brothers: James Lewis Marlowe and Eugene Woodson Marlowe.

She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Emanuel; her three children: Rosemary Blackwell Barnes (Roger), Rebecca Blackwell Carr (Jim), and Jim Blackwell (Kim); nine grandchildren; sixteen great grandchildren; one great, great grandchild; several nieces and nephews; and a host of family and friends. Services will be held at



Juelma Blackwell

11:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 31, at the Irvine United Methodist Church with burial to follow in the West Irvine Cemetery. Friends may call after 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 30th at the church.

Lance Blackwell, Chase Blackwell, Christopher Carr, Jim Carr, Roger Barnes and Clayton Oswal will serve as pallbearers.

Grandchildren and great grandchildren will serve as honorary pallbearers.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Irvine United Methodist Church, 243 Main St. Irvine, KY 40336

<LewisFH.com>

Sunday, May 27, 2018

Winnie McIntosh Marcum, 82

Winnie McIntosh Marcum, age 82, of Stanton, Kentucky, passed away Sunday, May 27, 2018 at her home.

She was born August 21, 1935 in Irvine, to the late Gilbert and Alice Tipton McIntosh. She was a long-time business owner having operated Stanton Florist since May 4, 1974.

Survivors include two sons, Gregory Scott Marcum and Stephan Craig Marcum, both of Stanton; and a brother, Gilbert McIntosh Jr. (Cowboy).

She was preceded in death by her parents, Gilbert and Alice McIntosh; a sister, Joan McIntosh Dennis, and a daughter-in-law, Valerie Marcum.

Private services to be



Winnie Marcum

scheduled at a later date.

Donations suggested to Hospice East, 407 Shoppers Drive, Winchester, KY 40391.

Davis and Davis Funeral Home of Stanton has been entrusted with arrangements.

<DavisandDavisFuneralHome.com>

Sunday, May 27, 2018

Vernon Smith, 79

Vernon Smith, age 79, of Old Landing Road in Irvine, Kentucky, passed away Sunday, May 27, 2018, at his home following a long illness.

He was born March 16, 1939 in Jackson County and was the son of the late Sylvan and Eva Price Smith. He was a retired GM employee and was a member of the Wagersville Community Pentecostal Church of God. He was also a member and past President of the Beagle Kennel Club.

Mr. Smith was preceded in death by his wife, Joyce Gay Crews Smith.

He is survived by three daughters: Anita Barker, Estill County; Teresa Dooley (Mark), Ohio; and Renee Woods (Scott), Florida; two sons: Phillip Smith (Kathy), Estill County; and Aaron

Smith (Mary), Ohio; two sisters: Ruby Carpenter and Irene Venable, both of Jackson County; four brothers: Don Smith, Breathitt County; Delmar Smith, Junior Smith, both of Ohio; and Randall Hundley, Jackson County; 22 grandchildren, 47 great grandchildren; and five great, great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by three siblings: Wilma, James and Floyd.

Funeral services will be conducted Saturday, June 2, 11:00 a.m., at the Warren F. Toler Funeral Home Chapel by Bro. Dave Crews. Burial will be at the Campbell Cemetery. Friends may call between 6 and 9 p.m., Friday, June 1st at the funeral home.

<TolerFuneralHome.com>

Friday, May 25, 2018

Madalene Wasson, 82

Madalene Wasson, age 82, of Broadway in Irvine, Kentucky, passed away Friday, May 25, 2018, at the Indiana University Hospital in Indianapolis, Indiana, following a short illness.

She was born January 14, 1936 in Estill County and was the daughter of the late Floyd and Mary Caroline Profitt McIntosh. She was a store owner and former employee of Lycoming Shoe Factory. She was a member of the Knowlton Church of God and had lived in Estill County all her life.

Madalene was preceded in death by her husband, Troy Kenneth Wasson.

She is survived by one son, Kenneth Wasson, Estill County; two sisters: Vivian Lane and Wilma Wise, both of Estill County; two brothers: Carl McIntosh and Jerry Wayne McIntosh, both of Estill County; two grandchildren: Renee Hurst and Rebecca Wasson; and three great grandchildren: Ha-leigh Noble, Harlan Noble and Jax Hurst.



Madalene Wasson

Madalene was preceded in death by two sisters, Irene Patrick and Freida Johnson; and four brothers: Lyle, Amos, Virgil and Orville McIntosh.

Funeral services will be conducted Thursday, May 31, 12:00 Noon, at the Warren F. Toler Funeral Home Chapel by Bro. Terry Barnes, Bro. Gainus Rogers and Bro. Jim Hall. Burial will be at the Crowe Cemetery. Friends may call between 6 and 9 p.m., Wednesday, May 30th at the funeral home.

<TolerFuneralHome.com>

Monday, May 21, 2018

Roger 'Joe' Freeman, 69



VETERAN

Roger "Joe" Freeman, age 69, of Winchester, Kentucky, passed away on Monday, May 21, 2018 at Baptist Health Hospital in Lexington.

Joe was born November 3, 1948 to Paul and Darlene Walters Freeman in Winchester.

He was preceded in death by his father, Paul Freeman.

Joe was a United States Navy veteran and proudly served his country during the Vietnam War and worked for IBM-Lexmark as a computer programmer for 32 years before retiring.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 47 years, Cheri Lewis Freeman; two daughters, Paige Gilkerson (Greg) and Brittany McDaniel (Dave); grandchildren: Allie Stone (Tyler), Bailey Gilkerson; Hunter, Hope and Holly Burus; and his beloved dog, IssyB, and



Joe Freeman

grand-dog, Hazel.

Visitation was held 10-11, Saturday, May 26, at Northeast Christian Church, 990 Star Shoot Parkway in Hamburg. Service began at 1:00 p.m. with a catered meal following.

The family has requested contributions in honor of Joe be made to Markey Cancer Center.

<Legacy.com>

Americanisms



"Too many people spend money they haven't earned, to buy things they don't want, to impress people they don't like."

—Will Rogers

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