

Obituaries

Alexander and Chessie Leger Johnson Vanvinkle, a former resident of Rockcastle County, E.T., was a retired farmer and attended Big Hill Pentecostal Holiness Church.

Survivors are his wife, Alberta Carrier Johnson; two sons, Earl Johnson and wife, Mary Sue of Lexington and Acy Johnson and wife, Carol of Berea; five daughters, Janie Pearson and husband, Charles of Berea, Edna Caldwell and husband, Kent of Cadiz, Mary Johnson and Macie Clark, both of Louisville and Brenda Johnson of Mt. Vernon; seven brothers, Alexander "Ted" Johnson and wife, Ina of Paint Lick, Emil Johnson and Winford Vanvinkle, both of Berea, Robert Vanvinkle and wife, Rose, also of Richmond, Indiana, Clyde Vanvinkle of Big Hill and Junior Vanvinkle of Colorado; several grandchildren and great grandchildren. Other than his parents he was preceded in death by a son, Ralph Johnson, Jr., four brothers, Andy Vanvinkle, Virgil Vanvinkle, Phillip Vanvinkle and George Vanvinkle and three sisters, Sally Mae Jackson, Ethel Spivey and Edna Vanvinkle.

Services were Saturday, February 9, at Williams Funeral Home in Berea with Bro. Larry Gray officiating. Burial was in the Scaffold Creek Cemetery in Rockcastle County.

Grandchildren served as casketbearers.

Barbara Begley

Barbara Begley, 65, of Rt. 1, Mt. Vernon, died Saturday, February 9, 2002 at her home. She was born in Rockcastle County on May 27, 1936, the daughter of Conrad and Mary Alice Barnett Thomas. She was a homemaker, a member of the Maple Grove Baptist Church and attended Brush Creek Holiness Church.

Survivors are five sons, Jackie Begley and wife, Ruthie of Siddle, Louisiana, James Begley and wife, Maribeth of Prestonsburg and Bruce Begley, David Begley and wife, Alice and Kenneth Begley, all of Mt. Vernon; eight daughters, Sandra Bowman of Science Hill, Zella Graves and husband, Dennis and Linda Bowman and husband, Cecil, all of Mt. Vernon, Charlotte Bowman and husband, Ames, Jr., of Lancaster, Patricia Begley, Ruby Suddeth and husband, Glen and Lu Hoffman and husband, Tim, all of Broadhead and Virginia Cessay and husband, Ismael of Lexington; five brothers, Wilbur Thomas of Franklin, Ohio, Curt Thomas of Nicholasville, Brenda Thomas of Corbin, Roger Thomas of Chicago, Illinois and Danny Thomas of Indianapolis, Indiana; four sisters, Ethel Ornduff of East Bernstadt, Elizabeth Pappas of Blossum, Texas, Faye Kellum of Hamilton, Ohio and Eula Madden of Copper Creek; 36 grandchildren, 26 great grandchildren and a special friend, Charles Sturgill of Mt. Vernon. She was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Begley, a brother, Stanley Thomas and two grandchildren, Joshua and Courtney.

Services were Tuesday, February 12, at the Brush Creek Holiness Church with Bro. Billy Medley and Tully Renner officiating. Burial was in the Pine Hill Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home (www.dowellmartin.com).

Her sons served as pallbearers.

Cora Ramsey

Cora Ramsey, 73, of Indianapolis, Indiana, and formerly of Mt. Vernon, died Friday, February 8, 2002 at the St. Francis Hospital in Beechgrove, Indiana. She was born on March 20, 1928 in Rockcastle County, the daughter of the late George and Rosa Pittman Russell. She was a member of the Franklin Apostolic Gospel Church.

Survivors are four sons, Bruce Ramsey, of Franklin, Indiana, Dennis, Douglas and Lawrence Ramsey, all of Indianapolis, Indiana; four daughters, Margie, Evelyn, and Nokomis, Florida, Darlene Jewell of Franklin, Indiana, Loretta Puckett and Evelyn Sheese, both of Indianapolis, Indiana; 41 grandchildren and several great grandchildren and great great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Linda Ramsey; five sons, Marvin, R.L., Larry, Terry and Leroy Ramsey; a brother, Glen Pittman and three grandchildren.

Graveside services were Wednesday, February 13, at the Elmwood Cemetery with Bro. James Nicely officiating.

Arrangements were made by Cox Funeral Home.

E.T. Johnson

Ralph "E.T." Johnson, 83, of Berea, died Wednesday, February 8, 2002 at the VA Medical Center in Lexington. He was born May 22, 1918 in Berea, the son of the late

Brenda McVay

Brenda Diani McVay, 58, of Corbin, died Monday, February 11, 2002 at Baptist Regional Medical Center. She had been an Avon District Manager for 20 years and Laurel, Knox, Clay, Rockcastle and Jackson Counties.

Survivors are her husband of 35 years, Virgil McVay; three children, Tom Stradley and his wife, Jennifer, Denise and her husband, Rick Penny and Dawn McVay, all of Corbin; her mother, Ruby Sharp of Corbin, two brothers, Eugene Sharp and his wife, Darlene; a sister, Geraldine Sharp; sister-in-law, Karen Carroll and Imogene Stansberry; grandchildren, Chaz, Meagan, Brendi, Stradley, Candice Penny, Matthew and Hope McVay and special "adopted" grandchildren, Anayssa, Christopher, Bethany and Junior Brown. She was preceded in death by her father, Rev. Arlo Sharp and her mother-in-law and father-in-law, Bessie and Matt McVay.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6-9 p.m. at the Hart Funeral Home, located at 1011 Master Street, Corbin. Services will be Friday, February 15 at 1:00 p.m. at the Hart Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Richard Rogers, Rev. John Barber and Rev. Bobby Joe Eaton officiating. Burial will follow in the Feltz Chapel Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Stuart Keith, Robbie Stansberry, Randy Lawless, Wade Lawless, Troy Carroll, Shannon Farmer and Gary Masters.

Yolanda Ramsey

Yolanda Ramsey, 70, widow of Bill Lee Ramsey, of Pinellas Park, Florida and formerly of Rockcastle County, died Monday, February 11, 2002 at her residence.

Funeral arrangements are entrusted with the Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals in Broadhead and are incomplete at this time.

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marriage records of Rockcastle County. These books are in the DAR National Library in Washington, D.C., as well as the Public Library in Mt. Vernon.

Many family history researchers owe much of their success to Janie and her remarkable memory. Rockcastle people will be in her debt for years to come.

Janie had close ties with legions of her relatives. She seemed to feel no barriers of time. The young ones and the old ones stopped to visit on Adams Street. Her family, all of us even the foolish, are "hers" and she was proud to claim us all. She shared with those who wanted to know their own personal history.

"The universe is made up of stories, not atoms."

Submitted by John D. Bullen



John D. Bullen, Janie Ramsey and Marilyn Bullen - 1991.

In Loving Memories

In Memory of Janie Ramsey, April 8, 1899-April 12, 1998

A Very Special Valentine
The little white house on Adams Street in Berea, had been Mecca to genealogists for almost 50 years. People from all over the United States had made the pilgrimage to consult Janie Ramsey.

Janie grew up on the Old James Madison Coffey (1834-1886) Place, near Wildie. She was the daughter of James and Lydia Wolfe Coffey's daughter, Glathe Coffey and her husband, Joseph Love Ramsey.

Janie knew a great deal about many families from the Wildie area. She knew wonderful stories about those old friends - stories that never made it into the official records stored in the newspapers. When Janie told you a family story, it was almost as great as having known the people yourself. Janie's father died when she was three years old. She and her

mother went back to the homestead to live. As she had said, "I sat up there on that hill from one year's end to the next. I had nothing to do but listen to the old folks talk. I know what they said."

If you decided to visit Janie to learn about your family, preparation was an essential. Janie had little patience with "carelessness." What she told you was a fact. If you didn't know the answer to your question, she would say so. You were expected to have enough respect for the truth to seek the correct answer elsewhere.

Janie Ramsey was a founding member of the Rockcastle County Chapter of the Daughter of the American Revolution (Oct. 9, 1979). She, with the assistance of others, prepared three thick books of the

Cards of Thanks

"Barbara" Begley

The family of Louthisa "Barbara" Thomas Begley would like to thank all our family and friends that brought food, flowers, donations and gave their loving support during the sickness and loss of our mother. Special thanks to Dr. Arvin and staff at Rockcastle Hospital, Rockcastle County Home Health, Courtney and Britt, Brush Creek Holiness Church, Maple Grove Baptist Church, Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Renner and singers, Bro. Bill Medley and Dowell and Martin Funeral Home.

We thank our Heavenly Father for allowing us to have such a wonderful mother, sister, grandma, great

grandma and friend. She's always been an angel and now she has her wings.

Mommy said when she gets to Heaven, that she'll save us all a good seat. It will be a family reunion in heaven.

Bruce, David, Kenneth, Jackie, James, Sandra, Zella, Charlotte, Linda, Patricia, Ruby, Virginia and Lisa

Thank You
Rockcastle County Senior Citizens would like to thank all businesses of Rockcastle County, who donated to our annual community Christmas Party sponsored by Woodmen of the World Insurance.

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In Memory of Ronnie Johnson
Born 2-14-1961
Died 6-10-2000

You are always in our hearts and you will never be forgotten. Sincerely missed by family and friends. Katherine & the Johnson family

Ruby Halcomb

Ruby Edna Halcomb, 76, of McKee Road, Berea, died Wednesday, February 6, 2002 at the Berea Hospital. She was born in Rockcastle County on August 10, 1925, the daughter of Robert and Lena Percell. She was a homemaker and a member of the Pine Hill Church of God.

Survivors are a daughter, Carol Hymer and husband, Leo of Berea; a brother, Denver Sowder of Berea; two sisters, Roxie Kirby of Richmond and Christine Payne of Livingston and a granddaughter, Tina Hymer of Berea. She was preceded in death by her husband, James L. Halcomb and two children, Linda Faye and Freddie Michael.

Services were Sunday, February 10 at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home (www.dowellmartin.com) with Bro. Allen Hensley and Virgil Bustle officiating. Burial was in the Halcomb Family Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Wayne Kirby, Dennis Payne, Ricky Sowder, Donald Sowder, Dean Sowder and Jack Sowder.

Bessie Hellard

Bessie Marie Hellard, 70, of Rt. 5, Livingston, died Saturday, February 9, 2002 at the Rockcastle Hospital. She was born in Rockcastle County on July 25, 1931, the daughter of Andrew and Grace Mounce Hellard. She was a homemaker and a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church of London.

Survivors are two brothers, James Hellard of Livingston and Willie Hellard of East Bernstadt and two sisters, Rosa Mink of Livingston and Anna Whitte of Mt. Vernon. She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers and a sister.

Services were Monday, February 11, at the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home (www.dowellmartin.com) with Bro. Fred Calkins officiating. Burial was in the Moore Cemetery.

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