

Obituaries



Alta Mae Spoonamore

Alta Mae Spoonamore, 83, of Mt. Vernon, died Sunday, December 30, 2012 at the Terrace in Berea. After a long battle with Alzheimer's disease, she died peacefully alongside her children on her 83rd birthday. She was born on December 30, 1929 in Rockcastle County, the daughter of the late Lewis and Flaura Renner. She was a life long member of Town Hill Holiness Church.

She grew up on the Rockcastle River. She spent her lifetime as a wife, mother and caregiver. She dedicated her life to witnessing for her Savior, Jesus Christ. She will forever be remembered in the hearts and minds of her children and her legacy will continue through their lives.

She is survived by: three daughters, Patricia (Clifford) Collins of Mt. Vernon, Pamela (Lonnie) McGuire of Orlando and Victoria (Dwane) Bradley of Brodhead; two sons, Ronald (Glenna) Spoonamore of Mt. Vernon and Richard (Penny) Spoonamore of Elizabethtown; nine grandsons, Michael (Tabitha) Collins, Ronnie (Stacy) Spoonamore, Geoff (Melissa) McGuire, Eric (Heather) McGuire, Derek (Amanda) Bradley, Chris (Heather) McGuire, Mark Bradley, Richard (Kayla) Spoonamore Jr. and Ryan Spoonamore; two granddaughters, Courtney (Isidro) Morales and Crystal (Brian) Lanier; and 14 great grandchildren, Morgan and Jeff Smith, Tanner Collins, Austin Spoonamore, Andrew Spoonamore, Blake Mullins, Gracie Spoonamore, Joseph Spoonamore, Reece McGuire, Connor McGuire, Adyson Bradley, Titus McGuire, Brent Bradley, Estrella Morales and Alberto Morales.

She is also survived by: two sisters, Opal Roberts of Eubank and Beulah Brock of Indianapolis, IN; and one brother, Glen Denver and Glenna Renner of Mt. Vernon. She also leaves behind several nieces, nephews and friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, George L. Renner, and a sister, Evelyn Seals.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday, January 3, 2013 at the Brush Creek Holiness Church by Bro. Lonnie McGuire and Bro. Chris McGuire. Burial followed in the Phelps Cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Michael Collins, Ronnie Spoonamore, Geoff McGuire, Eric McGuire, Derek Bradley, Chris McGuire, Mark Bradley, Richard Spoonamore Jr. and Ryan Spoonamore.

Honorary Pallbearers were: Virgil Bustle, Donald King, Troy Roberts and Mike Mink.

Arrangements were by the Dowell & Martin Funeral Home.

Visit www.DowellMartin.com to view online obituary.



Joyce "Alma" Sutton

Joyce "Alma" (nee Hamm) Sutton, 82, died January 4, 2013.

Beloved wife of the late Harold E. Sutton. Loving mother of Charlotte, Ted (Betty), Gary Sutton and the late Jeffrey Sutton. Devoted grandmother of Amy, Susan, Jody (Stephanie) and Tony (Amanda). Great grandmother of Alex, Owen, Alexis and Brady. Dear sister of Wilma Craig, Paul (Martha) and John (Gail) Hamm and the late Ray, David and Billy Hamm.

Graveside services were held Wednesday, January 9, 2013 in the Hazeldale Cemetery in Somerset, with Danny McKibben officiating.

Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals were entrusted with arrangements.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Hazeldale Cemetery Fund.



Kevin Dwain Jones

Kevin Dwain Jones, 35, of Brodhead, died Tuesday, January 1, 2013.

He was born February 16, 1977 in Cincinnati, OH, a son of Oscar Frank Jones and Carolyn Bishop Jones. He worked in stone masonry and granite. He enjoyed fishing, basketball, sports of all types, including cars/hot rods and spending time with his friends. He will be remembered as a loving and caring father and friend.

He will be lovingly remembered by: his parents, Carolyn Jones of Brodhead, and Oscar Frank Jones of Ohio; his two brothers, Chris Jones of Brodhead, and Donnie Lee Jones of St. Mary; a daughter, Kansas October Kirby of Brodhead; and a host of friends and neighbors.

Funeral services were held Saturday, January 5, 2013 at the Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals with Bro. Rick Reynolds and Robert Miller officiating. Burial was in the Negro Creek Cemetery.

Condolences may be made at www.marvineowensfuneralhome.com

Judy Ann Vanzant

Judy Ann (Bradley) Vanzant, 80, died January 7, 2013 at the University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington.

Funeral services are at 2 p.m. (today) Thursday, January 10, 2013 at the Marvin E. Owens Home for Funerals. Burial will be in the Providence Cemetery at Quail.

2013 General Assembly Session Overview

By Jared Carpenter, State Senator

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a good holiday. A new year also marks a new season in your state capital. On Tuesday, January 8th, the Senate convened for the 2013 General Assembly Session, a session that will last 30 days. The first week is traditionally an "organizational" week in which the respective caucuses choose their leaders and committee assignments are disbursed to the members. I was pleased to take the reins of the Natural Resources and Energy Committee as chairman and was appointed Vice-Chair of the Banking and Insurance Committee. Energy's importance cannot be overstated and with the new federal healthcare rules coming on, these are two critical committees which I am pleased to take a leadership role in. I will also be serving on the Education Committee. I am excited to contribute my efforts to each one of these.

While odd-year sessions are not typically budget years, there are several issues that could affect budget-planning. First and foremost is the issue of public employee pension reform. Many of you are aware that the public employee pension system is only about 26% funded which represents a \$33 billion unfunded liability. (Please note that teachers' retirement is entirely different and these discussions do not apply to it.) Over the summer, a task force formed to offer recommendations heard from a diverse group of advocates and experts such as state employees, business groups, and even nationally-known bipartisan think tanks. One of the principle recommendations is to fully fund the actuarial recommended contribution which is what actuaries say is necessary for the account to remain solvent. Without a doubt, tough decisions are ahead. What is clear, though, is that the system is in dire need of reform because the retirement system will end up consuming more and more tax dollars straining the budgets of other tax-payer needs such as education and human services.

The Governor has tried to link pension reform with his task force on tax reform. Recently, this group recommended raising both household and business utility rates, raising the cigarette tax, taxing retiree pensions, and eliminating certain deductions among other suggestions. First of all, I just don't see much sentiment in the Senate for raising taxes. No one has made the case to me that raising taxes will spur the economy and surely we would want a tax policy that grows jobs and expands the economy. More people employed and paying taxes is certainly better than less. As a revenue measure, these types of bills must start in the House of Representatives. As your senator, however, I intend to be very vocal about protecting your hard-earned income.

Another challenge facing the Commonwealth is the Governor's implementation of Medicaid managed care which, unfortunately, has been less than ideal from the start. Over the summer and fall, both in committee meetings and in

informal talks with people from the district, I have heard many complaints about denial of care to patients and delayed payments to doctors and hospitals. Medicaid provides a valuable service to over 800,000 Kentuckians and it is a huge cost driver to the state budget. My goal is to make sure every tax dollar used to fund Medicaid is used effectively.

Education and ensuring our children are work- and career-ready remains a priority for me. Rewarding students who push themselves to take Advanced Placement classes and the teachers who teach them has been on the Senate agenda. It is likely that you will see another push in this area as well as a bill making it easier for students to graduate high school early too. We will also continue to monitor the implementation of a Senate proposal (SB 1 - 2009) that makes Kentucky a national leader using common-core standards and fair teacher evaluations. I will also carefully evaluate any school safety proposals considered during the next session.

There will be plenty of other topics, of course. Pro-life legislation is extremely important as we strive to protect the unborn, financial transparency of special taxing districts, and the impact of Obamacare on Kentucky (since the Governor has already authorized a state healthcare exchange) will all be addressed in some form.

I hope this provides you with a sense of the upcoming session. I am sure other bills will pop up that I have not mentioned and I will do my best to keep you informed. In the meantime, if I can be of any assistance or you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please call me toll-free at 1-800-372-7181 or visit us at www.lrc.ky.gov to learn more about our work.



"Fourth Generation Joshua Nathaniel Thacker born December 13, 2012 to Jeff and Lori Thacker". Pictured from left are: Cecil Thacker, Jeff Thacker, Jessica Thacker, Joshua Thacker, Lori Thacker, and Wanda Thacker.



An Angel in the book of life wrote down our babies birth, she whispered as she closed the book "Too beautiful for this earth."

In Memory of
Jada Faith 1/23/04 - 1/8/12 & Malachi 12/28/06 - 1/11/12
Anthony Hayes

Jada & Malachi, we truly do believe that God must have needed you more. We love and miss you more than you can ever know. In our hearts and memories, forever you will be. Mommy

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Card of Thanks

Vernetta Lake

We, the family of Vernetta Lake, want to thank everyone for their kindness, prayers and all who visited or brought food through her sickness and death.

Thanks to Marvin Owens Funeral Home for their kindness and thank you all for the beautiful flowers, to Bro. Parkerson for his kind words, Bro. Ralph Allen and Ruby Powell for their beautiful songs, the Hospice nurses for their many visits and Dr. Tony Arvin, Irene Kidwell for her hard work and the many hours she spent with Vernetta and Kaye and the girls at the Dari Delite.

We will always be thankful and remember you in our prayers.
Husband, Jack, Daughter, Pam and Son, Rick

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