

Weddings

Celina Worley (BS '94) and Ben Dawson were married March 23, 2008, in Walla Walla, Wash.

Nancy Lou Cross (MA '67) and Christopher Hall were married Sept. 16, 2005.

Births & Adoptions

To **Coleen** (BSLED '08) and **Pierre Quinn** (BA '04, MA '08), Berrien Springs, Mich., a girl, Briana Channel Theresa, July 19, 2008.

To **Janel (Klinger)** (BA/BS '00) and **Nathan Tasker** (BT '00), Port Augusta, South Australia, a boy, Stephen Mishael, June 25, 2008.

To Melissa and **Mike Murrill** (BBA '02), Denver, Colo., a boy, Mason Lawrence, April 9, 2008.

To **Kymerley (Gane)** (MAYM '02) and **Kenneth Parker** (MAYM '02), Hinsdale, Ill., a girl, Grace Elizabeth, June 29, 2007.

Deaths

Lester Halvorsen (BA '51, MA '60), 83, passed away on Aug. 16, 2008, in Zephyrhills, Fla. Lester was born in Rapid City, Mich., Sept. 13, 1924, to Dan and Lucille Halvorsen, and graduated from Andrews Academy in 1943.

On Nov. 30, 1946, he married Reva Jean Denslow. They were married 62 years.

Lester was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in the South Pacific. After receiving his master's degree in business administration, Halvorsen worked for the Seventh-day Adventist Church as an accountant at several places, including West Pakistan, until he retired in 1988.

He also worked at Indiana Academy, Sunnydale Academy, Review & Herald, Dakota Conference, Kettering Hospital and Community Services in Orlando.

Lester is survived by his wife, Reva; a son, Ken Halvorsen; a daughter, Karen Gimbel; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He also has two surviving sisters, Ruby Roosenberg and Thelma Woolever. He was predeceased by a daughter, Kathy Salters.

Max Jay Church (BA '49), died on August 12, 2008, in Berrien Springs, Mich. Born March 14, 1922 in Detroit, Mich., Max was the second son of George Grant and Leona Valerious Sinclair Church. His family became Seventh-day Adventists when he was seven years old.

Max attended Adelphian Academy and graduated in 1941. He hitchhiked to California for training as an x-ray technologist, and used that skill in the military.

Max was called up for the draft in 1942, one of thousands of soldiers shipped to England to wait for the secret invasion of Normandy. He fought in the D-Day assault and the Battle of the Bulge.

When Max returned from World War II, he attended Sorbonne University in France and then enrolled at Emmanuel Missionary College.

Max married Irma Pearl Wrate, a nurse, on August 6, 1950 in Battle Creek, Mich., at the Urandale Seventh-day Adventist Church where Irma's family had attended for generations. He then decided to pursue a master's degree in French at Michigan State University, graduating in 1951. That same year, they welcomed their first child, Jan.

The Church family served in the mission field at Helderberg College in Somerset West, South Africa, where Max taught geography, French, English and anything else assigned. While serving in South Africa, three children, Lowell Grant, Leona Pearl and Max Henry, were born.

Max's passion was clearly in the mission field. There are dozens of children named Max in honor of his work in Rwanda, Burundi, Congo and Haiti. In 1958, Max and Irma took their first return visit home, a nine-month furlough, which culminated in the birth of their fifth and sixth children, twin sons Rodrick and Rene.

Max and Irma moved to Bujumbura, Burundi, in 1961, where he became education secretary for the Union. Burundi also suffered from civil strife, but Max was still able to contribute to the education of thousands of students and help some individually. Irma also taught English and served as the U.S. embassy nurse.

The family's last mission assignment was in Northern Congo, where Max was mission president. In 1971, Max and Irma decided it was time to go back to the United States. Max found a home at WAUS, the public radio station at Andrews University, as development director.

But the mission field still beckoned. Max learned about Haiti and arranged a visit. He soon opened Eden Orphanage and started raising funds. For the next ten years, he was, the family quips, a "philanthropist with no money."

Deteriorating health led to Max's return to the U.S. for good where Irma was a dedicated, personal nurse to him for his remaining years. He often told his children how he had "the best wife in the world."

During his last days, many family members joined Max and Irma in Berrien Springs. His last Sabbath was spent musing the words and smiling as the whole family sang.

Max is survived by his wife, Irma Pearl Church; daughters Jan McAlpine and Leona Bakewell; and sons Lowell, Max, Rodrick and Rene Church. Max had 18 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren: seven are adopted, three are from Africa and the rest are a joyous mix of nationalities and cultural backgrounds.

Kenneth Mulzac (MDiv '88, PhD '95), died on Wednesday, July 23, at Lakeland Hospital in St. Joseph, Mich., following a long illness. He was 45 years old.

Mulzac was associate professor of Christian ministry at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and pastor of the Highland Adventist Church in Benton Harbor, Mich.

Before joining the seminary faculty in 2006, Mulzac served as associate professor of biblical studies at the Adventist

International Institute of Advanced Studies in the Philippines from 2000–2005 and associate professor of religion at Oakwood College in Alabama from 1995–2000. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in theology and psychology from Columbia Union College in Maryland in 1985.

“Ken Mulzac came to Andrews University to teach preaching, but sadly, he barely had a chance to share his many gifts with our seminary students. We will greatly miss Ken and all he had to offer the students, staff and faculty at Andrews University,” said Niels-Erik Andreassen, president of Andrews University.

During his career, Mulzac published a number of scholarly books and articles on Old Testament prophets and other biblical themes. He also authored several articles in *Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible*, published in 2000. Mulzac was a well-known speaker and preacher, and was often invited to speak at international conferences, congresses and churches.

Students loved his teaching style and the insights into Scripture he shared with them. Students appreciated him for his “passionate teaching and personal care for us as your students. You challenge, inspire and hold us accountable to preach powerful sermons for God’s glory.”

Mulzac leaves behind his wife, Belynda, and their daughters, Breanda and Karla.

Lester Rasmussen (MA ’51) died on July 15, 2008, in College Place, Wash. He was born on March 3, 1923, in Spangle, Wash.

Lester received his degree from the Theological Seminary in Washington D.C. in absentia while he and his family were on board the Queen Mary en route to Ethiopia. During their first five-year term in Ethiopia, Lester was superintendent of the Arussi Mission and taught in the Training School. He began the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in southern Ethiopia where there had been no church. God performed miracles to make it possible for Rasmussen, a translator, and another missionary or two to drive over roads infested with deep and clenching chuck holes, over deteriorated bridges and through a river to get permission to work

where they weren’t allowed to because God had a people that needed to hear about His love.

During his second five-year term Rasmussen was Ethiopian Union Evangelist and pastor of the Addis Ababa Church. After returning home in 1962 so the children could get their education, Rasmussen pastored in different churches in the Washington and Oregon Conferences.

In 1978, Lester and Alice went to Egypt where Rasmussen was president of the Egypt Field for the next 7½ years. Following retirement, Lester worked for his son, Paul, in his autobody shop in Walla Walla, Wash.

Lester is survived by his wife, Alice; daughters June Christensen, Patsy Hixson and Linda Kolar; sons John and Paul; a brother, George; 13 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Donald Cedric Mann (BA ’51), of Sturgeon Bay, Wis., died July 15, 2008, at Door County Memorial Hospital at the age of 86.

Don graduated from Sturgeon Bay High School in 1939. After graduating from Emmanuel Missionary College, Don served as pharmacist mate with the U.S. Navy. On August 30, 1943, he married Jeanette Bertha Wilke. He was employed with the U.S. Navy office in Sturgeon Bay for 30 years as purchasing agent.

He was a member of the Sturgeon Bay Adventist Church and served as head elder and treasurer for many years, as well as serving on the Wisconsin Conference Executive committee. Don was the bookkeeper for Bayside Cemetery for many years; the clerk and assessor for the Town of Sevastopol; and held a real estate license. He maintained his fruit orchard until 2007.

Don is survived by his wife, Jeannette of Sturgeon Bay; two sons, Jerome (Shirley) of Sturgeon Bay, **James** (CERT ’72, BET ’78) and **Karen** (BS ’71, MAT ’79) **Mann**; one daughter, Claudia (**Daniel**, BS ’74, MAT ’75) **Lindow**; eight grandchildren, including **Loren** (BS ’91) and **Dawn** (BS ’90) **Mann**, **Eunita** (BA ’94) and **Gary** (BS ’94) **Collins**, **Lowell Mann** (BT ’05) and **Larissa Mann** (BS ’06).

Marilynn Marie Youngblood (MDiv ’05), of Hammond, La., died July 1, 2008, at Our Lady of The Lake Medical Center in Baton Rouge, La., at the age of 55.

Marilynn graduated from Greenville Park High School. She earned a bachelor’s degree in music and a master’s degree in music theory from Southeastern Louisiana University. She studied at the Sorbonne and the Catholic Institute in Paris, France.

Marilynn was recognized by Outstanding Young Women of America, and held membership in Delta Sigma Theta, Delta Omicron, the German Club and Phi Kappa Phi.

She is survived by two brothers, Manley Alvin and Ian Marvyn. She was preceded in death by her parents, Manley and Queenie Youngblood.

David Paul Mummert (BA ’64), of Sturgeon Bay, Wis., passed away at his home on June 30, 2008, following a lengthy illness.

David was born May 25, 1934, in Hettick, Ill. He graduated from high school in 1952 from Sunnysdale Academy in Centralia, Miss. He was drafted into the Navy and served on the aircraft carrier USS Saratoga from 1955–57. In 1964 he graduated with a BA in education with an emphasis in mathematics and with minors in physical education and religion from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Mich. It was there he met his wife, Pat Frost of Pittsville, Wis. They were married on June 3, 1963. David received his master’s degree in mathematics from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind., in 1969.

David and Pat moved to Washington where he taught at Auburn Academy from 1964–1970. While living there they adopted their first two daughters, Amy and Sara. The couple then moved their family to Caldwell, Idaho, where David taught at Gem State Academy from 1970–71. He completed his teaching career at Wisconsin Academy where he taught mathematics and physics from 1972–1999. During this time they had another daughter, Victoria.

David enjoyed working with his hands which led him to his hobby of refurbishing old houses. He remodeled houses in

both Columbus and Sturgeon Bay. He also enjoyed gardening and had a love of sailing. He cherished time spent with his grandchildren—always willing to get on the floor with them and play. He will be best remembered for his dry sense of humor, his quiet ways and his love for God.

David is survived by his wife, Pat; his three daughters, Amy Donato, Sara Lively and **Victoria Emde** (BS '95); three siblings, Robert, Rose Mary Talone and Donald; and his six grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas and Rose Mummert; and three siblings, Thomas, Gordon and Richard.

Esther Marion (Roth) Runge (att.) was born on January 28, 1929, in Cincinnati, Ohio, and passed away July 3, 2008, at her home in Laurel, Md.

She was the youngest of six children born to Daniel F. and Matilda Gatz Roth. Esther graduated from Greater New York Academy in 1946 and then accompanied her parents to Milwaukee, Wis., where her father pastored the German church. It was during an evangelistic series that she first became acquainted with her future husband, Ernest Leonard Runge of Watertown, Wis.

In 1947, Marion went to Emmanuel Missionary College in Michigan. She took classes toward a degree in home economics and secretarial science; however, her higher education came to a close when Ernie proposed marriage.

Marion and Ernie were married on Sept. 4, 1949. They established residence in Berrien Springs, Mich., where Ernie was first a student and then a full-time employee of Emmanuel Missionary College.

In 1959, they received a call to Washington Missionary College (now Columbia Union College), in Takoma Park, Md., which started 43 years of residence in the Washington metropolitan area. Then in 1969, the General Conference gave them a call to serve at Middle East College in Beirut, Lebanon.

In Beirut, Marion served in the administrative office and continued her college education in addition to her duties as a homemaker. Because of the political situa-

tion in Lebanon, they returned to the U.S. in 1976 and Ernie was employed by the Columbia Union Conference.

For a period of 18 years, Marion worked at the Home Study International offices, located in Takoma Park, and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Silver Spring, Md. In 2002, both Marion and Ernie retired from active service. For over 20 years she also fulfilled the role of “pastor’s wife” at Seventh-day Adventist churches in Berkley Springs, Williamsport, Reisterstown, Westminster and Triadelphia.

She is survived by Ernie, her husband of 58 years, and her three daughters: Kathy Runge, Pamela Runge and Vicki Rosette; her older brother, Don A. Roth; and three grandchildren.

Hazel D. (Johnson) Lashier (BA '59), 97, passed away in Redlands, Calif., on March 28, 2008, after a brief illness.

She attended Walla Walla College during the height of the Great Depression. There she met her husband, **Harvey M. Lashier, Sr.** (former faculty), whom she married on Sept. 8, 1931. She accompanied him as he spent many years teaching mathematics and physics in Adventist institutions, including Avondale College, Pacific Union College and Emmanuel Missionary College. Harvey taught physics at EMC from 1947–1959.

In the 1940s and 50s she was well known in the southwestern Michigan area as a frequent winner in creative writing contests, with her most significant win being a new 1949 Ford sedan. She worked as a medical receptionist and secretary in Niles, Mich., and while still working, resumed her college education at EMC. She graduated with her oldest son, **Harvey M. Lashier, Jr.** (BA '59), when both received their bachelor’s degrees on May 31, 1959.

Shortly thereafter the family relocated to Glendale, Calif., where she continued to work as a medical receptionist and secretary until her retirement in 1987. During her retirement years she made many items of children’s clothing which she donated to orphanages and missions.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Harvey, Sr., in 1976. Surviving

family members include her daughter, Pat Horsman; her sons, Harvey, Robert and Donald; several nephews and nieces, grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Mildred McConnell (att.) passed away in November 2007. She was 85 years old. A devoted member of the Adventist church, she looked forward to the resurrection morning when she would see Jesus.

Mildred worked as an executive secretary to William Loveless in the Southern California Conference Office when she was barely out of college. After her marriage to John W. McConnell, they spent 23 years in Modesto, Calif., where she worked for Dr. Archie Toinge and then as medical transcriber at the Modesto City Hospital.

She spent five years in Hawai where she did transcribing at Castle Hospital, then moved to City Heights, a suburb of Sacramento, Calif., where she was a medical transcriber for a number of years at the Roseville Community Hospital.

She was active in the Dorcas Society of the Carmichael Church and made many quilts for the needy. Although she had liver cancer, she had no pain, which was a blessing. She is mourned by her many friends, some of whom were her college friends at Emmanuel Missionary College.

Keep us informed

Send birth, wedding, and funeral announcements with a daytime telephone number to:

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