

Deaths

Herbert Allen Holden (att.) died August 8, 2016, in San Diego, California.

Herb was born January 7, 1920, in Hinsdale, Illinois, the only child of William Henry and Sadie Holden. At the time of his birth his father was the president of the Illinois Seventh-day Adventist Conference.



His childhood was primarily spent in Berrien Springs, Michigan where his father had been transferred as president of the Lake Union Conference. He attended school in Berrien Springs from the 4th grade through two years of college at what is now Andrews University. His final two years of undergraduate studies were completed at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Herb was steeped in a culture of service and dedication to faith and values. His mother was adamant that the only acceptable professions were a minister, teacher or doctor. Doctor it was!

In the fall of 1939, at the age of 18, Herb began his studies at Loma Linda University Medical School in California, graduating in 1944. Upon leaving medical school Herb entered the U.S. Navy serving as a Lieutenant. His first year of military service was served as an intern at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Farragut, Idaho (a 5,000-bed hospital treating patients with acute

diseases including pneumonia and meningitis).

In 1945 he was assigned to The Sea Partridge, an ocean liner put into service with the military to transport 3,000 troops and 50 corpsmen to Okinawa and the Philippines. These were unique times for a 25-year-old new doctor. In the seas off Okinawa a Kamikaze pilot hit a ship in his convoy. Given the shortages of supplies during wartime, Herb removed the appendix of a young soldier using open drop ether as anesthesia.

Upon discharge from the Navy in 1949, Herb joined the busy O.B. practice of Raleigh Brines in Santa Barbara, California. He left a year later to establish a family practice with his medical school colleague, Michael Corbett and his partner John Simpkin. Finding this busy practice focused on women and children very satisfying, he served the San Leandro community for 45 years, until 1995.

Early in his practice of medicine, Herb became a leader in the medical community. Partnering with several other young physicians they established and developed a badly needed 100-bed general hospital, Doctors Hospital of San Leandro, which was later acquired by the Humana hospital organization.

As his local practice thrived in San Leandro, he became increasingly involved in medical politics. His professional accomplishments included: 1948 president, San Leandro Kiwanis Club; 1960 first Chief of Staff at Doctors Hospital San Leandro; 1969 president of Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association; 1967 president of California Academy of General Practice; 1974 national president of the 60,000-member American Academy of Family Practice; and 1974 national president of

the certifying Board of Family Physicians.

Herb retired to Palm Desert in 1995 and enjoyed golf, traveling, family and his faith.

He is survived by four daughters: Carol Promessi (Phil), Lisa Gilardi (Jim), Ardythe Warren (Darren) and Susan Holden, eight grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren.

Carol Ann Brady Dennis (former faculty) died unexpectedly in her home in Berrien Springs on August 2, 2016, at the age of 81.



Carol was born on Christmas Eve, 1934 in Takoma Park, Maryland to John and Barbara (Stacy) Brady. She graduated from Duke University in 1957 with a degree in nursing, and Loma Linda University in 1959 with a master's in nursing.

She married Thomas Elmer Dennis in 1965. Carol was a nursing professor at Loma Linda University and Andrews University and was a working licensed RN for over 40 years.

Her children remember her as a driven, professional, working single mother who encouraged them to pursue excellence.

Carol was an accomplished quilter of more than 100 handmade quilts, all of which she gave away, never taking a single penny in payment. She was a unique individual who loved the healthcare profession

and who was passionate about educating students. She was an active and dedicated member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and often volunteered during her retirement years in Pathfinders and Maranatha building projects.

Carol is survived by her children, **Mary Ruth Davis** (att.) and son-in-law Brian Patrick Davis, and **Twyla Eileen Smith** (BA '93, MSW '08, current faculty) and son-in-law **Jeffrey Wayman Smith** (BA '93, current staff); siblings, Jane Spear of Hagerstown, Maryland, and James Brady of Moncure, North Carolina; and grandchildren: Kollyn, Meagen, Aidyn and Eryn Davis. She was preceded in death by her brother, Jack Brady; and sister, Janice Gaster.

Richard M. Rideout (BA '69) passed away quietly July 16, 2016, after a valiant battle with an aggressive cancer.

Richard was born to Dorothy M. and **Richard F. Rideout** (MA '59) on Feb. 12, 1945, in Berrien Springs, Michigan. He returned to Berrien Springs to complete his Bachelor of Arts in history from Andrews University and continued to live there until April 2016 when he went to live in Yucaipa, California, with his sister and brother-in-law to obtain medical care from Loma Linda University Hospital.

Richard was a journeyman printer and worked in that career until 1975 when he began what he referred to as his "true calling," working for Stanley Hill at Your Story Hour, the children's radio ministry based in Berrien Springs. The rest of his life was shaped by his work at YSH, and he continued to faithfully serve his Lord in that ministry until his death.

Richard was born with a passion for cars, from his first toys to his last pickup truck. If

you wanted to start a conversation with him, cars were always a good topic. History was also a passion for him, especially researching civil war and black history as well as Seventh-day Adventist history. He spent many happy hours volunteering at the Battle Creek Adventist Village.

He is survived by his sister and brother-in-law, **Constance (Rideout)** (BA '70) and **Lester Lorenz** (att.); his brother, Stephen A. Rideout; two nieces, **Amy Lorenz** (BS '95) and Rachel Rideout; a nephew, Lars Lorenz and his wife Christina; and two great-nephews, Jakob and Lukas. An aunt and uncle, **Edith** (BA '58) and **Stanley** (BA '61) **Applegate**, and an aunt, Dorothy Metzger, and numerous cousins and friends also mourn his passing.

Retired Seventh-day Adventist evangelist **C.D. Brooks** (Honorary DD '85) died on June 5, 2016, after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer.



Charles Decatur (C.D.) Brooks was born in Greensboro, North Carolina, on July 24, 1930, the tenth child of Marvin and Mattie Brooks.

Brooks was convicted to change his career plans from dentistry to ministry in 1947 after attending an evangelistic tent meeting. He graduated from Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) in Huntsville, Alabama, in 1951 with a degree in theology.

Brooks' first love was evangelism and he continued to conduct meetings after taking on the role of church administrator for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

At Oakwood, Brooks met the love of his life, Walterene Wagner, daughter of John H. Wagner Sr., a stalwart of 20th century black Adventism. They were married on Sept. 14, 1952, at the Ebenezer Seventh-day Adventist Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

He served the Columbia Union as a pastor, evangelist and administrator until 1971, working mostly in Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey and Ohio.

In 1971 Brooks was asked by GC President Robert Pierson to serve as a field secretary for the Seventh-day Adventist world church, a role he held until 1995, making him the longest tenured field secretary in church history. While serving at the GC, Brooks took on the dual role as speaker/director for the Breath of Life Ministry, a new television ministry of the GC that was produced at the Adventist Media Center in Thousand Oaks, California.

Brooks partnered with Walter Arties, Louis B. Reynolds and the Breath of Life Quartet to produce television programming that reached out to audiences all around the world. In 1989 the ministry was broadcast on Black Entertainment Television (BET), and reached a potential audience of more than 90 million people a week. Brooks was speaker/director of Breath of Life Ministries for 23 years, from 1974 to 1997.

In 1996 health challenges forced Brooks to retire from the General Conference and in 1997 he stepped down as speaker-director for Breath of Life.

Brooks had a long and productive retirement and in 2007, in honor of E.E. Cleveland, Charles Bradford, and C.D. Brooks, the

Bradford-Cleveland-Brooks Leadership Center (BCBLC) was established on the campus of Oakwood University.

On Dec. 1, 2010, the Ellen G. White Estate elected Brooks a lifetime member of the Ellen G. White Estate Board. The North American Division invited Brooks to be its chaplain in residence in 2013, a position he held until his death.

Brooks is survived by his beloved wife of almost 64 years, **Walterene** (att.), his children Diedre and **Charles "Skip" Jr.** (att.), and three grandchildren.

(Used by permission of Adventist Review. Photo courtesy of the Brooks family.)

David K. Peshka (DIP2YR '48, BA '52), died on Monday, May 30, 2016, at his home in Niles, Michigan.

Peshka was born November 17, 1918, in Chicago, the son of Carl and Katerina (Lutz) Peshka. He was a World War II veteran, having served with the Army Air Corps. He moved to Niles and established a medical practice which served the community for over 50 years. He was an active member of the Niles Westside Adventist Church where he had served in many positions.

Survivors include his wife, Elinor; two sons, Ken (Dana) of Grand Rapids and Dan (Debby) of Holland; two daughters, **Deborah** (BS '80) of Niles and **Dawn** (att.) (Erik) of Arcata, California; stepdaughter, Phyllis (Bill) Shupp of Edwardsburg; four grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, **Justina (Batiuk) Peshka** (att.), in 2006.

Royce Clomaine Thompson (BA '51, MA '68), 85, died April 28, 2016 in Redlands, California.

Born July 7, 1930, in Hinsdale, Illinois, he was the last of three



children. His parents, **Frank Stuart** (BA '18) and **Vina Miles Thompson** (DIP3YR '18) accepted a call to Jamaica when Royce was 5 years old. He attended a local church school in Jamaica while his mother taught and also did home school along with his sister. His parents transferred to Havana, Cuba when Royce was 12 years old. His older brother, **Garth** (BA '46, MA '59, BD 67), by that time was attending Andrews University in Michigan. At the age of 15 Royce and his older sister, **Iris** (DIP2YR '50), also joined the student roster at Andrews—first as academy students and then in college.

Royce graduated in 1951 with a business degree and began working in the Illinois Conference ABC while waiting for his bride-to-be, Elaine Christensen (also of missionary parents), to finish her degree at Andrews. However, during that year he was drafted into the Army where he served for two years—one year of which was in Korea at the height of the conflict.

He and Elaine were married in Miami where Elaine had worked in the Inter-American Division office while waiting for his discharge. They returned to the Illinois Conference where Royce served as assistant treasurer. Three years later the couple was called to the IAD Antillean Union's Bella Vista Hospital in Puerto Rico where Royce served first as treasurer, then became

the administrator for the remainder of 13 years.

During a nine-month furlough between 1967 and 1968, Royce pursued his MBA at Andrews University, returned to Bella Vista Hospital, and a year later, (1969) was invited to move the family to the Far Eastern Division where he served a short time as business manager of Thailand's Bangkok Adventist Hospital, then became the administrator. In 1974 the family moved to the Southeast Asia Union headquarters based in Singapore where Royce undertook the oversight of Southeast Asia's six hospitals and served as Union treasurer.

The conflict in Vietnam was coming to an end in April 1975. Royce was part of the team of Union and Division church leaders that met in Saigon to close the Saigon Adventist Hospital. The evacuation of many local church leaders and hospital workers was an historic event for the denomination. In 1977 Royce became the assistant treasurer of the Far Eastern Division and in 1980 the family took permanent return as their two children pursued college education in the U.S.

In the fall of 1980 Royce joined the administrative staff of Florida Hospital in Orlando where he served 17 years in various capacities, the last six of which as the CEO of the newly acquired Florida Hospital Waterman in Eustis. There he undertook the planning process to build a new hospital and initiated mission trips for employees through the Maranatha organization. He retired in 1997.

Royce and Elaine moved to Southern California in 1999 to coincide with becoming grandparents.

Royce is survived by his wife, **Elaine** (BA '52); daughter Cheryl T. Galusha, nurse educator of Spokane, Washington; son,

Kevin S. Thompson; and two grandchildren, Kara and Alex Thompson.

Robert Edward Stringer (att.), 91, of Stevensville, Michigan, died on April 27, 2016.

Bob was born Feb. 17, 1925, in South Bend, Indiana, to George Franklin and Mary Mabel (Gillaspy) Stringer. He graduated from EMC Academy in 1943. The family attended church at the Old Courthouse building, which at that time housed the Village Seventh-day Adventist Church. He attended EMC for one year, then Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska, with a two-year pre-dentistry degree.

Robert married Gladys Pearl Covert on Jan. 18, 1947, in Michigan City, Indiana. He worked at Josam Manufacturing for many years in shipping and inventory control, then most recently in his retirement years at Packaging Group. He served as head elder and church treasurer in the Michigan City church.

Bob is survived by his wife, Gladys; daughter **Linda** (MS '51) and her husband **Edgar** (att.) **Lockwitz** of Stevensville, and sons Robert B. (Susan) Stringer of Berrien Springs, Kurtis (Kathy) Stringer of W. Sacramento, California, and Matthew (Ruth) Stringer of Arcadia, Indiana; 10 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Virginia; and brother, James.

Phyllis Antonia Roberson (DIP2YR '50), 84, died April 15, 2016, in Altadena, California.

She was born to the late Leon and Mildred Mae (Jackson) Street on Oct. 29, 1931. Although she was born in The Bronx, New York, her family home was in Millsboro. It was there that she spent most of her childhood tending to the family garden and



chicken farm, learning to can homegrown fruit and vegetables, cooking farm-fresh food and baked goods, sewing, quilting, braiding rag rugs, and developing many life skills.

Phyllis attended high school at Pine Forge Academy in Pennsylvania. In 1949, she attended Emmanuel Missionary College, where she studied pre-nursing. She received her BSN in 1954 from Loma Linda University in California, and a master's degree in nursing from UCLA in 1977.

Phyllis' life was one of service to her family, church and community. In 1955, she married her sweetheart, Robert L. Roberson Jr., and together they had one daughter, Jan M. De Andrade, with whom she was very close. She was also the proud grandmother of two grandchildren, Ariana Roland and Charles Roland IV. She enjoyed caring for and spending time with them. She was also blessed with a great-granddaughter, Savannah Holland, with whom she enjoyed weekly FaceTime chats.

Phyllis deeply loved the Lord and was committed to the Altadena Seventh-day Adventist Church. There, she volunteered her time by serving on the Usher Board, Sabbath School Department, and Health and Temperance Committee, just to name a few. She was also a member of numerous organizations, including the Las Donas

Club, Alexis Club, Glendale Academy Home and School Board Association, Wives of the Bench and Bar Association, and the Nanticoke Indian Association.

Phyllis was very proud of her family's Native American heritage. As a member of the Nanticoke Indian Tribe, located along the Indian River in Delaware, she shared her Native pride with friends and family alike. Phyllis also had many hobbies, including sewing, traveling, cooking/baking, and helping others in need.

Phyllis's husband, the Honorable Robert L. Roberson Jr., to whom she was married for over 60 years, predeceased her two months earlier.

She is survived by her daughter, Jan De Andrade (Dieco); two grandchildren, one great-granddaughter and a host of brothers-and sisters-in-law, nephews, nieces and cousins.