

then back to Hutchinson and Minneapolis, Minnesota. Their next pastorates were all in Illinois: Downers Grove, Waukegan, Round Lake, Rockford, Elgin and DeKalb.

The Coyles retired in 1996 and moved to Crossville, Tennessee. Jerry then pastored in Pikeville, Tennessee for one year. In 2014 they moved to Maryville.

Jerry is survived by his wife of 58 years, Virginia; one daughter, **Sharon** (BS '82) and **Don Johnson** (BS '81) of Seymour, Tennessee; one son, **Larry** (AS '83, BS '86) of Benton Harbor, Michigan; and two grandchildren.

**Verna Sylvesta (Renschler) Brenneise** (att.) died peacefully in Lodi, California after a short illness on March 16, 2016, at the age of 95.

Verna was born on Feb. 8, 1921, in Leola, South Dakota to David and Martha Renschler. She graduated from Hinsdale School of Nursing in 1945 and with a degree in physical therapy from Loma Linda University in 1946. She married Ed Brenneise in 1946.

Her nursing career was at Stanford University Hospital and El Camino Hospital, Mountain View, California. She particularly enjoyed singing in church choirs and extensive world travel with her husband.

She is survived by her husband Ehud (Ed) and sister Evangeline Pflugrad of Sunland, California, her daughter **Linda** (BMus '71, MMus '72) and **Ed Mack** (att.) of Denver, Colorado; son **Harvey Brenneise** (BA '73, MA '74) of Seattle, Washington; and daughter Carmen Brenneise of Cameron Park, California; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her brother **Clarence Renschler** (MA '57).

**Charlotte Virginia Groff** (BA '54, MA '65, PhD '86) died March 12, 2016. She was born August 9, 1932 in Hinsdale, Illinois and died in the house in Berrien Springs she had lived in her entire life.



Charlotte was an only child, born to Virginia Fairchild Boone and Earle Groff. Her education was entirely at Emmanuel Missionary College (later Andrews University) with a BA in English (minor in French), MA in Middle English and PhD in educational psychology.

She worked as a school teacher until she retired at 70. One year she taught in Benton Harbor, but the rest of her career was with Coloma, Michigan schools. Her specialty was teaching early reading in the younger grades. During the summers she worked with the Migrant Program.

Charlotte took an interest in genealogy, traveling out East to do research. She was a member of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and Daughters of the American Revolution and she signed up many relatives to these organizations. For years she was an officer in the local DAR chapter. In that position she read and judged many high school essays and then traveled around to the high schools in the county handing out awards.

Her faith, her religion and her church were an important part

of her life. She was baptized at age 8 into the Seventh-day Adventist Church, joining the Andrews campus church that later became Pioneer Memorial Church. She was a member for 75 years, making her the longest member of that congregation.

Charlotte attended every Alumni Homecoming banquet at Andrews University beginning her senior year as an undergraduate student and every single year, without fail, until her death. Which means she attended every banquet from 1954–2016 (61 banquets!). She was one of the reunion leaders for her 60th reunion in 2014.

Her father died in 1944 and her mother died in 1968. Therefore, she spent most of her life without her parents. Her closest relatives were her cousins Mary Jane Kimmel Chavez and George T. Kimmel Jr. She took an interest in George's children; **Mary Ann** (BA '66) and Tom. Having never married, she had no children of her own.

She quit watching football in 1974 when Johnny Unitas retired. After her retirement she continued with an active life, driving, doing DAR work, and helping with the church until the end. Charlotte had a strong personality with an interest in family traditions. She will be missed by all who knew her.

**William (Bill) R. Bornstein** (BA '49, MA '51), 90, died Feb. 18, 2016, in Sanford, Florida. He was born to Benjamin and Lena Bornstein on July 28, 1925, in Paterson, New Jersey.

When his family relocated to Rhode Island, he developed his love of the sea. The New England work ethic became his life's motto: "It is not what you start that counts, but what you finish."

Born to a Jewish father with ties to more than 250 family



members killed in the Holocaust, he was drafted into WWII in September 1943, serving in the United States Navy as a pharmacist's mate, second class, until an honorable discharge in April 1946.

In 1949, he graduated with a BA from Emmanuel Missionary College. He married Marilyn Eliene Fellows on June 4, 1950. In 1951, he graduated with an MA from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in Takoma Park, Maryland and by 1953 received his ordination. In 1984, he completed doctoral studies at Fuller Theological Seminary in Thousand Oaks, California.

His life represents one of total dedication, devotion and service in ministry. His 42 years of denominational service included pastoral work, evangelism and administrative positions in the following conferences: Pennsylvania, Ohio, Rocky Mountain, Greater New York, Upper Columbia, Ontario, Canadian Union and ending with Florida. Retiring in 1992, he continued evangelism and guest-speaking appointments with Florida Conference on a volunteer basis for the next eight years.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, **Marilyn** (att.); one daughter, **Bonnie Bornstein-Rodriguez** (former staff) and son-in-law **Santiago Rodriguez** (M.Div. '94, D.Min. '04); and two grandsons, James-Ryan and

**Miroslav M. Kiš** (former faculty), professor emeritus of ethics, died Feb. 23, 2016, from a heart attack.

Miroslav Kiš was born in Mikluševci, a small village in the country of Yugoslavia, on Nov. 20, 1942. He was the tenth of 11 children born to Andrija and Natalija Kiš. When he was 2 years old, his father was killed near the end of WWII while warning the village of impending bombardment. This was the beginning of severe poverty for his family. During his elementary schooling, he was often hospitalized for malnutrition.

Miroslav's early years living under communism strengthened his faith in God. As a young child of 8, he chose to stand up for his beliefs when beaten by his teacher for not attending school on Saturdays. This faith was again tested during his obligatory military service when he was court-martialed for refusing to participate in Saturday exercises. When he appeared before the judge he was asked why he refused. He said it was a matter of conscience. "Oh?" The judge said, "Tell me about this." He proceeded to relate his experience when he was 8 years old. When he was finished, the judge said, "I wish we had more communists like you." He was given his Saturdays off in exchange for Sunday duties.

Like others in his family, Miroslav took up watchmaking and repair as a professional trade, working on tiny ring watches as well as steeple clocks. But his greatest joy was expressed when he began to compose music and lyrics which were published in the Yugoslavian SDA hymnal and sung at youth congresses and other church gatherings.

Desiring to further his education and feeling the call of God to the ministry, he applied and was accepted to study at Séminaire Adventiste du Salève, Collonges, France, where he attended from 1968 until



1973. While studying theology there, he met **Brenda Bond** (MA '93), an American studying French. In 1971 he traveled to the United States for the first time and they were married in Brenda's home state of California. They spent their first two years of married life at Collonges where he finished his degree with honors.

Back in California he studied further before moving to Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, to pursue a Master of Divinity at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. While studying, he supported the family by repairing watches dropped off at Krause Pharmacy (in the building now occupied by the Journal Era). Their firstborn son, **Andrej** (BA '00, MA '04), arrived in June 1976.

Upon graduating that year in December with his degree, he and his family moved to Montreal, Quebec, Canada, where he pastored and served as youth director for the Quebec Mission as well as pursuing his PhD in philosophical ethics at McGill University.

Their second son, **Adam** (BA '00), joined the family in June 1978. In 1980 the family moved to College Heights, Alberta, Canada where he taught in the religion department at Canadian Union College (now Burman University).

In 1983 Miroslav graduated from McGill University and was immediately offered a position teaching theology at the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. In 1986 he became chair of the Department of Theology & Christian Philosophy, where he was instrumental in developing the ethics program over the 32 years he taught there.

Throughout the years of his career at the seminary, he frequently traveled around the world as a speaker, lecturer and consultant on ethical matters. He wrote articles for Adventist publications as well as refereed journals. He contributed to chapters in several books, and authored one book, "Follow Me." Miroslav left an impression on the Seventh-day Adventist Church through his contributions to many committees of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Over the years he mentored thousands of students who now serve as pastors, academicians and church administrators throughout the world.

But above all his pastoral and academic endeavors, Miroslav made his family a priority, even in his career decisions. As often as possible he took them on trips, whether domestic or abroad, and frequently visited his extended family in Europe and California. That was the area where he wanted to leave the greatest legacy of all.

He is survived by his wife Brenda, sons Andrej and Adam, daughters-in-law Daisy and **Kristi** (BSELED '00), and grandchildren Zachary, Julie and Cedric.

Michael Rodriguez. He was predeceased by his parents and his brother, **Leonard Bornstein** (BA '58).

**James (Jim) Richard Davidson** (BA '51) died on Feb. 3, 2016, in Avon Park, Florida.

Born on August 6, 1926, he was almost 90 years old. During his life he became a father of

five, an ordained minister, a registered architect and a crusader for mission work around the world.

He met **Dottie Shasky** (att.) at Emmanuel Missionary College and they married on June 1, 1948.

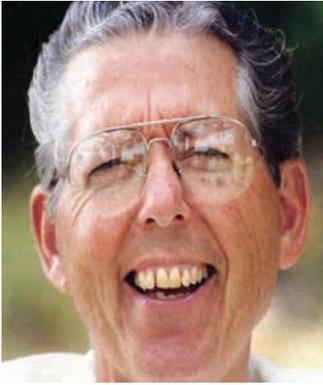
Together they raised **James (Jim) Davidson Jr.** (att.), **Joni Davidson Picukaric** (att.), **Brent Davidson** (att.), **John Davidson**

(att.) and **Bonnie Beth Davidson Briggs** (BBA '86). He was also a father to Jim Jr.'s wife, **Virginia** (att.); Joni's husband, Duro Picukaric; Brent's wife, Kristen; and was a teacher and mentor to Bonnie's husband, **Bill Briggs** (BSAS '83, BArch '86), who is also an architect.

During his time in the U.S. Air Force Service (1944–46) he was

stationed in France, Morocco, French West Africa, Liberia and Germany. After returning to the U.S., he continued his spiritual journey of service in the Michigan Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and was ordained as a minister in 1964.

He served as principal of the Holly SDA Elementary School, a full-time pastor for the Michigan



**Bill Davidson** (professor emeritus), his five children and grandchildren Carol June Davidson Walker, Rebecca Davidson Cutler, Natasha Davidson, **Heather Briggs** (current student) and JJ Briggs. His three great-grandchildren were the light of his life.

Conference, a part-time pastor for the Arizona Conference, and assistant chaplain at Battle Creek Sanitarium from 1964–1974.

Jim was employed by Sarvis and Associates Architectural Firm (1956–1962 and 1964–1976) and participated in the planning, design and construction supervision of more than 20 individual structures in Michigan. These included projects at Michigan State University, Alma College, Kellogg Community College and others. He was responsible for the renovations made to the Battle Creek Sanitarium and the construction of a new wing.

He went on to assist in the development of the Andrews University School of Architecture, and finished his career setting up an architectural practice—Davidson & Associates.

Jim and Dottie managed the sale of her Uncle Fred Shasky's properties, which were willed to Wildwood Sanitarium Inc. With the proceeds, they funded and established churches, school and health clinics around the world.

Many of these projects required both logistical and architectural support and Jim and Dottie gave freely of themselves and their time. Students from Andrews University often joined them under the support of Maranatha.

Jim was instrumental in the development and support of ASI, OCI, ARM and ASAP.

Jim is survived by his brother,

**Anna (Homenchuk) Klimes** (EdD '77), 86, died peacefully in her sleep on Dec. 29, 2015, in her home in Folsom, California.

Although she had suffered from osteoporosis for many years, she continued to be an active member of her community, church and family.

Anna was born to Ukrainian immigrants in Saskatchewan, Canada in 1929. She was married in 1954, received her bachelor's degree from Walla Walla College (1957), her master's degree from Indiana University (1964), and her doctorate in education from Andrews University (1977).

Her work has been an amazing tour around the world, serving on three continents, Asia, Europe and North America. She taught every level of students from elementary through graduate school. She was best known for her work with high-school and college students challenged by reading disabilities and directing total immersion English programs.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years, **Rudolf E. Klimes** (MA '77, former faculty), her three children, **Anita Heidi Borrowdale** (BS '81), **Bonnie Klimes-Dougan** (att.), and Randy Klimes, and their spouses (**Greg Borrowdale** (att.), Jack Dougan and Lindsay Klimes), six grandchildren, and seven siblings.

**Gordon Schuyler Travis** (MA '60) passed away at his home on Nov. 23, 2015, in Orlando, Florida. He was 89 years old and had



advanced Parkinson's disease.

He was born in Boise, Idaho on Sept. 2, 1926, the only child of David and Ethel (Mudge) Travis. Gordon's mother died when he was 10 years old

Gordon and his father were charter members of the Springfield, Oregon Adventist Church. He graduated from Laurelwood Academy in 1945.

On July 3, 1945, Gordon entered the U.S. Army at Fort Lewis, Washington. He was a medic (surgical technician) and served in China in the Army of Occupation. He received a WWII Victory Medal and was honorably discharged in 1947.

He earned a Bachelor of Theology in 1951 from Walla Walla College.

Gordon was married to Verna (Sackett) on June 18, 1950. For 65 years they celebrated their wedding day on the 18th of each month with a dish of ice cream. Gordon said he would never remember anything once a year, therefore they have celebrated 785 anniversaries!

In 1952 they moved to Bremerton, Washington, where Gordon served a four-year apprenticeship at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, graduating as a journeyman marine pipefitter in 1957.

In 1958 the family moved to Washington, D.C., where the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary was then

located. Gordon graduated June 18, 1960 with a master's degree in Bible and systematic theology with a minor in applied theology with the first class of Andrews University.

After graduation, Gordon was employed by the Northern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for ten years as an assistant pastor, pastor and evangelist.

For 17 years Gordon worked at St. Helena Hospital and Health Center, Deer Park, California, also serving as a volunteer chaplain. He retired in 1988.

After Verna retired, the family moved to Texas where they worked in evangelism, until ill health necessitated a return to the Northwest.

Gordon loved to read and travel. Between him and his wife Verna, they have been in 48 of the 50 United States.

Gordon is survived by his wife of 65 years, Verna, of Orlando, Florida, daughter Ruth (Daniel) Hanson, son Jonathan (Patricia) Travis, three stepsisters: Ester Dunton, Helen Kisse and Aletha Huddleston, five grandchildren, one great-grandson, and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his oldest son, David LeRoy Travis, and his stepbrother Lowell Bender.