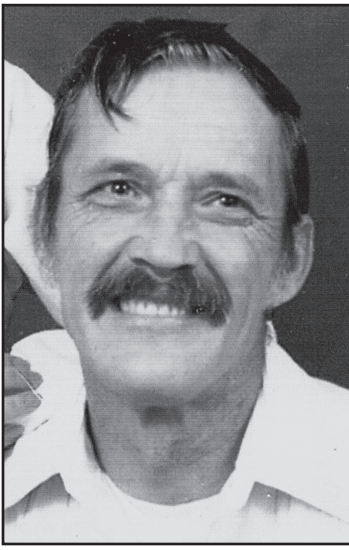


Obituaries

Curtis Eugene Adkins of Wayne



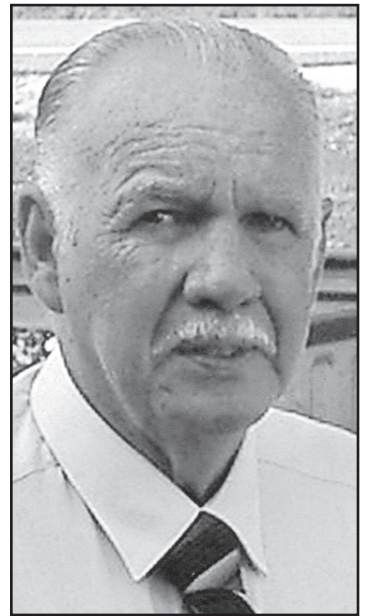
Curtis Eugene Adkins, 78, of Wayne, WV passed away on Friday, April 28, 2017 at his residence. Funeral services will be conducted at 2:00 p.m. Thursday, May 4, 2017 at Morris Funeral Home Chapel, Wayne with Minister James Burlile officiating. Burial will follow at Elmwood Cemetery, Wayne. He was born on March 22, 1939, in Wayne County, a son of the late Cephas and Mollie Boggs Adkins. Curtis was a retired employee of Chadwicks Butcher Shop. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by four brothers; Talmadge, Edgar, Timothy and Richard Adkins; three sisters, Loretta Adkins, Ethel Tabor and infant Doris Adkins and one great grandchild Caleb Legg. Survivors include three daughters; Angela Walker and husband Tom; Karen Tomblin and husband Jim and Brenda Burlile and husband Jimmy; three sons, Bobby Adkins and wife Mary; Dennis Adkins and Billy Followay; one brother Carroll Adkins and wife Connie of Wayne; one sister, Sharon Aliff and husband George of Wayne; 16 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Visitation will be held from 1:00 p.m. until service time Thursday at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Morris Funeral Home to assist with funeral expenses.

Delsie Napier Adkins of Lavalette



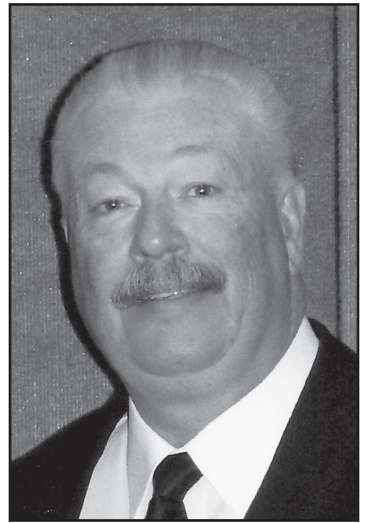
Delsie Napier Adkins, 81 of Lavalette, WV, went home to be with the Lord Saturday, April 29, 2017 at her residence. Funeral services will be conducted 10:00 am Monday, May 1, 2017 at Morris Funeral Home Chapel by Pastor Toney Cox, Rev. Leston Followay and Brother James Dillon. Burial will follow at Mills Cemetery, Wayne, WV. She was born February 19, 1936, but "Forever 39" in East Lynn, WV, a daughter of the late, Robert Lee Napier and Norma C. Mills Napier. Her husband, Charley J. Adkins also preceded her in death, along with an infant son, Jackie Leonard Adkins and a grandson, Gary Lee Adkins. Delsie was a retired cook for Wayne County Schools with 26 years of service and was a member of Newcomb Creek Church of God. She was especially proud to be from a family of twenty-two children and loved her family unconditionally. She was always eager to brag on her grandchildren and told each of them they were her favorite. Her friends and family will remember her most for her selflessness and strength. Survivors include a daughter, Vickey Trautwein of Wayne, WV; three sons, Johnny Adkins and wife, Kathy of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Tony Adkins and wife, Tammy of Wayne, WV, and Ted Adkins of Lavalette, WV; sisters, Julie Adkins of Wayne, WV, Ruby Watts of Wadsworth, OH, her twin, Elsie Dean of Wayne, WV; three brothers, R. L. Napier of Indiana, Lonnie Napier and wife, Sandy of Ona, WV; Shirley Napier and wife, Ilona of South Point, Ohio; six grandchildren, Carey Lynn Dillon and husband, James of Wayne, WV, Sarah Adkins of Tennessee, Kimmy Mathews and husband, T.J. of Huntington, WV, Lauren Daniels of Wayne, WV, Gunner Daniels of Wayne, WV, and John Curtis Boyd of Wayne, WV; and four great-grandchildren, Johnathan Adkins, JoJo Mathews, Aubrey Dillon and Trent Dillon; a friend whom she loved as a daughter, Lesley Ann Waggoner and a special friend, Aldena Osburn who was always by her side. Friends may call from 6 to 9 pm Sunday, April 30, 2017 at Morris Funeral Home, Wayne, WV. The family would like to thank Hospice of Huntington along with Dr. Silbermins and the staff of HIMG.

Wallace Ray Marshall of Wayne



Wallace Ray Marshall, 79, of Wayne, WV, passed away Saturday, April 29, 2017 at his residence. Funeral services will be conducted 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at Morris Funeral Home Chapel, Wayne, WV, with Brother Jeremy Marshall officiating. Burial will follow at the Mills-Vaughan Cemetery at Wayne. He was born February 27, 1938 at Wayne, WV, a son of the late Wallace and Sarah Queen Mills Marshall. He was retired from the Huntington Publishing Company. In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by a sister-in-law, Pat Blankenship. Survivors include his wife, Deanna Blankenship Marshall; a daughter, Cynthia Adkins (Lonnie) of Wayne, WV; two sons, Wallace Ray "Wally" Marshall, Jr. (Tina) of Wayne, WV and Christopher Marshall (Becky Plumley), also of Wayne; six grandchildren, Brandy Smith (Jeremy), Joshua Cade, Caleb Fenton, Jeremy Marshall (Kelly), Jon Marshall, and Taylor Marshall; five great-grandchildren, Kaitlin Smith, Benjamin Smith, Nicholas Smith, Will Marshall and Bray Marshall. Words best said by Ray's grandson, Joshua... "With a heavy heart I must say that papaw Ray Marshall was my hero and my inspiration. He instilled in me the love of aviation and art like none other, his skills with a brush unmatched, his jokes honest, clean and uplifting and his stories an adventure of their own right." Friends may call one hour prior to services Tuesday at Morris Funeral Home.

Jerrell Lee Simmons of Huntington



Jerrell Lee Simmons, 70 of Huntington, WV passed away Friday, April 28, 2017 surrounded by his loving family. He was a son of the late Charles Edward and Maxine Rose Effingham Simmons. Jerrell was born January 25, 1947 in Huntington. He had worked as an insurance salesman for Appalachian Insurance Company. He has been enjoying retirement with his wife and his love for the outdoors including hunting and fishing. Jerrell also had a great appreciation for art and enjoyed writing poetry. He was a member of Bethel Temple Assembly of God Church. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Yvonne Sue. Survivors include his beloved wife, Marlene McCloud Simmons; one son, Lane (Sarah) Simmons of Springfield, MO; two precious grandchildren, Zechariah and Grace Simmons; two sisters, Lois Ann (Jimmy) Barber of Fayetteville, NC and Misty (Mike) Nicholas of Barboursville, WV and several nieces and nephews. Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 4, 2017 at Rollins Funeral Home in Kenova, WV. There will be no funeral services. Flowers will be accepted and appreciated or memorial contributions may be made to Bethel Temple Assembly of God Church at 900 9th St., Huntington, WV 25701. Online condolences may be expressed at www.rollinsfh.com.

Gregory Joseph Thompson of Fort Gay

Gregory Joseph Thompson, 39, of Fort Gay, WV passed away Monday, May 1, 2017 at Three Rivers Medical Center in Louisa, Ky. Gregory was born January 17, 1978 in Dade City Florida a son of the late Bobby Joe and Racine Curry Thompson. Gregory was a mason in the construction field. In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by two brothers, Bobby Thompson and Andrew Thompson. Survivors include his loving wife, Lori Ellerbee Thompson of Fort Gay, WV; five children, Jessica Thompson of Roxboro, NC; Tiffany Thompson, Robert Thompson, Laurel Thompson and Bobby Thompson all of Fort Gay, WV; one brother, William Thompson of Florida; one sister, Wanda Cochran of West Palm Beach, Fla.; one granddaughter, Avary Solomen of NC.; and a host of family and friends. Arrangements are pending at this time.

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GRACE from Page 5A

six thus far - and zero that require legislative action. Two "wins" for the president are giving the green light to construction of the Keystone XL Pipeline and the installation of Supreme Court justice Neil Gorsuch, filling the seat of the late justice Antonin Scalia. Gorsuch is said to hold the same conservative views Scalia did.

Trump won applause from politicians and pundits left, right and center for the April 7 launch of 59 cruise missiles against an airfield in Syria, a reprisal for that country's president, Bashar Al Assad, using chemical weapons to kill opponents including women and children.

Another positive - though not one Trump had pledged or predicted - has been the dramatic decrease in southern border crossings by illegal immigrants from Mexico and Central America.

The president, meanwhile, has allowed himself a few astonishing policy reversals of pledges he made during the 2016 electoral campaign, almost all pivots toward centrist or "standard-issue" Republican positions, many shared by Democrats. He reversed himself completely on the following:

- A promise to get the United States out of the NAFTA trade treaty with Mexico and Canada.
- A threat to oblige NATO countries to pay more for their share of defense or else risk losing U.S. financial support and U.S. troops based in Europe.
- A promise to label China "a currency manipulator."

Trump struck out in efforts to put in place a "travel ban" against citizens of seven predominantly Muslim countries - shot down four times by federal courts as unconstitutional. He has thus far failed also to get a "repeal and replace Obamacare" bill even to a simple vote in the U.S. House. And not one penny was allocated by Congress in 2017 budgeting toward building Trump's Wall on the southern border, a signature campaign promise.

I will grade Trump's first 100 days as a C minus. If he'd been a seasoned politician and not a neophyte, the grade would be F.

John Patrick Grace is a former Associated Press reporter, editor and foreign correspondent. He lives in eastern Cabell county, edits and publishes books and teaches The Life Writing Class.

BUDGET from Page 5A

ise from Truman also included pension benefits, but those are not covered in this budget deal and the pension funds are becoming depleted. Coal-state lawmakers acknowledge that part of Truman's pledge remains in limbo.

Other pluses for West Virginia, according to Capito, are help for West Virginia communities recovering from last June's floods, support for rural economic development, more money for fossil energy research and development, higher funding to address the drug epidemic and investments in other scientific research at the state's universities.

While there has been plenty of partisan bitterness among Congress and the White House, Republican and Democratic spokespersons were generally upbeat about the budget deal, which if approved will avert a government shutdown. Both sides recorded some gains as well as losses. The end result appears to be a spending bill that focuses on keeping government running, with no so-called "poison pills" aimed at ramming any ideological wishes down the throat of one party or another.

That is refreshing to see, and Americans can only hope that a more bipartisan approach to governing and addressing the nation's needs will endure longer than in just the next few weeks.

MOORE from Page 5A

ing it in 1987. Public opinion polls have shown Americans favored abolishing it by majorities of 58 percent in 1967, 81 percent in 1968, and 75 percent in 1981. According to the Gallup Poll, in 2012, 69 percent of Democrats and 54 percent of Republicans favored abolishing the Electoral College; however, in December 2016, after the presidential election, 81 percent of Democrats but only 19 percent of Republicans favored abolishing the Electoral College.

In 1788, Alexander Hamilton supported the Electoral College in Federalist Paper No. 68. In the document, he stated "The process of election affords a moral certainty, that the office of President will never fall to the lot of any man who is not in an eminent degree endowed with the requisite qualifications. Talents for low intrigue, and the little arts of popularity, may alone suffice to elevate a man to the first honors in a single State; but it will require other talents, and a different kind of merit, to establish him in the esteem and confidence of the whole Union, or of so considerable a portion of it as would be necessary to make him a successful candidate for the distinguished office of President of the United States."

With all of the above in mind, I think the Electoral College has not served the purpose our founding fathers envisioned, and the time has come for a constitutional amendment establishing that the people of the United States elect the president and vice president by direct vote.

Michael Moore is a retired professor of biochemistry with the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine at Marshall University. He is a resident of Ona.

HANKINS from Page 5A

inaugural festivities by a Venezuelan oil magnate? The minimal festivities were already paid for when this donation was received. Oh, by the way, this businessman from Venezuela (which is not exactly friendly to the U.S. right now) finagled, within days of "his gift," a private meeting with the National Security Council. Huh?

President Trump says that he is not taking a salary while serving as president. So, I would assume he's not billing the United States government for official high-level meetings (i.e. the Chinese president Xi Jinping) at his enormously expensive, private club Mar-A-Lago in Palm Beach, Florida. Or is he? According to ethics expert Steve Schooner, "It's just another example of his consistent efforts to exploit public office for private gain. He's using his official office and the fact that people have to travel with him, meet him, and follow him to promote his commercial enterprise, in this case his privately owned club."

USA Today has reported extensively on President Trump's real estate holdings, which, contrary to promise, were never put into a "blind" trust. Any monies for the rental or sale of Trump's real estate holdings go directly into his pockets. MSNBC reporter Rachel Maddow has suggested, and rightly so, it would be easy for a foreign government, or anyone for that matter who wants to curry favor with the president of the United States, to merely purchase an expensive piece of Trump property. Which is it - Trump the Realtor? Or Trump the president?

Milt Hankins is a theologian, former pastor and local author. His website is columnistwithaview.com.

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Something To Think About

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ENDING ON A POSITIVE NOTE

Baby Boomers, in particular, often describe their lives as having been played out against a background of music that speaks of their time and experience. With this in mind, many are deciding to incorporate music that is important to them in their funeral plans. While funerals used to be solely associated with solemn organ music, funeral preplanners may decide that the tunes of James Taylor, Neil Young, or Joni Mitchell may be more appropriate to their experience. This is done with a complete understanding of music's ability to affect mood and shape the way that people will remember them and their final day together. This is but one of the many ways that people can personalize their funerals.

Should you choose to incorporate music into the commemoration event, we will honor your request. No detail is too large or too small for us to handle. We are here for you whenever you need us, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. *Serving Wayne County with pride since 1932, we welcome you to tour our conveniently located facility.*

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- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow