

OBITUARIES

ANDREWS - Donald L., 65, of West Nanticoke, died Thursday, April 22, 2010 at the Hospice Care of the VNA Inpatient Unit of Heritage House, Wilkes-Barre.

Born in Kingston, he grew up in Trucksville and was a graduate of Dallas High School, Class of 1963. He served with the U.S. Army as a helicopter mechanic and aircraft engine mechanic during the Vietnam War. He was stationed in both Korea and Germany.

Residing in West Nanticoke for the past 25 years, he worked with the local Laborer's Union for more than 20 of those years. He was also the owner/operator of Softy Don's Ice Cream Truck for more than 10 years.

He was also a former Plymouth Township auditor and volunteered in Drug and Alcohol Counseling Programs and St. Vincent DePaul's Soup Kitchen.

Surviving are his mother, Lorna Laskowski, Trucksville; children, Kimberly and Christopher, both of Shavertown; brothers, Carl, Askam; Leonard Laskowski Jr., Idetown; two grandchildren; former wives, Valerie Andrews, Shavertown, and Theresa Andrews, Dallas; nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations to Kim Andrews, 272 Post Rd., Shavertown, PA 18708, or Christopher Andrews, 98 Ridge St., Shavertown, PA 18708. Contributions will be forwarded to several foundations Don supported.

DECKER - Agnes Irene, 84, of Sugar Hollow Road, Tunkhannock, died Friday, April 23, 2010 at Mercy Hospital, Scranton.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, she was a graduate of Mehoopany High School and Mansfield University and received a master's degree from Marywood and Misericordia universities.

She was a retired school teacher, starting her career in the Falls Overfield School and retiring in 1984 from the Mehoopany School of the Tunkhannock Area School District. She was a member of the Osterhout Bible Church, Tunkhannock, and was very involved in activities of the church with her husband, who formerly served as pastor for 53 years.

She served as a judge for the Wyoming County Fair for many years.

Surviving are her husband of 60 years, Pastor Victor W. Decker; sons, Rodney, of Tunkhannock; Cecil, of Aspers; daughters, Evelyn Stone, of Lima, Peru; Suzanne Brewer, of Sinking Spring; brothers, Eugene Place, of Williamsport; Lawrence Place, of Zephyrhills, Fla.; and Robert Place, of Black Walnut; 16 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations to Osterhout Bible Church, 1119 Sugar Hollow Rd., Tunkhannock.

EVANS - William (Bill) B., 84, of Dallas, died Thursday, April 22, 2010 at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia.

Born in Wilkes-Barre on March 24, 1926, he graduated from Wyoming Seminary Preparatory School. He served in the U.S. Navy as a Gunner's Mate. Upon graduating from Loyola University, he pursued an engineering degree from Lehigh University and was a member of the Phi Kappa Theta fraternity.

After graduation, he worked at Delma Engineering in New York City and then returned to the Wyoming Valley where he joined the family business as general manager and secretary-treasurer of Evans Asphalt Company in Wilkes-Barre.

He served on the boards of the Boy Scouts of America and Haver Bank and volunteered for the Salvation Army, the St. Vincent de Paul Kitchen, American Cancer Society and Wyoming Seminary. He was a member of Wyoming Valley Country Club and an original member of Huntville Golf Club.

He was also a member of St. Therese's Church, Shavertown.

Surviving are his wife of 53 years, the former Claire Conlon; sister, Claire Lois Evans Fair, New York, N.Y.; daughter, Catherine Berger, Waccabuc, N.Y.; sons, Timothy and William B. Jr., both of Arlington, Va.; John, Troy, Ohio; six grandchildren; nephews and nieces.

Memorial donations to the Evans Family Memorial Fund, Wyoming Seminary, 201 No. Sprague St., Kingston, PA 18704, or St. Therese's Church, 64 Davis Str. Shavertown, PA 18708.

JONES - Neta R., 99, of Sweet Valley, died Wednesday, April 21, 2010 at The Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Dallas.

Born in Ross Township on Oct. 11, 1910, she was an active member of the Emmanuel Assembly of God Church, Harveys Lake, where she was a member of the choir.

Surviving are her sons, David A., of Sweet Valley; and Eugene Gray, of Wilkes-Barre; daughters, Margaret Pryor, of Sweet Valley; and June Brocca, of Wyoming; sister, Ruth Titus, of Harveys Lake; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial donations to Emmanuel Assembly of God Church, 239 Church Rd., Harveys Lake, PA 18618.

KNAPP - Clayton B. "Babe," 79, a resident of Shavertown and formerly of Parsons and Horton Street, Wilkes-Barre, died Monday, April 26, 2010 in the Inpatient Unit, Hospice Community Care, Geisinger South Wilkes-Barre Hospital, following a lengthy illness.

Born in the Parsons Section of Wilkes-Barre, he was a graduate of James Coughlin High School, Class of 1949, and was a veteran of the Korean War, serving as a Staff Sergeant in the Air Force as a radar man in Germany.

Following his military service, he joined the staff of the Wilkes-Barre Publishing Company where he worked in the composing room, plate department and as a night foreman for both the Wilkes-Barre Record and The Times Leader for 34 years, retiring in 1997.

He was a member of the Shavertown United Methodist Church and of Daddow-Isaacs Post No. 672, American Legion, Dallas.

Surviving are two daughters, four grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, a brother, Lt. Col. Charles L. Knapp, Pensacola, Fla.; a sister, Mrs. Ruth Schmidt, Thorofare, N.J.; nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations to the Wyoming Valley Unit of the American Cancer Society, Suite 118, 190 Welles St., Forty Fort, PA 18704.

KOCHER - William L., 86, of Dallas, died Thursday, April 22, 2010 at ManorCare, Kingston.

Surviving are a stepson, John Senchak, San Diego, Calif.; five grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

ONZIK - John Paul, 82, of Lehman Township, died Wednesday, April 21, 2010 at his home.

Born in Larksville, he graduated from Larksville High School and attended electrical-technical college in New York for two years. He had resided in Lehman Township for the past 52 years.

He was a World War II veteran,

serving in the U.S. Navy. He worked as an electrical technician, retiring from Syntonic Technologies Inc.

He was an active member of the Harveys Lake and Dallas American Legion Posts and was also an active member of Our Lady of Victory Church, Harveys Lake.

Surviving are his wife, the former Antoinette Oberts; children, John Paul Jr., Wisconsin; Thomas S. and Edward, both of Shavertown; Joseph, Swoyersville; Ann Marie Coslett, Lehman; David D., Muncy; Mary Jean, Harveys Lake; Martin J., Philadelphia; and Paul T., Dallas; 15 grandchildren; sisters, Anna Shields, Delaware; and Eleanor Dragon and Florence Kiluk, both of New York; nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations to Our Lady of Victory Church, Pole 26, Harveys Lake, PA 18618, or to Hospice Community Care, 601 Wyoming Ave., Kingston, PA 18704.

SANDS - Robert, of Country Village, Dallas, died Saturday, April 24, 2010 at the Golden Living Center in Tunkhannock.

Born in Falls on Aug. 6, 1939, he was employed by Airport Sand and Gravel in Duryea for 40 years prior to his retirement.

He also worked as a self-employed truck driver.

Surviving are his wife of 47 years, Dorothy Keithline Sands; sons, Robert, of Laceyville; David, of Falls; Ronnie, of Dallas; and Stanley, of Falls; daughters, Bonnie, of North Grove, Conn.; Diane, of Mt. Pleasant Mills; Rosemary Hallock, of Tunkhannock; Alice Barrett, of West Wyoming; brothers, Stanley Sands and Larry Olmstead, both of Tunkhannock; Wayne, Old Meshoppen; Emerson Jr., of Dimmock; and James, of Laceyville; sisters, Shirley Houser and Donna Etheridge, both of Kentucky; 22 grandchildren; and 17 great grandchildren.

WRIGHT - Dale M., 76, of Jackson Township, died Monday, April 19, 2010 at the Meadows Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Dallas.

Born in Kingston, he was a graduate of Kingston High School and attended Wilkes College. Before retiring, he was a truck driver for Santarelli Concrete Co., Wyoming. He served with the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War.

He was a member of the Huntville United Methodist Church and served on its board of trustees, the Jackson Township Fire Co. where he served as fire chief for 15 years and of the Jackson Township Ambulance squad.

Surviving are his wife of 53 years, Norma Carey Wright; sons, Donald J., Jackson Township; Allen D., Aubasse, Mo.; Kenneth, New Jersey; and Bradley C., Cold Springs, Minn.; brother, Willard, Dallas; and two grandchildren.



Planning the Spring Gala of the Greater Pennsylvania Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association are, from left, first row, Estella Parker-Killian, regional director; Atty. Kathryn Karam, Russell Roberts and Gail Audeus. Second row, Patricia Last, Maryjane Henry, Michele Millington, Katie Callahan, Elizabeth Fulton and Barbara Wilson. Other planning committee members include Kathi Flack, Susan S. Belin, Allison Maslow, Roni Paritsky, Rhondi Nachlis, Joann Jones, Mary Siegel, Mike Burnside, Jill Schwartz and Leslie Bullock.

'An Affair to Remember' planned

The Greater Pa. Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association is planning its seventh annual gala event: "An Affair to Remember" for Sunday, June 13, at Waverly Country Club, Waverly.

This year's event will be a brunch beginning at 11:30 a.m. and will feature a Silent Auction as well as an Art auction of works donated by regional artists.

Guests will have the opportunity to participate in the silent auction of beautiful works of art donated by acclaimed regional artists, including Allison Maslow, Christopher Ries, Jason Kressock, Marlene LaFrance, Mary Beth Killian, Maria Livrone, Leigh Pawling, Nina

Davidowitz, Mike Burnside, Elizabeth Fulton, Russell Roberts, Eileen Sharp and Shawn McDougall.

The 2010 Honorary Chairs are members of the Ruckno family. Planning committee members include Susan S. Belin, Waverly; Jackie Borthwick-Galvin, Pittston; Leslie Bullock, Noxen; Mike Burnside, Harvey's Lake; Katie Callahan, West Pittston; Marion Conyngham, Shavertown; Kathi Flack, Dallas; Elizabeth Fulton, Dallas; Patricia Graham, Shavertown; Ramah Hackett, Shavertown; Maryjane Henry, Shavertown; Beverly Johnson, Kingston; Joann Jones, Shavertown; Kathryn Karam, Clarks Summit; Marlene LaFrance, Shavertown; Patricia Last, Wilkes-Barre; Allison Maslow, Shaver-

town; Michele Millington, Mountaintop; Rhondi Nachlis, Kingston; Roni Paritsky, Dallas; Russell Roberts, Dallas; Erica Romanowski, West Pittston; Jill Schwartz, Kingston; and Mary Siegel, Shavertown.

Musical entertainment will be provided by Christine Leandri.

Tickets are \$100/person and are available by contacting the Alzheimer's Association office at 822-9915 or Estella.killian@alz.org.

All proceeds from the annual event support the Alzheimer's Association's programs and services to families, individuals and care partners, including a 24/7 Helpline, family caregiver programs, community presentations and professional trainings.

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