

## MEMOIRS



### **Wayne Ackerman · 02/28/1954 – 12/18/2017**

Rev. Wayne Ackerman was a graduate of Montclair University where he earned an M. Div from New Brunswick Theological Seminary. He won the prestigious Hefgee Scholarship from Kansas Wesleyan University to attend the Sorbonne University in Paris where he continued his studies. He and his wife of 42 years, Judy, traveled the world extensively. He spent many years volunteering for camping ministries at Pinelands Center in Mt. Misery and was ordained a United Methodist Elder in 1984, serving many churches. His confidence in the Lord, singing Elvis at the top of his lungs, love for the ocean, Giants, Yankees, enthusiasm for Christmastime and larger than life laugh and smile will be missed. He is survived by his wife Judy, son's Jessie, Christian and Daniel, daughters Claudine Stover, Lynette Arnold and seven grandchildren.



### **Robert J. Beyer · 03/22/1928- 01/22/2018**

Rev. Dr. Robert J. Beyer of Treasure Island, formerly of Neptune, NJ, was a graduate of Asbury College, Temple University School of Theology and Drew University. He served The United Methodist Church for 43 years as a pastor, District Superintendent, and Conference Administrator. Beyer loved traveling, teaching and preaching. He is survived by his wife, daughter, son-in-law, sister, five grandchildren, and nine great grandchildren.

### **Herman Bips · 06/15/1921- 03/20/2018**



### **David J. Bort · 12/19/1926 – 08/21/2017**



### **Leslie Cole, Sr.**

Leslie Norman Abayomi Cole Sr. was a business owner and church parishioner born in Liberia who resided in Vauxhall, NJ for 39 years and recently Boynton Beach, Fla. He was a faithful servant of God and active parishioner of The UMC in Union, NJ. He earned a BS from Bloomfield College and an MA from John Jay College (CUNY). Cole owned a security consulting firm, served on many committees, and was a well-respected member of his church. He is survived by his wife, daughter, son-in-law, son, daughter-in-law, two grandsons, eight siblings and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and close friends.

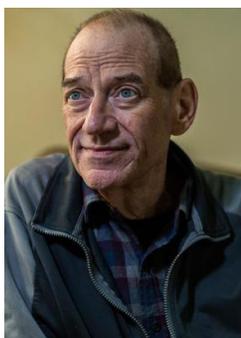
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### **Robert J. Duncan, Sr. · 07/30/1933 – 07/18/2017**

Robert J. Duncan, Sr., affectionately known as “Bob” began his ministry in 1954 as the student minister of the Methodist Church in Congers, N.Y. He graduated from Drew Theological School and was appointed to Grace Methodist Church in Paterson in 1961 where he served for 34 years expanding mission programs, founded a nursery school, hosted revivals, pilgrimages, started a Korean congregation, secured an endowment of over 1 million and led the expansion of the education building, two parsonages, and a renovation that included an additional chapel. He served on numerous conference boards and was the recipient of several prestigious awards from schools and organizations.

### **Zoila Margot Fernandez · 09/09/1929**



### **James Francis Galuhn · 01/14/1949 – 03/05/2018**

James Francis Galuhn was born in Chicago and moved to California when he was 13. He excelled in academics, football and theater, entering Pepperdine University in 1967 and spending time touring with a Christian theater group in the Church of Christ, including a USO tour in Asia before completing his B.A. at Abilene Christian University in 1974. He earned an M. Div, and Th. M from Princeton Theological Seminary in the late 70s while serving as part-time campus chaplain at Rider College and Trenton State College. James married Kathleen (Kadi) D. Billman, who served as pastor of Greenwood Ave. UMC. He was received into probationary membership in GNJ in 1991 and served Windsor UMC from 1987-1992. He became a Provisional Elder in the Northern Illinois Conference in 1996 and a Full Elder in 2004. Galuhn served Grace UMC, Blue Island, Trinity UMC, Lindenhurst and East Side UMC, working diligently to build bridges between church and community and nurturing the lives of young men.

### **Joan A. Gough · 11/04/1938 – 05/21/2017**

Joan A. Gough was born in Chicago and raised in St. Albans, W.V. She attended nursing school in Charleston, W.V. where she became an LPN. She later married and moved to N.J. where she raised her family. Gough retired from her nursing career after 36 years of dedicated service, after which she embraced her new role as the wife of a United Methodist pastor. She was a deeply faithful Christian and a beloved member of her church family. Through the years she touched the lives and hearts of many and was an inspiration to all who knew her. She is survived by her husband of 57 years, Rev. Raymond H. Gough, her son, Pastor Raymond A. Gough, her daughter, Christine Costello and her grandchildren, three brothers and nieces and nephews. Gough was predeceased by her father, Arthur Benson and her mother, Frances Benson.



### **Robert E. Grant · 03/22/1933 – 12/10/2017**

Robert E. Grant grew up in Westfield, NJ and graduated from Amherst College in 1955 and Yale Divinity School in 1959. The following year he pursued a non-degree program in Edinburgh, Scotland, where he married Nancy Palmer. He served 40 years as an ordained United Methodist minister in northern New Jersey, including six years as a District Superintendent. Robert retired in 1997 and moved with his wife to Haydenville, MA. Robert was an accomplished transparent watercolor artist who saw the beauty in simplicity and people. He is survived by his wife, Nancy P. Grant, sons Robert and Andrew, and daughter, Anita, and four grandchildren.

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**Roberta Latham Greiner · 10/23/1934 – 04/21/2017**

Roberta Latham Greiner was married to Newton W. Greiner Sr. The couple started dating while they were in high school and were sweethearts for 62 years on June 11. She has three children, Newton Jr., Cynthia Marilyn and Barbara Anne. Greiner is predeceased by her father, Robert Latham, her mother, Edythe Aarey, and her sister, Marilyn Hare.



**Robert J. Beyer · 03/22/1928- 01/22/2018**



**Harvey Hewitt · 09/06/1923 – 11/05/2017**

Harvey George Hewitt was born in Mount Clemens, MI. He served as a radio and Morse Code operator on a Northrup B-25 Bomber during WWII. Hewitt graduated from MIT in 1951 and went on to a successful career as a hydroelectric engineer for over 40 years. He had many talents and an artistic and musical nature. He is survived by his wife, daughters, son-in-laws, son, daughter-in-law, grandchildren and great grandchild.



**Karen M. Hoenigsberg · 08/24/1952 – 05/16/2017**

Karen M. Hoenigsberg was born in Hanover, PA where she lived for many years. She was a member and treasurer for Trinity UMC in Ewing. She is survived by her mother, Jacqueline Behl Utz, two brothers, Kevin and Brian Trayner, two sisters, Diane Turner and Andrea Trayner.



**Elbridge Thomas "E.T." Holland · 01/26/1924 – 9/04/2017**

Rev. Elbridge Thomas "E.T." Holland was born in Scottsville, K.Y. and served the U.S. Army during WWII. After visiting the Dachau Concentration Camp in Germany just two days after its liberation, his resolve to pursue Christian ministry was strengthened. He graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University and Garrett Theological Seminary at Northwestern University. He earned a doctorate from Drew University and became an ordained elder in GNJ. Holland was appointed to Mayville UMC and the UMC in Sheboygan Falls in Wisconsin. He served Belvidere UMC and then First UMC of Newton where he led the congregation in the construction of the new church located on Ryerson Ave. He served Bishop Janes UMC in Basking Ridge before retiring in 1989. His 42 years of ministry resulted in missions and church planting. He served as District Superintendent of the Northern NJ Conference. He is survived by two sons, Dr. E. Thomas Holland, Jr. and Mark D. Holland, daughter Marilou Tshudy and six grandchildren.

## MEMOIRS

### **Clark Hunt · 10/02/1916 – 04/01/2018**



Rev. Dr. Clark Hunt was 'promoted to heaven' on Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018 at the age of 101. He graduated from Syracuse University, where he was president of Alpha Chi Rho fraternity and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He graduated from Yale Divinity School in 1943 and received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from MacMurray College in 1963. He married Elaine B. Miller in 1942 and together they served in Crestwood, NY; Albany, NY and Westfield, NJ. For five years he was a District Superintendent in the Northern New Jersey Conference. In 1957, he was chosen to participate in preaching missions to overseas U.S. Air Force bases and served in Great Britain. He was a delegate to the General Conference and to the World Methodist Council. Two books of his sermons were published. Upon retirement, Dr. and Mrs. Hunt moved to River Hills in Lake Wyle, S.C., where he served part-time on the staff of the River Hills Community Church. They moved to Arbor Acres in Winston-Salem, NC in 1988. At Arbor Acres, he served a term as president of the Resident council and later as a resident member of the Board of Directors. He is survived by a daughter, a son, a daughter-in-law, 7 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.



### **Ethel Johnson · 09/30/1932 – 01/17/2018**



### **Bertha Levant · 03/12/1940 – 02/13/2018**

Bertha Louise McCray Levant was born in Evans County, GA and became a member of St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church in Daisy, GA. In 1957 she graduated from Evan County High School and was in 1960, moved with her family moved to Brooklyn, New York and became involved in several Baptist churches. In 1994 she met Rev. Johnny Levant who was serving Hamilton UMC in Atlantic City, NJ. In December 2000 they married and relocated to Daisy, GA where her husband was installed to pastoral leadership at Sam's Creek Baptist Church in 2006. Levant is survived by her husband, daughters, sons, ten grandchildren, sister-in-law's, brother-in-law's and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.



### **Duncan Peter McCallum · 12/16/1936 – 04/06/2018**

Duncan Peter McCallum attended Rider College and Stonier Graduate School of Banking. He spent his career in banking and retired from Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, New York City, and then again from Merrill Lynch, Red Bank, N.J. He was active in the United Methodist Church and served on the General Board of Pensions, chaired the Council on Finance and Administration for what was then the Southern N.J. Annual Conference and was a trustee at Elm Park UMC in Scranton. He was a big-hearted, selfless man who made people feel loved and appreciated. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Rev. Carol Arndt McCallum, sons David and Duncan, and six grandchildren.

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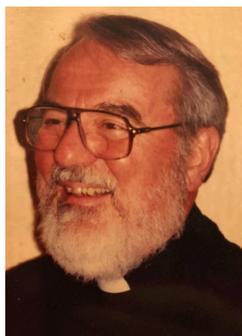
**Renee L. McCleary · 07/21/1945 – 10/10/2017**

Rev. Renee L. McCleary was raised in Camden and received a B.A. at Glassboro State College (now Rowan University). She worked for the Camden City School System and Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company in Philadelphia. She earned an M. Div from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary and appointed pastor of Broadway UMC in Camden in 1989, leading the congregation through a successful building project. She was appointed to Mt. Zion UMC in Lawnside and served as District Superintendent of the Skylands District from 2006-2011. She is survived by her son, William E. Kidd, III, daughter, Cynthia L. Richardson (Vincent), six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.



**Marion B. McVeigh · 06/13/1923 – 03/16/2018**

Marion B. McVeigh was born in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada where she lived until beginning missionary service in 1956. She was commissioned as a deaconess from the United Church of Canada. She had a lively sense of humor, an adventurous spirit and enjoyed camping and creating stories with her grandchildren. She married Rev. Dr. Malcolm McVeigh in Portugal and served the Lord together for 20 years as United Methodist missionaries in Angola, Congo, and Kenya. She is survived by her husband, three daughters, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



**Charles W. Miller, Jr · 08/27/1932 – 01/31/2018**

Rev. Dr. Charles William Miller, Jr. was a pastor in The United Methodist Church for over 40 years, serving churches throughout northern New Jersey. He served on conference staff as a formational leader in camping ministry at Aldersgate Center and was an advocate for social justice, fighting for the marginalized. He established Covenant Free Meals and Covenant Manor in Plainfield, NJ and enjoyed camping, and fishing. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.



**Shelley Katherine Potter-Abrahamsen · 10/02/1948 – 10/31/2017**

Rev. Shelley Katherine Potter-Abrahamsen was born in Westerly, R.I. and lived in Alfred, N.Y. from 1949 until moving to Mystic, C.T. when she was 12. She was a Licensed Practical Nurse and worked at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and an active member of Magnolia UMC. Through her participation on a church pilgrimage to Israel, she felt a calling to become a pastor. She received her B.A. in 1999 at Thomas A. Edison State College and then earned an M. Div from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary. She served as pastor of The Church of the Master UMC in Howell and Hamilton UMC in Neptune before retiring in Whiting. She is survived by her husband, Arthur, four children and six grandchildren.

**Marilyn Richards · 04/02/1930 – 06/16/2017**

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### **Brenda Myra Scott · 09/27/1941 – 06/10/2017**

Brenda Myra Scott, daughter of the late Theodore and Nora Turman Ensley and youngest of five children, attended and graduated from Georgetown High School and attended Camden College studying in Early Childhood Development. She and her husband of 49 years- Pastor Joseph L. Scott had seven children. Brenda worked in the Philadelphia Public school system as an ESL teacher for several years. She loved teaching and continued teaching throughout her life in several Respond Inc. facilities. She implemented woman's bible studies and woman ministry in the churches her husband served. She was a founding member of the Camden School of Musical Arts at Asbury United Methodist Church. Brenda always wanted to be a part of helping a child's life and would donate money to several organizations that sponsor children in need. She enjoyed writing letters to the children as well as to her son who could not be with her. She suffered a massive stroke in 2012 and was unable to speak or write any longer, but she continued to do all that she was able to do as best as she could. Her husband Joseph supported her, cooking meals, taking her shopping and traveling and keeping her life as normal as possible. Brenda passed from this life June 10th 2017.



### **Minerva Steelman · ?– 11/07/2017**

Minerva Steelman was born in Greenwich, C.T. to the late Clarence Willis, Sr. and Jenny S. Smalley Willis, who was the wife of the late Joseph N. Mitchell and Rev. Merton Steelman II. Minerva lived in Millville, and Deerfield Township, N.J. and was an active member of Friendship Finley UMC. She has been described as a beautiful person inside and out who loved her Lord, family and friends. She is survived by sons Joseph and Robert Mitchell and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



### **Myrtle Stillwell · ?– 07/01/2017**

Myrtle Stillwell spent many years as a pastor's wife in several United Methodist churches around South Jersey. She loved serving the church, fellowship and outreach. She was a creative person and taught sewing to young at-risk girls at the Neighborhood Center in Camden and delivered meals to the poor and led trips to the beach and parks for sickly children. She led the Friendly Seniors group at Haddonfield UMC for 30 years. Myrtle enjoyed spending time at the Pinelands Center in Mt. Misery and hosted retreats and programs there serving as a counselor for summer youth campers. She was a hardworking mother and homemaker whose legacy has touched many lives.



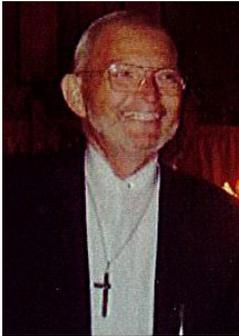
### **Donald Stitzinger-Clark · 09/15/1944 – 02/12/2018**

Donald S. Clark, Jr. was born in Lancaster, PA and graduated from Triton High School in Runnemede, NJ. He served the U.S. Army from 1962-1965 and worked for the Federal Government in logistics and supply for the Army National Guard. Clark was a member of The United Methodist Church and enjoyed reading, embroidery, working on models and hook rugs, learning about planes, trains and automobiles. In addition to his wife he is survived by four children and their spouses, grandchildren, great grandchild and three brothers.



## MEMOIRS

Janet Torgersen · 09/30/1930 – 09/13/2017



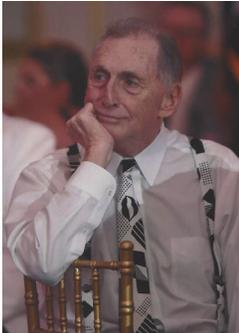
**Alberto Valladeres · 1952 – 07/08/2017**

Alberto Valladeres leaves behind a legacy of memorable anecdotes, phrases, loyalty, service, humility and the pursuit of God's heart. Son, husband, father, grandfather, uncle, in-law, friend and preacher of the Gospel, Valladeres proclaimed his faith tirelessly until his last breath. His wife Rebecca describes his life as leaving imprints impossible to erase. She considers herself lucky to be his wife and privileged that God allowed her to share their lives together for 45 years. In spite of difficulties and differences, the couple resolved them all with love and faith in Jesus. She describes Valladeres as her 'eternal romantic' and his passing as 'the story book of a courageous and brave hero of faith coming to a close.'



**Johnnie R. White · 03/24/1946 – 01/16/2018**

Johnnie Robert White was a lifelong Atlantic City resident who will be remembered as a fun-loving, hardworking family man who trusted God. After leaving the service, he worked for a telephone company before going on to earn an M. Div from Duke University. After retiring, he returned to his home church, Hamilton Memorial UMC, where he served the Lord until his passing. He is survived by his wife, children and grandchildren.



**Gerald David Woodlief · 10/28/1952 – 09/23/2017**

Gerald David Woodlief was born in Norfolk, VA and moved to NJ in 1985 to marry Diane Gilbert and become a parsonage partner. He worked as a teacher's assistant and an employment specialist for special needs teens. He loved the role of pastor's husband and GNJ where he served on COSRW, Religion and Race, Bishop's Convocation Committee and represented GNJ at the World Methodist Conference in Brazil. He was a camp counselor at Aldersgate and was a world-ranked professional trick-shot artist. He also had a pool and ping pong ministry at Kynett UMC on Long Beach Island. He is survived by his wife Diane, daughter, Marcie and four grandchildren.



**Margaret F. Yeager · 08/19/1940 – 05/22/2017**

Margaret F. Yeager was an active member and pillar of Fairview Village Methodist Church. She was active in Girl Scouts and the Camden High School Alumni Committee and enjoyed bowling and ceramics.