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Juanita Berry of Webster Is Married to Curtis Jones

WEBSTER, Jan. 4.— (Special.)— Miss Juanita Berry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Berry, of Webster, and Curtis Jones, of Center Hill, were married Dec. 24 at the First Baptist church of Webster, with the Rev. J. T. Rawlins, pastor, officiating.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was gowned in Persian rose with accessories of black and wore a corsage of Alba Plena Camellias.

Gladiolas and palms added color to the candlelight service, while Mrs. Odell McEven, Mrs. R. O. McEven and Miss Lucille Grant offered a program of musical selections, including the traditional wedding marches.

The groom was attended by Howell Price, of Center Hill, who served as best man.

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Varrone, Brooklyn; Crescent Varrone, Flushing, N.Y., and E. Varrone, Bayside, N.Y.

JOSEPH T. RAWLINS

GAINESVILLE — Joseph Thomas Rawlins, 70, died Wednesday. He was a retired minister. Survivors include his widow, Mrs. Dora Rawlins; two daughters, Mrs. Robert Jordan,

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Winter Haven, and Mrs. H. L. Cappleman, Falls Church, Va.; two sons, Joseph T. Jr., Auburn, Ala., and Capt. Jerry C. Rawlins, U.S. Air Force, California; a brother, W. Y. Rawlins, McRae, Ga.; and a sister, Mrs. Angelle Donaldson, Gainesville.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 1880-1934, Defunct. Oxford Street, Wildwood, Sumter County.

Constituted in 1880. Services were held in vacant store on Grand Central Avenue 1880-82. First church erected on Oxford St., 1882, was a frame structure which burned in 1925. A white, rectangular, cement block building was erected in 1925 on same site. From 1928 to 1931 the congregation used a theatre building on North Grand Central Ave.; 1931-34 occupied churdh buildingon Oxford St. Dissolved in 1934. First settled pastor, Rev. Joshua Perry, 1880-84. Last pastor, Rev. J.T.Rawlins, 1932-34; South Georgia College, McRae, Ga; Southwestern Baptist Tehological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Tex. (CONVENTION CHURCH RECORD), 1918-27, 1929-34, 3 vols. Showing minutes of business meetings, membership roll.

Gapway BC

1918-1920 - Rev. J. W. Owens
1920-1922 - Rev. C. C. Hancock
1923-1926 - Rev. W. E. Cooper
1927 - Rev. D. R. Hickman
1928-1929 - Rev. S. W. McClelland
1930-1932 - Rev. W. W. Dossey
1933 - Rev. J. T. Rawlins
1934-1943 - Rev. S. W. McClelland

When Rev. Steve W. McClelland resigned, the church extended a call to Rev. T. F. O'Steen. This man was known as the "walking preacher," traveling all over the area from Groveland to Lakeland mostly by walking. During his ministry, 1944-1946, Gapway made excellent progress. A revival was conducted in the spring of 1945 by Rev. Hubert Barnes, who at the time was pastor of Berea Baptist Church, Plant City, Florida. God gave a great revival and many of those converted at the time are still members, some in places of leadership. Others are in the ministry, at least one of them, Rev. Paul Parrish, now pastor of North Rome Baptist Church in Tampa, Florida. Paul's father is Brother Flem Parrish and also the father of our organist, Mrs. Louverne Fallin. Brother Parrish served in this church as a deacon, clerk, music director, and a loyal member many years. He was sadly missed when he moved to Bradley. He has since gone to be with the Lord.

There was a need for more room to take care of the crowds desiring to come and it was under the leadership of Rev. O'Steen the present sanctuary was begun. The leadership, Deacons, etc., were opposed to the church going in debt, so this building was erected on a pay as you go basis. Therefore, several pastors had a part in its erection. It was several years after it began before the first service was conducted in the new sanctuary. Brother O'Steen was the first fulltime pastor to move on the field. The church by this time had grown to the extent they felt they could afford to have the services of a pastor on the field. The arrangements for paying the pastor was on a percentage basis. The pastor was to receive 75% of the offerings while 25% was for the other expenditures.

In 1947, upon the resignation of Rev. T.F. O'Steen, Rev. W. Hubert Barnes was called and served a little less than a year. The salary for the pastor was set at $50.00 a week with a house furnished.

Rev. H. C. Harvey was then called and at the end of 1948, upon his resignation, Rev. Steve E. Simmons was called. One would think the church had reverted to the annual call by the record. However, this was not the case. This was a time of unrest, and it carried over into every area of life. Rev. Simmons remained for a year and upon his resignation, Bro. Roy Reynolds served as supply pastor until Rev. Raymond Yeater was called in 1950-51. The church passed through a storm during the ministry of Brother Yeater, and several members left, going to other churches in the area.

1981

Ministers List

J.W. Tucker	1905—1908
D.T. McLeod	1910
S.C. Sloan	1911—October, 1914
A.E. Clem	Dec., 1914—May, 1916
C.W. Burnett	Sept., 1916—Sept., 1917
S.C. Sloan	Nov., 1917—Feb., 1919
C.C. Handcock	Feb., 1919—July, 1919
R. Strickland	Sept., 1919—Nov., 1920
Dr. A.A. Holmes	June, 1920
A.L. Blizard	Nov., 1920—1922
Gus Padgett	June, 1922—Late, 1923
R. Strickland	Late, 1923—Early, 1924
J.H. Patten	Early, 1924—Jan., 1925
R. Strickland	Jan., 1925—Aug., 1925
H.A. Jordon	Aug., 1925—Oct., 1925
R. Strickland	Oct., 1925—Feb., 1926
Dr. Isaac N. Aldrich	Jan., 1926—Dec., 1929
R. Strickland	1930—19??
R.J. Blackman	Oct., 1931—March, 1933
Fred H.M. Smith	April, 1933—1934
R. Strickland	Oct., 1935—June, 1937
Orvial Miller	July, 1937—Oct., 1937
J.T. Rawlins	Oct., 1938—Sept., 1941
Clarence K. Byerley (wife: Essie)	Nov., 1941—Nov., 1944
D. Herbert Young	Feb., 1945—Dec., 1945
C.P. Rogers	March, 1946—June, 1947
E.C. Cowan	Sept., 1947—Nov., 1949
Clarence K. Byerley (wife: Essie)	Feb., 1950—Sept., 1955
Howard L. Long (wife: Frances)	Nov., 1955—Oct., 1958
L.J. Coker (wife: Bonnie)	April, 1959—February, 1960
Kermit Matthews (wife: Virginia)	March, 1960—July, 1962
Clarence K. Byerley (wife: Essie)	Aug., 1962—Jan., 1963
Jack Steward (wife: Etoile)	Feb., 1963—Jan., 1965
J.D. Robinson (wife: Clara)	April, 1965—Oct., 1968
Jack Whidden (wife: Margie)	Nov., 1968—1969
Robert W. Ezell (wife: Joanne)	Sept., 1969—19??
Etha E. Earnest (wife: Julia)	19??—Sept., 1975
Billy Wheaton (wife: Anette)	1976—1979
Charles Mercer (wife: Marge)	1979
Eddie Smatt (wife: Donna)	1979—1982
Wayne Hysong (wife: Muriel)	March, 1983—Aug., 1985
J.W. Gilbreath (wife: Frances)	1984
Elbert Cox (wife: Frances)	Oct., 1985—Jan., 1989
Carl Adams (wife: Maxine)	Served as pastor for two days before the Lord called him home, 1989
Charles Wallace (wife: Loody)	Aug., 1989—Dec., 1992
Robert Higgins (wife: Grace)	June, 1993—Oct., 1999
Mark McDowell (wife: Darlene)	Feb., 2000—Present

Compiled and completed by Tammy Morey on August 1, 2002.

Information provided by:
Church Record Books, Deeds, Church members of the First Baptist Church of Center Hill, Mortimer Howell, Billy Branch, Wallace Strickland, Maxine Hanson, Bessy Turner, Nancy Miller of the Sumter Historical Society, the Alachua Baptist Association, the First Baptist Church of Brooksville, the Florida Baptist Historical Society, Clippings from the Sumter County Times, Clippings from the Daily Commercial, the Yesteryear book by Doris B Valentine, and many more.

Many thanks go out to all that were able to provide information. I know that we would not have been able to find even half of this information with out your support.

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Wed, Nov 12, 1958 ·Page 22

News from J. T. Rawlins, Jr., now a student in music at Louisiana State University School of Music, Baton Rouge, is that he is taking a leading role in the opera, The School For Wives by Rolf Liebermann.

J. T. Jr. is a senior and is son of The Rev. and Mrs. J. T. Rawlins.

https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/137273669/joseph_t-rawlins
He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph T. and Dora Rawlins, and sisters, Juanita Jordan and Betty Jo Cappleman.

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Sun, Oct 29, 1944 ·Page 34

Juanita Rawlins and Robert Jordan To Wed

The Rev. and Mrs. Joseph T. Rawlins, of Gainesville, have announced the approaching marriage of their daughter, Miss Juanita Rawlins, to Robert Jordan, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jordan, of Tampa. The wedding will be an event of Christmas eve at the home of the bride's parents.

Miss Rawlins was graduated from Ocala high school with the class of 1942 and was a student nurse at Monroe Memorial hospital, Ocala, until her enlistment in the cadet nurses' corps at Tampa hospital.

Mr. Jordan, a native of Florida, attended Mulberry schools before moving to Tampa. He is now employed by McCloskey and company, shipbuilders.

10 matches

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RAWLINS-CAPPLEMAN

GAINESVILLE, Sept. 27—The Rev. and Mrs. J. T. Rawlins, of Gainesville, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Betty Jo, to Homer L. Cappleman, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Cappleman, of Miami.

Mr. and Mrs
South Melville
the engageme
Jean, to Joe
A. M. Ray, 1
Miss Clar
Petersburg an

The Florida Times-Union
Tue, Jan 25, 1972 · Page 7

d Funerals

MRS. DORA RAWLINS

GAINESVILLE — Mrs. Dora Rawlins, 70, died Monday. She is survived by 2 sons, Jerry, Los Angeles, Calif., Joseph, Auburn, Ala.; a daughter, Mrs. Betty Cappleman, Falls Church, Va.; 3 sisters, Mrs. M. M. Musselman, Indian Rock Beach, Mrs. Beryl Peterson, Lake City, Mrs. H. B. Sapp, Okeechobee; 11 grandchildren; and 7 great-grandchildren. Funeral will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday in Huggins-Copeland Funeral Home with burial in Hillcrest Cemetery.

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