

WILLIAM POPE

Dr. William Pope, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Crescent City, was born in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, on August 24, 1940. He graduated from Tuscaloosa High School in 1958 and received the Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Alabama in 1962. He was licensed and ordained by the Forest Lake Baptist Church in Tuscaloosa, where he had been baptized at the age of nine. During the summer of 1961 he served as a Student Summer Missionary with the Home Mission Board in Baltimore, Maryland. In 1965, following graduation from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky with a Master of Divinity degree, he went to the Southside Baptist Church in Lakeland, Florida, as Associate Pastor. He spent three years on active duty as a Navy Chaplain, one of these in Southeast Asia.

After leaving active duty, he took a Master of Arts degree from Stetson University in DeLand. In 1975, he and his wife were appointed missionaries of the Foreign Mission Board. The first term was spent in Guadeloupe in the French West Indies as a theology teacher, and the second term as Seminary Professor in Nassau, Bahamas. He earned the Doctor of Ministry degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1975.

He is married to the former Ada Ruth Asher of Benton, Kentucky and they have two children, Laura Anjanette and Todd Alexander.

TED RODDA, SR.

Ted Rodda, Sr., pastor of the Hillcrest Baptist Church of Palatka, Florida, was born in Palatka, Florida. After graduating from Palatka High School he attended Stetson University. Later he became a dental technician and married Lucille Price of Palatka. They have three children and three grandchildren.

After moving to Ocala Reverend Rodda felt the call to full time Christian service and returned to college. He and Mrs. Rodda graduated together with a Bachelor of Arts degree. After returning to Palatka he was licensed to preach by the First Baptist Church of Palatka. The following year he entered the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary from which he was graduated in 1960 and has a Master of Divinity degree.

He was ordained by the First Baptist Church of Palatka in 1960 and became pastor of the First Baptist Church of Sopchoppy, Florida. He also served as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Pinetta, Florida and the Lake Buffum Baptist Church of Fort Meade, Florida.

Prior to becoming pastor of the Hillcrest Baptist Church Reverend Rodda served two years on the staff of the Antioch Baptist Church, Bartow, Florida, where his son, Ted Rodda, Jr., is pastor.

Ted Rodda, Sr. (-2011) was a native of Palatka. The son of B.A., Sr. and Penelope Rodda. He graduated from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and the Tennessee Temple University in Chattanooga, TN Rodda served as pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Palatka; the Sopchoppy Southern Baptist Church; Pinetta Baptist Church, and Lake Buffum Baptist Church in Fort Meade He and his wife Lucille Price Rodda had four children.

Retired pastor Ted Rodda, dies PALATKA (FBW)—Ted A. Rodda, Sr., 89, died May 20, at Flagler Hospital in St. Augustine following an extended illness. He is survived by Lucille Price Rodda of Palatka, his wife of 63 years. Rodda was the former pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Palatka; the Sopchoppy Southern Baptist Church; Pinetta Baptist Church, and Lake Buffum Baptist Church in Fort Meade. He also served as the associate pastor at Central Baptist Church in Leesburg. In 1960 Rodda earned a master of divinity degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He was a 1956 graduate of the Tennessee Temple University in Chattanooga, Tenn., where he earned his bachelor of arts degree. He was a native of Palatka and was a 1939 graduate of Putnam High School (Mellon High School) in Palatka. Part of a pioneer Putnam County family, the Rodda family first established residence when his grandfather, Ben Rodda, moved to Palatka in the late 1800's. He enjoyed tending to his plants, flowers and animals, including his 51 year old pet turtle, Herbert. Preceding him in death were his parents, B.A., Sr. and Penelope Rodda; a brother and sister-in-law, Ray and Nettie Lee Rodda; a sister and brother-in-law, Betty and Chester Lewis; a grandson Aaron Rodda, and one great grandson. Rodda is also survived by two sons and daughters-in-law, Rev. Ted A., Jr. and Donna Rodda of Palatka, and Thomas W. and Kim Rodda of Lake Wales; two daughters, Patrice Rodda of San Francisco, Calif., and Carol Rodda of Gainesville; a brother and sister-in-law; six grandchildren, three great grandsons; many nieces and nephews; and two special friends, Chris Ihm, who was like a daughter and Grady Darden, who was like a son. A memorial service was May 24. Memorial gifts may be sent to the Palatka Christian Service Center, 820 Reid St., Palatka, Messages of sympathy may be sent to mastersobit@hotmail.com. *Florida Baptist Witness* May 26, 2011 Page 8