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Behind the Scenes

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BEHIND THE SCENES

For 32 years RaeNae Nay tended to your milestones

BY SHON HERRICK,
ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Chances are you never knew RaeNae Nay, but she knew you.

She knew when you married and had children. When you moved or were promoted, RaeNae received a notice.

Alumni are the lifeblood of any university. And for 32 years—working under five presidents—RaeNae worked anonymously to take care of our alumni updates. These files were her work child. She nurtured and protected them and kept them fed with updates. In so doing, she ensured you received *Furman*, the university magazine, post cards, and, of course, an occasional call to give. In every way she was meticulous, overly competent, and caring.

After a courageous fight, RaeNae succumbed to cancer in May. She is most remembered for her work outside the office. Volunteering at Sunday school and teaching English as a second language,

RaeNae was a servant to others. In a gentle but persistent way, she championed the Holiday Giving Tree at Furman. Sponsored by the Heller Service Corps, the tree is festooned with ornaments that are inscribed with requests from local non-profits. RaeNae encouraged her colleagues to select the ornaments or contribute to a fund that would be used to meet their need. After her passing, friends and family created an endowment to support the Giving Tree to continue her legacy for years to come.

RaeNae insisted on anonymity and never being photographed. (We could not find one to accompany this story.) She reveled in working behind the scenes. But just this once, we wanted to give her a slight spotlight. Looking ahead, we encourage you to keep RaeNae's baby well nourished. Continue to send us your updates. ●

Martha Anne Miller Epperson '48, March 17, 2016, Atlanta, GA

Nannie Elizabeth Haywood Rogers '48, January 29, 2016, Greenville, SC

Jeanette Anderson Botts '49, July 16, 2016, Mount Pleasant, SC

Jimmye Ruth Partee Thompson '49, February 7, 2016, Greenville, SC

Ernest "Woody" Bell, Jr. '50, February 18, 2016, Langley, WA

Alvin Earl Clark '50, April 4, 2016, Greenville, SC

Jean Hancock Curtis '50, July 17, 2016, Charlotte, NC

William Harvey Hale, Jr. '50, April 5, 2016, Athens, GA

Billy G. Rivers '50, February 7, 2016, Chesterfield, SC. Ordained into the ministry at the age of 17, he served as a Baptist minister and pastor for 50 years throughout North Carolina. He was a member of the board of Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute, Gardner Webb University, and Campbell University. He served as a trustee of Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem, NC, for many years, and had the distinct honor of attending nine Presidential Prayer Breakfasts in Washington, at the invitation of the President of the United States.

Frank Zedick '50, April 3, 2016, Durham, NC

Linwood E. Butler, Sr. '51, July 3, 2016, Rock Hill, SC

Anne Christine "Pug" Holbrook Wynne '51, April 13, 2016, Greenville, SC

Wilma Hewin Dingley '52, February 28, 2016, Greenville, SC

Margaret Kendrick Cannon '53, May 6, 2016, Clemson, SC

Chauncey W. Jones '53, April 25, 2016, Greenville, SC

Roy Paul Mullinax '53, January 23, 2016, Newton, KS

Frankie Way Bennett '54, July 20, 2016, Holly Hill, SC

JoAnn Anderson Lovelace '54, June 30, 2016, Bradenton, FL

Louise Bailey Carter Mondy '54, March 14, 2016, Savannah, GA

Mary Eva Bruce Mullins '54, February 2, 2016, Columbia, SC

William Boyd Reeves '54, January 18, 2016, Mobile, AL. Sworn into the US Army upon graduating from Furman and discharged as a captain in 1956, Boyd earned his law degree from Tulane University and became a law clerk for a US District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama. He entered private practice in Mobile, AL, in 1961 and during his legal career tried over 300 jury and non-jury cases in state and federal courts. He successfully argued the maritime jurisdiction case of *Victory Carriers, Inc. v. Law* before the US Supreme Court; he served as president of both the Mobile Bar Association and the Alabama Defense Lawyer's Association; and his fellow lawyers ranked him as one of the best defense attorneys around. Along the way in his stellar career, he endured a tough medical procedure—a heart transplant—but practiced his profession the remainder of his 83 years.