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## Letter seeks adoption clarification

Susan Clampet-Lundquist '91

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**Thomas Emerson Bell** '48, February 14, Callison, S.C. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and had retired from Sears Roebuck in Greenville.

**Virginia Balentine Martin** '48, February 14, Greenville.

**Boyd Newsome Hooks** '49, January 19, Charlotte, N.C. He was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II.

**Mary Nell Ellerbe Henderson Hurley** '49, February 14, Greenville. She was coordinator of volunteer services at Greenville General Hospital for many years. She was a member of LaSertoma and Jayceettes, both of which she served as president.

**Williams Cochrane Jones** '49, February 27, Greenville. He was employed in the wholesale millwork and building materials industry and served on the board of the National Sash and Door Jobbers Association. He was a Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary Club of Greenville, and was a trustee for the Faith Memorial Chapel at Cedar Mountain, N.C.

**Janet Parsons Spencer** '49, December 29, 2007, Casselberry, Fla.

**Edith Swann** '49, February 20, Mars Hill, N.C. She was employed at the Farm Office in Statesville, N.C., before moving to Mars Hill College, where she worked in the financial office for 29 years. She also spent time as a missionary in France, Africa, Mexico and Bolivia.

**Sara Adams Rutledge** '50, March 2, Columbia, S.C. She was active in the arts and attended a course on porcelain repair through the London Museum. With her husband, Jim, she established the Rutledge Company in 1980 to continue the preservation of fine art and antiques, including fine porcelains. She retired from their business in 1999.

**Jesse Lee Ballew** '51, December 6, Shelby, N.C. An ordained Baptist minister, he was pastor of several churches in North Carolina. With his wife, Violet, he provided a grief program for Carothers Funeral Homes in Gaston County, N.C. He served

in the U.S. Army during World War II and was awarded a Service Medal with two bronze service stars, a World War II Victory Medal and an Occupation Medal.

**Grady Frank Ellenburg** '51, December 29, 2007, Ninety Six, S.C.

**Carroll Francis Godwin** '51, February 11, Lake City, S.C. He was retired from the city of Lake City, where he was a past Citizen of the Year. He was a member of the city's Rotary Club and Development Corporation.

**Frank E. Granger** '51, December 9, Greenville. He worked in insurance for many years and was a church music director, most recently at Grace Baptist Church. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving in France and Germany.

**Bruce Strickler Harrison** '51, January 12, Winston-Salem, N.C. An active bridge player, he was a first line supervisor at Western Electric before his retirement.

**Joseph Earl Morris** '51, January 1, Westminster, S.C. He owned Morris Flowers and was known for his floral

designs. He was also a former owner of Westminster Drug Store. He was a past member of Westminster Rotary and Westminster Chamber of Commerce and a former city councilman. He saw service with the U.S. Army in China, Burma and India during World War II.

**Julia Rose Wright Sublette** '51, January 27, Fort Walton Beach, Fla. Active with the local chapter of the American Association of University Women, she was a member of the Southern Association of Women Historians and a frequent contributor to Native American causes. She was Southern Division chair of the Music Teachers National Association, held several leadership positions in the Florida State Music Teachers Association (FSMTA), and was active with the National Guild of Piano Teachers and the Okaloosa County Music Teachers Association. She edited several professional journals and at the time of her death was president of FSMTA District 1. She taught at North

## LETTER SEEKS ADOPTION CLARIFICATION

I wanted to follow up on a misperception in an article in the Winter 2009 *Furman* magazine.

In "The Quest for Eden" (about Jewel and Claude McRoberts' battle with international red tape while trying to adopt a child, Eden, from Vietnam), the article states that the couple ruled out adopting domestically for two main reasons: the birth mother chooses the parent, and adoptions are open.

While in many adoptions this is the case, it is not always true for private or public adoptions. For example, the tens of thousands of children awaiting adoption in the foster care system will, in all likelihood, not be in an "open" adoption situation.

I felt the need to follow up on this common misperception because there are so many myths that float around about adoption. I don't want potential adoptive parents to assume that adopting domestically is not an option, as these myths are especially prevalent around domestic adoptions.



I can't tell you the number of times that I, as a white woman, am asked what country my African-American daughter was adopted from, assuming that she would not be from the United States. We had an incredibly smooth time adopting her 10 years ago, and it was one of the best decisions we have ever made.

— **SUSAN CLAMPET-LUNDQUIST '91**  
Philadelphia, Pa.

*Editor's note: The article in question did not intend to dissuade anyone from pursuing a domestic adoption or to mislead about the options available. After thoroughly researching the possibilities, Jewel and Claude McRoberts determined that, based on their interests and family dynamics, international adoption was the best choice for them.*

*Since the article was published, Jewel Giesy McRoberts '94 and three friends who have also adopted children from Vietnam have begun a ministry called Moms for Vietnam. Through partnerships with churches and international aid organizations, they hope to start a home for orphans and to work to eradicate the problem of young girls being sold into the sex trade.*

*To learn more, visit [www.momsforvietnam.com](http://www.momsforvietnam.com).*