

Frances Gadd

WNC GM Alumni member Frances Y. Gadd, 84, of Hendersonville, passed away Wednesday, March 17, 2010 at Carolina Village Medical Center.

She was born in Tampa, Fla., the beloved daughter of the late Frank and Alice Major Yamnitz. She resided in Orchard Lake, Mich. prior to locating to the Hendersonville area in 1983. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband Charles W. 'Chuck' Gadd, who died in 2005. A devoted Christian and community leader, she was employed as a bookkeeper for over 15 years with the Detroit Public School System, was a former business manager for the Pontiac Symphony Orchestra, served on the Orchard Lake City Council and was a twenty year volunteer with American Youth Hostels, organizing various fund raising activities. She enjoyed the winter sport of curling, cycling and sailing and had traveled extensively throughout Europe with her late husband. She possessed considerable intellectual curiosity. She is survived by her sister, Dorothy A. Balgenorth of Mich.; three nephews, Richard, Matthew and Jack Balgenorth; a niece Susan Balgenorth; a step-son, Rick Gadd and several cousins.

Midge Mack

WNC GM Alumni member Marjorie "Midge" Mack, 81, of Hendersonville, passed away on Sunday, April 4, 2010, at Margaret R. Pardee Memorial Hospital, after battling complications from leukemia for many months.

The only child of the late George and Helen Foster, she was born in Piqua, Ohio. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, George Mack in March 2007.

She had been a resident of Hendersonville since 1990. She attended and graduated from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., receiving both a bachelor of journalism degree and a master of journalism degree. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega, elected to Mortar Board service honorary and Theta Sigma Phi, women's journalism honorary. She and George, also a Northwestern graduate (BSEE '51), were married in Piqua on Sept. 6, 1952. They lived in many places including Wisconsin and Michigan, before retiring to Hendersonville.

She is survived by a son, Randall Mack, of Rochester, N.Y.; a daughter, Laurel Hurite and husband, John, of West Bloomfield, Mich. and two grandchildren, Nicholas and Amanda.

Joan Mazzatenta

WNC GM Alumni member Joan Canavan Mazzatenta, 74, of Hendersonville, died Monday, April 5, 2010, at the Elizabeth House following a brief illness. She was born in Lima, Ohio. Prior to moving to Hendersonville 17 years ago, she had lived in Warren, Mich., for 28 years. She was a department secretary at the Lima Engine Plant in Lima prior to her marriage. An active member of Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church, she served as a Eucharistic minister for the 11:30 a.m. Mass and was a longtime member of the Women's Guild at the church and a participant in Rose's Ministry. Joan was an ardent Atlanta Braves fan, an avid gardener and a lover of mystery novels.

Surviving is her family, with whom she was very close: her husband of 47 years, Ernest D. Mazzatenta; sons Michael Lawrence Mazzatenta and wife Joan of Mesa, Ariz., and Mark Andrew Mazzatenta and wife Toni of Greensboro; a daughter, Maureen Rose Mazzatenta of Shelby Township, Mich.; two grandchildren, Andrew and Carolyn; and several nieces and nephews.



Member Passes

Albert I. Blair, 90, passed away Saturday, June 5, 2010 at Mercy St. Theresa Home in Mariemont. Born in Akron in 1920, the oldest child of John and Bertha (Goodwin) Blair, Albert lived in Cuyahoga Falls from 1947 to 1955, in Bath Township from 1955 to 1989, in Columbus, North Carolina from 1989 to 2009 and in 2009, he returned to Ohio to be closer with family. During WWII, he served in the South Pacific as a B-24 Crew Chief with the 13th Air Force, 4th Aerial Mapping & Photo Reconnaissance Group. Albert was a Factory Representative for Terex Division of G.M., formerly The Euclid Road Machinery Co., his work taking him on travels all over the world, he retired in 1981. His beloved wife of 56 years Doris (Ogston) passed away on March 24, 2000. Albert was also predeceased by his sister Janet Blair Sweeney and his brother John Blair. He is survived by sons and daughter-in-law Stuart and Clara of Cincinnati, William of Akron and John of Walnut Creek, Calif.

A note from Mr. Blair's son, Stuart says that Albert's mind was still as sharp as a tack and he could knock-out the daily crossword puzzle in 30 minutes, but his body was just worn-out.