

FRIENDS

DEATHS OF FRIENDS

(Because of a reporting error, some deaths of friends during the past year have not been printed in The Southwesterner. The following notes include those compiled between Jan. 1, 2006, and Nov. 1, 2006.)

Merlin "Slim" Reeves died Jan. 1, 2006, at the age of 79. Reeves worked as a mechanic in three communities, including at the Winfield Buick dealership. He and his wife have owned and operated Reeves and Sons since 1973 and have been active supporters of the SC athletic department. Slim and his wife were foster parents to many student athletes. Survivors include his wife Marie, and sons Larry, Steve, and Neil '77.

Helen Hester died Jan. 4, 2006, at the age of 92. Survivors include a brother, Roland Elliott '37.

Max Gruber died Jan. 6, 2006, at the age of 81. Survivors include his wife, Arnita, and daughters Sarah Gruber and Cathy Gruber Flocks.

Dorsey Elliott died Jan. 14, 2006, at the age of 89. A lifelong Methodist, he served both the Sublette and Garden City United Methodist churches in many capacities. During his 40-plus years of farming, he pioneered many of the flood irrigation farming techniques still in use today. Dorsey served as a trustee of the Kansas Area Methodist Foundation for more than 30 years, was a trustee of Wesley Towers in Hutchinson, a founding member of the Sublette Rotary Club, a member of the Kiwanis Noon Club in Garden City, and a lifetime member of the Masonic Lodge in Sublette. Survivors include his wife, Marjorie.

Louis Jespers died Feb. 12, 2006. A World War II veteran, he was 87. Survivors include a son, Richard '70.

Alice Ehling died Feb. 19, 2006. Alice worked for a number of years at The State Bank as well as the family business of Mogle Radio Co. Later, Alice and her husband Earl personally introduced the first television set to Winfield. Survivors include a son, Don '68.

Richard Dove died Feb. 25, 2006, at the age of 73. Dove worked as a medical technologist at William Newton Hospital and later was employed at both St. Francis and Wesley hospitals in Wichita. He finished his career at Winfield State Hospital and Training Center, retiring in October 1997. Survivors include his wife, Carolyn, and a daughter Deborah Badley '97.

Stephen Nelson died Feb. 28, 2006. He owned and operated Steve Nelson Automotive Repair in Arkansas City. Survivors include his wife, Linda, and daughter Erin Nichols '98.

Alan Barstow died April 19, 2006. He was a retired elementary school vocal music teacher in Beloit. Survivors include his wife, Mary Ann, and a daughter Belinda (Barstow) Wenzlaff '98.

L. Marie Haywood died April 23, 2006, at the age of 85. She was a member of the Country Side United Methodist Church. Survivors include a son, Alan Haywood '70, and a daughter, Sandra (Haywood) Jarvis '64.

Kenneth Kilian died May 5, 2006. He was a retired Kaynar Technologies salesman and Navy veteran. Survivors include his wife Gloria (Hamilton) '64.

Sam Lowry died May 6, 2006. A jeweler, Lowry created the SC Presidential Medallion worn by current presidents at official functions. Survivors include his wife, Leo Jo, and a daughter Tracy '95.

Diane Basore died May 25, 2006. Survivors include her husband, Jim '49.

Claude Crawford died June 6, 2006. Claude served his country in the US Army during the Korean War and was stationed in France. Survivors include his wife, Pat, son Clayton '76 and daughter Cozetta '80.

Clyde Long died June 7, 2006. A veteran of the Korean War, he was 75. Survivors include his wife, Darlene '70.

Edith Mary Marshall died June 16, 2006, at the age of 91. Survivors include a son, John '70, and a daughter, Corky Caillouet '80.

Donna "Dollie" Barnhart died June 17, 2006, at the age of 90. Survivors include a son Gary '60 and daughter Bette Salm '78.

Ralph Helmer, retired farmer, died June 24, 2006, at the age of 86. Survivors include sons Ron '70 and Jim '71 and a daughter Lynette St. Vrain '76.

Steve Vann, former SC tennis coach and private instructor, died June 3, 2006. Survivors include his father, Joe '49.

Mary Hatteberg Powers died July 14, 2006. A former nurse and co-owner of Peerless Bakery in Winfield, she was 97. Survivors include her stepdaughter Marilyn (Powers) McNeish '54 and son Larry Hatteberg.

Jimmie Krout died Aug. 12, 2006. Survivors include his wife Barbara (Williams) '66.

Mildred Hower died Aug. 17, 2006, at the age of 87. Mildred worked part-time as the office secretary for Pi Gamma Mu. She then worked for the Winfield State Hospital and Training Center for 25 years, retiring in 1985. She was a member of SC Dames and enthusiastically supported the athletic programs of the college. Survivors include a son, Phil '64; and two daughters, Susan Fronk '69 and Kris Breidenbach '74.

Ruby Temple died Sept. 29, 2006. Ruby was a member of the Burden United Methodist Church and involved with United Methodist Women. She helped her late husband, Wayne, with the State Bank of Burden and later Temple Insurance which the couple owned and operated. Survivors include a son Bret '76 and daughter Lisa Brunner '77.

Gladys MacDonald died Oct. 20, 2006. Survivors include her husband, Emerson '41.

CORRECTIONS TO SC HONOR ROLL

In the Southwestern College Honor Roll of Donors printed in the Fall 2006 issue of *The Southwesterner*, the following corrections should be made:

Memorial Gifts

Rev. R. David and Nancy Bender Goodell

Tribute Gifts

Harry and Dolly Bender Doss



Alumni awards were presented Friday, Oct. 13, at the Southwestern College Homecoming dinner.

■ **Mike Lewis '74** was awarded the Alumni Recognition Award. Lewis will complete his 12-year term on the Southwestern College board of trustees in the spring of 2007 and spent six years as the chair of the board of trustees.

■ **Seth Leeper '01** (not pictured) received the Young Alumni Award.

■ The SC Ambassador Award was presented to Jerry Brown (not pictured) and to Jay and Pam (Brown) Annis. The three have been valued friends of SC since the time their son and grandson, Brett Annis, decided to attend college in Winfield. They have been familiar faces at SC athletic events and other occasions. Often they bring Ulysses high school students along with them, to introduce them to Southwestern College.



Mitchell Earns Purple Heart

Tallon Mitchell, who began his senior year at Southwestern College in the fall of 2005, expected to graduate in May 2006 with a degree in biology. Instead, that month Mitchell earned the Purple Heart as part of the Kansas National Guard in Iraq.

Mitchell was stationed at Camp Anaconda in Iraq, and was on a convoy escort mission taking supply trucks from one forward operating base to another when the truck he was driving was hit by an explosive. The resulting blast blew the truck across the road, sending it into a 360-degree spin, blowing all four tires, and breaking an axle.

The driver of the truck, Mitchell managed to keep the vehicle from flipping over and drove it out of the kill zone. Although no one was killed, the gunner received wounds to his arm and face, and Mitchell lost hearing in one ear.

A story in the *Southwest Daily Times* explained Mitchell's perspective on his service. "There are a lot of great things being accomplished over here," Mitchell told the reporter. "Things are going slow, but the general population is very appreciative."

He plans to finish his Southwestern degree after he completes his duty in Iraq in April 2007.



In Memory: Heath Laetari

Heath Laetari '01, 28, was lost at sea on Sept. 14, 2006, doing what he loved to do. Heath was vice president of dive operations, partner, and acquisition manager for Dynasty Marine Associates, Inc., Marathon, Fla.

Laetari disappeared while snorkeling in deep waters near Dynasty's collecting boat. As two divers made a deep technical dive to see specimens, Laetari manned the topside boat in case of trouble. As the two divers were decompressing on a line to the bottom, Heath donned mask and fins to check on them, free-diving about 60 feet. That was the last time he was seen.

An extensive search involving the Coast Guard and private boats found nothing.

A high-school star in three sports, Laetari earned his first dive certification at age 13. He completed all except his laboratory term for the marine biology degree at Southwestern and joined Dynasty in 2001, finishing the lab requirement at a Florida university. He received his SC degree that year.

Among the many projects Laetari worked on was last year's restocking of the Aquarium of the Americas in New Orleans, which lost most of its tropical fish to Hurricane Katrina. Dynasty captured live sharks for the popular facility, and donated \$10,000 in other fish stock.

"Heath just loved everything about this," one of his co-workers said. "I'll always remember the day we were catching amberjack off the back of the boat, and we both started laughing because we couldn't believe we were getting paid to do this."

Heath is survived by his parents and by his wife, Summer.

"I'll always remember the day we were catching amberjack off the back of the boat, and we both started laughing because we couldn't believe we were getting paid to do this."

— Dynasty Marine co-worker



Builder Babes

Three Builder babies born in the spring of 2006 attended Homecoming with their parents. Shown (l. to r.) are Haley Grace Ziser with mom Andrea (Pearce) Ziser '01, Lauryn Marie Turner with mom Cassie (Helmer) Turner '03, and Savanna Rose Griffin with mom Julie (Woolf) Griffin '03. Not pictured are dads Mike Ziser '01, Ryan Turner '01, and Jarrett Griffin.

Parents of new Builder babies are encouraged to post their good news and a photo on the Southwestern College alumni Web site. Babies are eligible up to age 12 months, and at least one parent must be an alumna/us of Southwestern College. Participating babies will receive a special gift from the alumni department (hint: the babies above are wearing their gifts).

For more information and a submission form, visit the alumni Web site at www.sckans.edu/alumni. Click on the Builder Baby Brag Page logo.