

# Allegheny Historical-Genealogical Society, Inc.

Preserving Allegheny's Heritage Since 1979



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## Hogan And Taylor Victims Of Crash Near Wytheville

**Chief Killed Instantly; Patrolman Hogan  
Succumbed In Hospital, Tues.**

MARCH 4, 1948 ALLEGHENY NEWS HEADLINES



Sparta Police Chief  
Charles Brantley Taylor



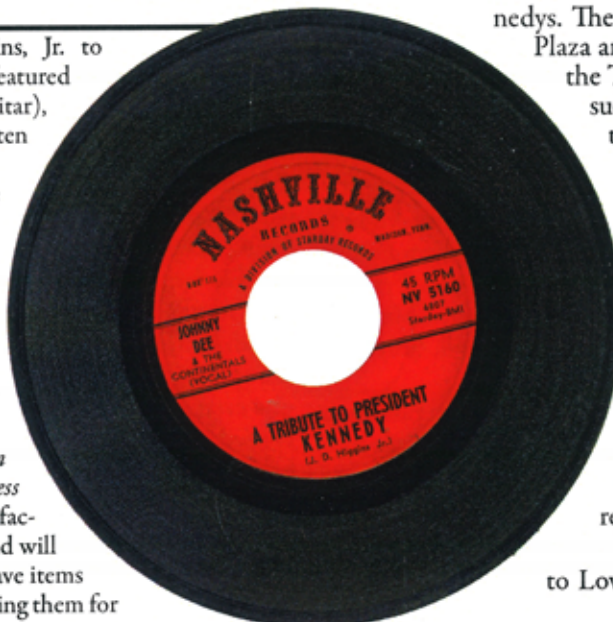
NC Highway Patrolman  
Weaver H. Hogan

The Little River Bridge on US-21 (south of Sparta) was dedicated to Chief Taylor and Patrolman Hogan on June 27, 2012, in a ceremony at the VFW. The event was attended by the Colonel of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol, Sparta Police Chief Bob Lane, and many other state and local dignitaries. See the officers' story on page 7.

### A Tribute to President Kennedy

was written in 1963 by J.D. Higgins, Jr. to memorialize the fallen President and featured J.D. Higgins (Vocal), James Billings (Guitar), C. Ray Billings (Auto Harp), Paul Wooten (Bass)

This is just one of the items that were on display in the Allegheny Historical Museum for the exhibit on Mountain Music called *These Hills are Alive with Music*. If you have items that illustrate our common heritage, consider loaning them to the museum. More participation means more diversity, more education and more fun! The upcoming exhibit will be called *Mountain Manufacturing: A History of Big Business in the Blue Ridge* and will feature the factories that once operated in our area and will last through February of 2014. If you have items that you think would be appropriate, bring them for display! To hear Johnny Dee & The Continentals, visit [ahgs.org](http://ahgs.org)



## 50 Years After The Death of John Kennedy

November marks the 50th anniversary of John Kennedy's death. The story here, comes from the JFK Library site, [jfklibrary.org](http://jfklibrary.org).

Arriving at Love Field, in Dallas, President and Mrs. Kennedy disembarked and immediately walked toward a fence where a crowd of well-wishers had gathered, and they spent several minutes shaking hands.

The first lady received a bouquet of red roses, which she brought with her to the waiting limousine. Governor John Connally and his wife, Nellie, were already seated in the open convertible as the Kennedys entered and sat behind them. Vice President and Mrs. Johnson occupied another car in the motorcade.

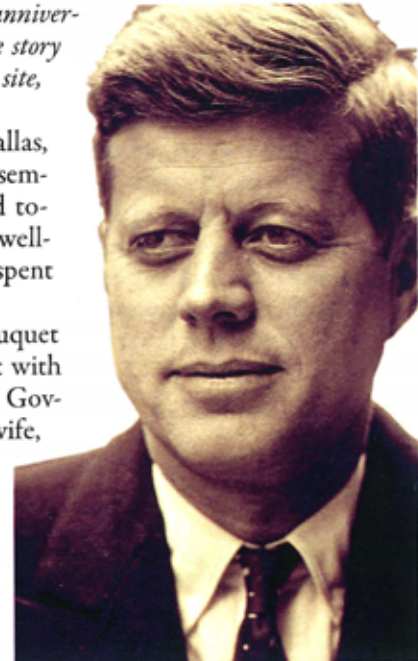
The procession left the airport and traveled along a ten-mile route that wound through downtown Dallas on the way to the Trade Mart where the President was scheduled to speak at a luncheon.

Crowds lined the streets and waved to the Kennedys. The car turned off Main Street at Dealey Plaza around 12:30 p.m. and as it was passing the Texas School Book Depository, gunfire suddenly reverberated. Bullets struck the president's neck and head and he slumped over toward Mrs. Kennedy. The governor was also hit in the chest.

The car sped off to Parkland Memorial Hospital- just a few minutes away, but little could be done for the President. A Catholic priest was summoned to administer the last rites, and at 1:00 p.m., November 22, 1963, John F. Kennedy was pronounced dead. Though seriously wounded, Governor Connally would recover.

The president's body was brought to Love Field and placed on Air Force One.

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## From the President

Greetings,

I hope you are enjoying the warmer temperatures and sunshine this week. Although the weather did not cooperate very well for the Mountain Heritage Festival, we had a good bake sale in front of the museum. We also had several people come into the museum to look at our exhibit. Thank all of you who helped in any way on that project- Roy Hunt and some of the Gideons for putting up and taking down the tent, Nancy Hunt, Wanda Cleary, Reba Evans, Mae Evans, Faye Reeves, and the Jeff Halsey family who baked or made items for our sale, J.M. Sturgill for volunteering inside the museum until our docent arrived. The drawing of the raffle ticket for the quilt made and donated by Myrtle Taylor was held as everyone was packing up and leaving because of the rain. The winner is Gary Johnson and he is going to let us keep it on display through October.

We will be working on our next exhibit early next month which will focus on industries. If you have any pictures or products made at any of the industries that you would be willing to loan us for the new exhibit, please let us know. We are open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. If you are not available to bring your items in during that time frame, you may call me at home 372-8260 and we'll work out another time to accommodate you.

Thank you for your support of our museum.

Sincerely,  
Margaret Crouse  
President, AHGS

## Quilt Raffle to Benefit History Museum

Congratulations to Gary Johnson of Sparta!

Mr. Johnson bought the winning ticket in our quilt raffle, which was drawn at Mountain Heritage Day. Myrtle Taylor made and donated a beautiful quilt for the Society to raffle and the proceeds from the contest were used to pay expenses for the Alleghany History Museum.

The Museum receives no government funding and depends on donations and fund raising efforts by the Society.

We are very grateful to Mrs. Taylor for her donation and to everyone who bought tickets. Thank you all for your support of the Historical Museum & AHGS.



## Alleghany CARES for the Museum

Thanks, also, to Vickie Scott and the folks at Alleghany CARES for allowing AHGS volunteers to participate in a recent "Proceeds Day." The Society received \$1170 from the sales of merchandise while we were there.

CARES is a vital resource for our community and a great partner to many organizations like the Historical Society. Please help us thank them by donating your time and your unneeded items in support of this important charity!

## Finding a Great-Grandfather

by Constance Marquita Latta, Hampton, VA

I have been on the quest of documenting my families for many years and for those of us that are die hard genealogy buffs, it is certainly a challenge. When you find a missing link there is no greater HURRAH.

The western part of Virginia is my mother's line of HODGE/SARTIN/BURTON.

On my recent quest I hit a main artery which brought me to Sparta, NC. This was odd to me because I was married in Sparta, NC in 1964. I could never figure out why we went there. No one could explain.

When most records were in Bibles, if you didn't know where the Bible was, you most likely hit a brick wall as I did. Then you have the stopper of the elderly not being here to ask.

I have now found the missing connection of my Great-Grandfather, Robert H. Hodge. His father was Major Anderson Hodge and his mother was Elizabeth Jane Jackson.

Major Anderson Hodge is buried in Shiloh United Methodist Church Cemetery. At one time he was in Carroll, Smyth & Grayson Counties, Virginia.

Major Anderson was married twice. His first wife, Elizabeth J. "Betsey" Masey (Sexton on the marriage license). Both are supposedly buried in Shiloh, but I actually see only his monument listed in Find A Grave.

Records show my Great-Grandfather's parents as being Major Anderson Hodge & Elizabeth Jane Jackson. It also shows THREE children listed with the last name of Jackson: Mary Jackson b.

1859; George Jackson b. 1863; William M. Jackson b. 1865 and Baby Hodge b. 10/01/1868 (Source: Carroll County, Virginia, Virginia Birth Records).

The child listed as "Baby Hodge" is my great grandfather (Robert H. Hodge). The day and month do not match, BUT, the year is correct and is proven through his marriage to his second wife Dora Ridpath.

Major Anderson Hodge, b. 1808, was married 11 Feb 1869 in Carroll County, Virginia, to Elizabeth Jane Jackson, b. 1843. I perceive these three Jackson children were his step-children.

In my conversations with my mother's oldest sister (I might add at 92) she stated that there was a Granny Anderson and that there were half-brothers to Granddaddy, one called George whose last name might be Harman. Although it was a little confusing I kept it in my mind for future reference.

For her being that age she did fantastic! The people were a little turned around, but she was as close to perfect as I had ever heard. God rest her soul. She would be so pleased that I found the missing link. You see, my Aunt was born in 1917. I doubt she was even a twinkle at that time. Feel free to do the math. How blessed was I to be there for her to share her information. She helped to find the missing link.

Major Anderson Hodge- FindAGrave ID#- 5027088  
Robert Howard "Captain Bob" Hodge- FindAGrave ID#- 26486742

Constance Marquita Latta, 102 Shenandoah Road, Hampton, VA, 757-723-8901

Although our family is from the North Carolina area, some extended family has moved from North Carolina to North Dakota and Montana and further out West. I had kept in touch for many years with a first cousin, Beulah Dawson, a daughter of my mother's brother, Jeff Warden of Missoula, Montana. Several years ago my daughter and I visited her when she lived in retirement in Portland, Ore. She found the enclosed photo in the bottom of a large antique trunk they had moved with them from Missoula to Portland. The trunk belonged to her father. Beulah kept the photo safe for many years. The photo is on display in a museum in Independence, VA.

The photograph is of 6 of the 9 children from the marriage of Allen L. (did not stand for anything) Moxley and Ida Jan Warden Moxley. These are my siblings. Because there could be a great many descendents in your area, some of whom live in close proximity to Sparta, I think there might be interest in a photograph of my brothers and sisters. These children could possibly be someone's grandmother, grandfather, or even great grandparents. I believe the photo was taken about 1910. I was not born when this photograph was taken. I was the last of the children to be born in North Carolina. I was born at Stratford June 17, 1917, and I am the last survivor of this generation. My father moved the family along with their farm animals, furniture and all possessions to Maryland from North Carolina. They arrived there on March 17, 1919. In Maryland, my father purchased a 160 acre farm in

Harford County near Darlington, Md. All of the family worked at whatever needed to be done around the farm. We were fed year round from a large and useful garden. We canned various vegetables and fruit such as apples, peaches, and pears, which we stored in an ample basement.

Returning again to the photo, there is so much to be seen and comprehended by an astute observer. First, the backdrop is a blanket. I remember those hand woven wool blankets well as they kept us warm and comfortable on cold winter nights in Maryland. We had a large, unheated home and sometimes the winter was so cold that our water pipes froze. You can tell the children are prepared for their photo because all appear to be neat and tidy, even to the hair ribbons. I believe that all the clothing worn by the six children was spun, woven, cut and sewn by my mother. Probably the only bought article was the hair ribbon.

The children in the photo, below, are: Rear row- left to right- Mae (Maggie Mae) Ruth (Carrie Ruth), Floyd R. (does not stand for anything). Front row- Clyde, Blanche (Lily Blanche), Kam (Kam Robert).

Birth dates are as follows: Mae, July 1, 1901, Ruth, October 2, 1902, Floyd, December 1, 1899, Clyde, November 25, 1898, Blanche, April 21, 1907, Kam, September 23, 1909.

Thank you for your interest in our family history.

Sincerely, *Hazel Anne Moxley Burnett, typed by her daughter Pamela Bjorlo, 3020 Laporte Ave, Fort Collins, CO 80521*



Alleghany Quilt Guild has been making Quilts of Valor since 2010. We have made more than 30 quilts during that time to donate to returning soldiers who have been "touched by war." That is the mission of the Quilts of Valor Foundation- wounds do not have to be visible for a soldier to have been "touched by war." The Quilts of Valor Foundation is national and international. Quilters all over the world volunteer their time and resources to make these special quilts.



Jeremy Goodwyn with his proud Mom, Linda and his Quilt of Valor.

We have a group that meets monthly at the Pottery Place in Sparta to work on making Quilts of Valor. Fabric from manufacturers and others have been donated. We always have a need for money to purchase fabric for the backing of a quilt. Each quilt takes approximately 5.5 yards for the back of the quilt. A quilt is a sandwich - the quilt top, the batting in the middle and the backing.

All of our quilts are quilted by a guild member- Amy Askins from Mt. Airy- who donates her time and resources to finish the quilts for us. Sparta VFW Post 7034 continues to give us money to purchase the batting for the quilts. We sincerely thank them for their continued support.



The Patriotic Eagle quilt.

The Patriotic Eagle (the red quilt with the eagle panel in the center) is a product of one of our sewing days. There were only 4 people who came that day. We found some orphan blocks (those that have not been sewn into a quilt) and the eagle panel that was donated. The rest was a collaboration of those who attended that day. Out of nothing came something very special.

The quilt with the blue border was made by Gaye P. from our guild. Her son, Jim P., did the quilting for the quilt. Anyone can help to make a Quilt of Valor.

The quilt with the blue and white stars was made for someone from the Port Mortuary Unit at Dover AFB, Delaware. All fallen soldiers are flown into the base and military personnel who work there volunteer for this duty. Each military branch has volunteers and it is their responsibility to stay with that fallen soldier and their casket until they are turned over to their family. These volunteers are truly

"touched by war" and the call went out for guilds to make a quilt for the PMU volunteers. This was our guild's donation to them.

Stars and Stripes is the quilt we made for SFC Jeremy Goodwin from Sparta who was injured in Afghanistan in August, 2012. He had a long trip home when he was wounded- he went to a field hospital, transferred to a military hospital in Germany, transferred to Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, DC, and then on to his home base at Ft. Lewis, Washington. Jeremy's father remarked how

special it was to see a quilt in each patient's room of the hospital. It brought tears to his eyes.

We also make quilts that are not patriotic in theme. These quilts will go to a program at the VA Hospitals in Cincinnati and Batavia, NY, for returning Naval and Marine women suffering from PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder). When they finish the program, they are given a quilt to take home with them.



Dover AFB quilt.

Last year, Moda Fabrics put out a challenge to all quilters to make a block to be made into a Quilt of Valor. They thought they would receive around 1,000 blocks, but were they surprised to receive over 10,000! Our guild was proud to be sent enough blocks to make 2 quilts. Each block was signed with the maker's first name and their state. It was very interesting to see where all our blocks came from - we did not get back one that came from our guild.

For more information on Quilts of Valor, go to their website- [qovf.org](http://qovf.org). They update the "counter" on how many quilts have been donated. If you can imagine all these special quilts made by volunteers, it is amazing- each quilt was made by someone or some group. But that pales in comparison to all those soldiers who serve our country so that we can continue doing what we love to do - quilt.



Quilt by Gaye and Jim.



*Left-to-right: R.E. Singletary, Duane Davis and Lonnie Davis.*

*Photo by the Soil Conservation Service - L.J. Sisk*

The back side of this photo from the Soil and Water Conservation office reads:

**NC - Alleghany - 5-25-49 Lonnie Davis Galax, Va. Mr. Davis, with young son, looks at orchard grass and ladino, with Work Unit Conservationist R. E. Singletary. Note strip cropping in background.**

According to Duane, his father was an unusually progressive and scientific farmer in his time. On the advice of the soil conservationists, he "strip farmed- planting corn & clover in alternating terraced strips around the hillside." In an effort to prevent erosion, terraces were cut into the hill perpendicular to the slope, so that rain water would collect there in periods of heavy precipitation. The terraces would hold the water in pools (waist deep to little Duane) that could slowly enter the soil instead of running off.

Mr. Davis bucked conventional wisdom when he was the first in the area to "plow under a crop of winter wheat" in the Spring, before planting- a common enough practice today but one that invited a fair amount of criticism at the time.

Mr. Davis was also a prolific breeder of cattle. He studied bloodlines and successfully increased his herd's milk production over time. When Duane started milking as a boy, a cow would give 2-3 gallons, but by the time he left for college, they would sometimes yield up to 10 gallons per milking.



*1949 photo of strip farming in Laurel Springs. Photo by R.J. Sisk*



*Alfalfa for hay on US 21. Photos by the Soil Conservation Service*

With the recent help of a local Sparta resident who gave me the location of the William Moxley cemetery, I was able to visit on August 2, 2013. The cemetery is located on Horse Shoeing Lane right off of Osborn Road. Take Hwy 18 south from downtown Sparta to Osborn Road. Horse Shoeing lane turns from paved to dirt road leading up to the cemetery and has deep ruts in it.

I noticed that there were recent internments there.

If I desired to be interred there, who would I contact? The sign has "The Moxley Foundation," but I am unable to locate any contact information. *David Moxley, 626-260-6115, david5mox@dslxtreme.com*

My grandfather married Alta Blanche Caudill. I would like to know where his home place was. I remember going thru Twin Oaks and somewhere along the New River. Hope you can help me retrace the past. Thanks *Dillard Sholes, 423-929-7055, Best Time to Call: 12n - 5p, 800 Forest Av., Johnson City, TN 37601, sholes3@yahoo.com*

I am researching my farther, Floyd Royce Farnham, and his activities in Western North Carolina. A native of northeastern Pennsylvania, he came to North Carolina in 1914 under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture and North Carolina State College. His charge was to work with the people to develop a "cash crop" for the mountainous area, specifically the production of cheese, and he did so until his retirement in 1955. If you might have any information on or about my father and his activities, I would appreciate your letting me know. Thank you in advance. *Sutton Farnham, farnham.sb@gmail.com*

A significant new Genealogy/History Book is now available: *Descendants of THOMAS DICKSON and NANCY McMILLAN of Scotland, Wilkes County, NC, Ashe County, NC.*

Including families of Able, Absher, Baker, Biggs, Blevins, Council, Dickson, Dixon, Elmore, Garner, Groves, Guest, Harkey, Marion, McMillan, Phipps, Poe, Richardson, Tabor, and many, many more.

Compiled by Roy Shelton Dickson, Jr. 2013. Copyright RSD 2013 All Rights Reserved. ISBN 978-0-615-85558-5; ASIN 061585558x

The book is 1493 pages of genealogical information on thousands of descendants. It contains many census records including 1940 census records. It is distributed on CDROM in pdf format and is fully searchable. Available at Amazon.com for \$12.95.

*Roy Shelton Dickson, Jr, 130 Brighton Close, Nashville, TN 37205; 615-730-6770, rsd1933@yahoo.com, www.alaskabushpilot.org*

James Halsey recently shared a link to [www.virtualwall.org](http://www.virtualwall.org) with the Society. At the site, users can look up names listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, DC, honors those who died in the Vietnam War. Their relatives and friends leave letters, poems, and photographs at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and on the site.

My name is Robert Pryor and I am currently working as a public art research assistant for Ms. Belinda Tate, Director of Diggs Gallery at Winston-Salem State University. My task is to develop a database of works of public art by African American artists, particularly, but not exclusively, works in North Carolina and by North Carolina artists. Thus far, the information has been difficult to collect. Thus, if you can share any information related to this subject, it would be greatly appreciated. Specifically, I am looking to collect information about artists working in the area of public art, the location of both indoor and outdoor works by African American artists, and publications that relate to these subjects.

If you are not familiar with the works of public art at Winston-Salem State University, please explore the following links to learn more about works by:

John Biggers: <http://www.wssu.edu/college-arts-science/diggs-gallery/thehistory/biographies/john-biggers.aspx>

Melvin Edwards: <http://www.wssu.edu/college-arts-science/diggs-gallery/thehistory/biographies/melvin-edwards.aspx>

Beverly Buchanan: <http://www.wssu.edu/college-arts-science/diggs-gallery/thehistory/biographies/beverly-buchanan.aspx>

Tyrone Mitchell: <http://www.wssu.edu/college-arts-science/diggs-gallery/thehistory/biographies/tyrone-mitchell.aspx>

Please contact me as soon as possible at:

*Robert Pryor, WSSU '2013, Animation and Graphic Design  
Phone: 336-750-2458, Fax: 336-750-2111, Diggs Gallery, Winston-Salem State University, 601 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr., Winston-Salem, NC 27110, rpryor108@rams.wssu.edu*



You've heard the old saying (or a variation), "He's got more money than Carters' got pills." Now you can know just how many pills that is! Come by the museum and count the little devils.

Joyce Speas donated this little piece of Americana that claims it is a "Laxative Aiding in Bile Flow."



I hope I never find out what that means.



*Cont'd. from Page 1*

Before the plane took off, a grim-faced Lyndon B. Johnson stood in the tight, crowded compartment and took the oath of office, administered by U.S. District Court Judge Sarah Hughes. The brief ceremony took place at 2:38 p.m.

On November 24, President Kennedy's flag-draped casket was moved from the White House to the Capitol on a caisson drawn by six grey horses, accompanied by one riderless black horse. At Mrs. Kennedy's request, the cortege and other ceremonial details were modeled on the funeral of Abraham Lincoln. Crowds lined Pennsylvania Avenue and many wept openly as the caisson passed. During the 21 hours that the president's body lay in state in the Capitol Rotunda, about 250,000 people filed by to pay their respects.

The next day, President Kennedy was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. The funeral was attended by heads of state and representatives from more than 100 countries, with untold millions more watching on television. Afterward, at the grave site, Mrs. Kennedy and her husband's brothers, Robert and Edward, lit an eternal flame.

Perhaps the most indelible images of the day were the salute to his father given by little John F. Kennedy, Jr. (whose third birthday it was), daughter Caroline kneeling next to her mother at the president's bier, and the extraordinary grace and dignity shown by Jacqueline Kennedy.

As people throughout the nation and the world struggled to make sense of a senseless act and to articulate their feelings about President Kennedy's life and legacy, many recalled these words from his inaugural address:

"All this will not be finished in the first one hundred days, nor in the first one thousand days, nor in the life of this administration. Nor even perhaps in our lifetime on this planet. But let us begin."



## Mountain Law Enforcement Tragedy

*Below is the original article from the March 4th edition of the 1948 the Alleghany News:*

Two of Alleghany county's law enforcement officers were the victims of one of the worst wrecks of the history of this section which occurred near Wytheville, Va., early Monday morning. C. Brantley Taylor, chief of police, was killed instantly, when the N. C. Patrol car, in which he was riding with the State Highway Patrol W. H. Hogan and Joseph G. Wilson, crashed into a bridge near Wytheville, while chasing an automobile, believed to be carrying liquor.

Patrolman Hogan succumbed at 7:24 o'clock Tuesday morning in the Wytheville hospital, following injuries sustained in the accident. Patrolman Wilson, although suffering from severe shock, was released from the Wytheville hospital Tuesday morning and has returned to his home at Bakersville for recuperation.

Both Taylor and Hogan were recognized as unusually good officers and their sudden death came as a complete shock to everyone in this section.

Patrolman Hogan, 26, of Murphy, who had been first stationed in Ashe county, was driving the car at the time of the accident. He suffered broken legs, broken ribs, a crushed chest and cuts on the head and neck.

Sheriff Glenn Richardson, of Alleghany, said he understood the three officers were chasing a car suspected of hauling liquor. He said the car entered Sparta about 1:30 p.m., from the Roaring Gap Highway. Nothing is known about what happened during the next hour, but at approximately 2:30 p.m., persons living near the bridge heard a loud crash and the sound of a car speeding away.

Investigating persons found the patrol car suspended on a steel bridge support, almost completely demolished. Taylor and

Wilson were removed from the wreck, however, it was not until the wrecker had taken the car down, that rescuers were able to remove Hogan from the wreckage.

Patrolman Hogan had been with the patrol for one year and stationed in Sparta for eight months.

Funeral service will be held today at 2 p.m., at the Little Brasstown church and burial will follow in the church cemetery.

The deceased is survived by his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hogan, and four brothers and four sisters.

A number of friends of the deceased are expected to drive to Murphy for the last rites.

Last rites for Chief Taylor, 45, native of Furches, who had served in his office for 18 months were held yesterday at two o'clock at the Cranberry Primitive Baptist church. Officiating was Rev. S. G. Caudill and interment was in the church cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, the former Miss [Nina] Chloe Sturgill; his father, J. K. [Joseph Kenley] Taylor, of Furches; five brothers, W. R. Taylor and Dr. G. F. Taylor, both of Charleston, S. C.; F. W. Taylor, Furches; G. L. Taylor, Mt. Airy and D. L. Taylor, Kingstree, S. C.; and three sisters, Mrs. W. S. Britt, Jr., Roanoke, Va.; Mrs. J. J. Douglas, Charleston, S. C., and Mrs. W. W. White, Statesville.

*Charles Brantley Taylor was born January 6, 1904. Chief Taylor's mother, Velen Josephine Long, died in 1947.*

*The North Carolina Department of Transportation named a bridge on I-77 near the Virginia state line in honor of Trooper Hogan.*

*Some information and photos of the officers in this article came from the Officer Down Memorial Page: [www.odmp.org](http://www.odmp.org).*





"Contains Linseed Oil, Turpentine, Camphor, Oils of Spearmint and Eucalyptus"

(The word, "sassafras" is marked out on the bottle and the box.)

It might not do much, but folks will sure know you're coming.



Corn Huskers Lotion is still available. Well, corn is still available isn't it?



There was heartburn *before* computers?



For "Chapped Hands & Lips, Sun & Wind Burn, Rough Skin"



Here are some more vintage, over-the-counter medicines that Joyce Speas brought to the museum last month.

MOSCO  
Removes corns  
(of a different sort.)

*Remembering Alleghany for Over Thirty Years*