



Mr. Michael Dale Lee

Michael Dale Lee, 82, died Wednesday, December 17 surrounded by his loving family.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, December 20 at 2:00 p.m. at Wightman Methodist Church, officiated by Rev. Donald Thompson and Rev. Bob Wells. Burial followed in the church cemetery. The family received friends in the church fellowship hall prior to the service.

Michael was born to the late Benton and Mae (Gaddy) Lee on December 26, 1942. He was a lifelong member of Wightman Methodist Church.

Michael graduated from Anson High School and completed an auto mechanic course to pursue his lifelong love of cars. He was happiest behind the wheel, watching NASCAR, or admiring classic cars, particularly his beloved 1956 Chevy. He also loved spending time on the water and enjoyed entertaining family and friends at Lake Tillery.

Michael spent his life devoted to building and growing several businesses. In his early years, Michael worked on the family poultry farm and later started a pulpwood business. In 1972, he and his father opened B & M Lee Oil Company, then began opening Fast Shop convenience stores in 1977. The business added propane services in 1992, serving Anson and surrounding counties.

He was co-owner of Huntley Chevrolet and purchased Crawford Chevrolet - merging the two into one dealership. He also co-owned Beachum and Lee Ford dealership for 45 years. He was a businessman dedicated to helping those in his community.

He is survived by his son, Greg (Beth) Lee of Polkton and daughter, Tonya (Teddy) Huneycutt of Peachland; five grandchildren, Ashton (Zach) Allen of Polkton; Jordan Lee of Monroe; Leah (Evan) Spears of Wadesboro; Brooke (Quinton) Helms of Marshville; and Hailee Huneycutt and fiancé Cam Baucom of Marshville; and one great-granddaughter, Quinlee Helms. He is also survived by his sister, Charis (Marc) Acree of LaGrange, Georgia and three nieces. The family is grateful for his numerous caregivers over the past 10 years, especially Mae Richardson, who was very devoted and attentive to Michael.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to: Wightman Methodist Church Cemetery Fund, % Cindy Gaddy, 282 Gaddys Ferry Road, Polkton, NC 28135.

Remembering.....  
By Ed McBride



Christmas Toys

Who said that we did not celebrate Christmas back in my days? Well, we did (and still do) - the above picture is of the first wagon that Santa brought me - in about 1927. The wagon body was solid oak, with very little metal bracing - the wheels also were oak with steel “tires” and roller bearings.

Yes, I still have it, along with some of my other toys. (The picture was made February 17, 2001) You see, back then we got very little in the way of “extras” and usually then only at Christmas time - so unlike these days, we took care of what we had or else!

Now, this is 2003 - so many things have changed - radio, television (more than one snowy station), computers, cars with starters, power steering, power windows, etc., planes that travel a little farther than the Wright Brothers’ plane did at Kitty Hawk on December 17, 1903, space

travel, modern paved roads and bridges (no longer do we cross the Pee Dee River on a ferry), modern farm equipment (instead of plowing a mule), electricity to power a multitude of modern appliances (instead of oil lamps), telephones (no longer do you go to the phone on the wall, ring the operator, and say, “Give me number 551, or whatever!!).

More advancement in my years, I guess, than at any comparable period of history.

So, this is a good time to say thanks to each of you for reading our “Remembering” column - for your help and support - for every kindness... many thanks.

All these and many more continuing changes - but Genesis 1:1-5 and John 3:16 still haven’t changed!!

So...Merry Christmas and Happy New Year - “You All”  
Ed

Library Hosts Free Movie Showing: *Green and Gold*

The Hampton B. Allen Library will show the movie *Green and Gold* on Monday, December 29 at 10 a.m. The screening will take place in the library’s Pritchett Room. The movie is rated PG and is based on a true story. It falls in the drama and sports genres and offers an inspiring and family-friendly experience. Everyone is invited to attend and enjoy the movie. Admission is free and open to the public. For information call 704-694-5177.

Winterville Brings Frosty Fun to Discovery Place Kids-Rockingham

Discovery Place Kids-Rockingham is trading in flip-flops for fuzzy socks as the Museum transforms into Winterville, a festive, hands-on holiday adventure running through December 29.

Kids can glide across a sock skating rink, hurl safe indoor “snowballs,” and build frosty creations in “ice” block zones. Arctic animal encounters, winter-themed science shows, and plenty of twinkling decorations make every corner feel merry and bright.

“Winterville is a place where families can celebrate the magic of the season and learn through play,” said Angela Watkins, Museum Director.

In December, the fun gets even cooler with special programs exploring igloo engineering, the Northern Lights, and snowflake science.

Admission: Included with museum entry and free for members.

Location: Discovery Place Kids-Rockingham, 223 E. Washington St., Rockingham.

Bundle up your curiosity - winter is coming to Rockingham, and it’s snow much fun you won’t want to miss! [dpkidsrockingham.org](http://dpkidsrockingham.org)

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