



Mr. Sumner Fairfield Bell, Sr.
1886-1936



Mrs. Alice Ransom Bell
1888-1966

Forty-fourth Annual



Bell-Ransom Family Reunion

OCCONEECHEE NECK HOME SITE
Jackson, North Carolina

— AND —

KIRKWOOD ADAMS COMMUNITY CENTER
1100 Hamilton Street
Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina

AUGUST 13, 2022

Program

Welcome
Melvin Branch

Pledge of Allegiance
Young Bell-Ransom Cousins

Opening Prayer
Claribel Bell

Together Again, The Occasion
Erika Person

Music
Rudy Pyatt

Together, We Acknowledge Our Honoree
and
Gold Stars
Claudette Belfield and Roger Cheek

Together, We Celebrate Our Legacy
Introduction of special guest by David Bell, Sr.
Special Guest: David Birkong, Chairperson the Edward Cheek House Museum

Legacy Award for Service
Presented to Terry Bell and Kyle Lockhart

Legacy Achievement Recognitions
Presented by

College Graduates
Sonya Jenkins

Bell-Ransom Scholarships
Evelyn Dawson

High School
Beverly Underdue

Middle School
Beatrice Evans

Elementary School
Kelsey Bell

Pre-School
Margaret McGee

Talent Presentation
Aidan Dozier

Together, "We are Family"
Bell-Ransom Cousins
Photographs by Ralph Bell

The Blessing
Ethan Moore

Dinner
Door Prizes

Beatrice Gardner, Jeanette Richardson, Anjanette Ballard, Doretha Johnson, and Mary Boone

After-Dinner Social Hour and Dance
Ol Terrance Blount

We gratefully acknowledge and thank Margaret Bell Hawkins, Jeanette Bell Richardson, Sandra Bell Rossier, and all of you for helping make it possible to be "Together" in the Neck to honor the memory of our loved ones and for being "together again" for the 44th Annual Bell-Ransom Family Reunion.

*Continuing the Legacy
Together Again for
Bell-Ransom Family
Reunion 2022*

The Bell-Ransom Family Tree



Deeply Rooted In Love

**BELL-RANSOM FAMILY
REUNION 2021**

VIRTUALLY BRINGING MEMBERS TOGETHER AS WE
CONTINUE THE LEGACY

**Bell-Ransom Family
Reunion 2020**

A Virtual Reunion

After two virtual reunions in 2020 and 2021, we are **together again** in person for 2022 to celebrate the 44th Annual Bell-Ransom Family Reunion.

Deeply rooted in love, we have come together for this one-day forty-fourth reunion to honor our heritage, by continuing the Bell-Ransom Family legacy built on faith, excellence, and service.

Welcome back!



Cheryl Bell retired on August 31, 2021, after 32½ years from the NC Department of Public Safety, Prisons. In 2004, Cheryl was promoted as the Director for the Office of Citizen Participation with Prisons Program Services, where she managed 10 programs throughout 17 years, writing Policy and Procedures, conducting Prison Programs Quality Assurance Checks, training Evidenced Based Practices Programs to staff, hosted the annual statewide Volunteer Recognition event each year to honor over 10,000 volunteers that volunteered in Prisons, including attending facility recognition events as a guest speaker, and has served as Chair for numerous Committees. Cheryl celebrated with co-workers, family, and friends during a luncheon on August 26th. She was presented with "The Order of Long Leaf Pine Certificate", which is awarded to persons for exemplary service to the State of North Carolina and their communities that is above and beyond the call of duty, which has made a significant impact and strengthened North Carolina. She is the daughter of Clarence Bell of Roanoke Rapids, NC and Patricia Bell of Garysburg, NC, mom to Donovan Wells and nana to Summer Call Wells of Knightdale, NC. Cheryl is a graduate of Saint Augustine's University. Cheryl resides in Raleigh, NC.



Gentry Smith has been named Assistant Secretary of State Bureau of Diplomatic Security. He is the third special agent appointed to the position of assistant secretary for Diplomatic Security and the first Black special agent to serve in the role. Gentry is a graduate of NC State University. Gentry grew up in Halifax County. He is the nephew of the late Quincy Hawkins and Margaret Bell Hawkins.

Ralph Bell, Sr. of Lanham, MD continues to be an advocate for the well-being of Veterans. He attends Veterans of Foreign Wars conventions and events with his local Post 8950. Ralph serves as VFW State Photographer and as photographer for the Bell-Ransom family reunion.



Together, We Continue the Legacy



Olivia Bell performed June 11-12 as part of the Rising Stars weekend at the Kaatsbaan Cultural Park Summer Festival in Tivoli, NY. Olivia is the daughter of Damian and Katoiya Bell, granddaughter of Sumner Bell, III and Janice Bell and great-granddaughter of the late Sumner F. Bell, Jr., and Maxine Mills Bell.

Trinity Inscriptions and Designs, LLC.

is a Christian and Inspirational clothing brand founded by sisters, Amira and Shemaiah Hawkins. They are the daughters of Quincy and Tourinda Hawkins, Jr. and granddaughters of Margaret Bell Hawkins and the late Quincy Hawkins, Sr.



Valencia Hawkins Turnage celebrated her October 13th birthday with a girlfriend's dinner at Perry's Steakhouse in Raleigh, NC, with her sister, Margaret and cousin, Cheryl Bell. Val is a retired educator and resident of Roanoke Rapids, NC.



Grandchildren of Emma Smith pose for a group picture: Andrew, Ava, AJ, and Annabella.

Illustrator James Ransome and his wife, author Lesa Cline-Ransome

have had a busy year of achievement, celebration, and travel. In September, James celebrated his 60th birthday, and participated in the Chappaqua Children's Book Festival. In October, he traveled throughout the south doing research. James was the featured artist at @catskillart in Kingston, NY, and had a traveling exhibit *Everyday People*. Lesa celebrated her birthday, and with James, celebrated the college graduation of their daughter, Leila. During the year, the couple traveled many places including Mexico.



The repaired historic marker on Highway 158, honoring civil rights icon and Littleton, N.C. native, Ella Baker, was unveiled April 8, 2022. The marker originally dedicated in 2011 and damaged by a storm in 2019, was placed in storage until repaired. The marker is located near where Ella Baker, known as "the mother of the civil rights movement" was born.

Fiorine Bell worked with the project.

Joni Campanella Roan presented the Campanella Spirit Award to Los Angeles Dodger Chris Taylor on October 3, 2021. According to Roan, Taylor won the award because his spirit, heart, and leadership embodied those qualities of her dad, baseball great, Roy Campanella.



Jeanette Richardson, Beverly Underdue, Terry Bell, and other family members

participated in the celebration of Juneteenth at the Garysburg Volunteer Public Library.

Together, We Continue the Legacy



Sergeant Erika Person of the Prince George's County Maryland Police Department, participated in the 2022 Police

Unity Tour. The Police Unity Tour includes over 2500 riders and support personnel dedicated to raising awareness of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty. The Police Unity Tour's mission is to honor and raise awareness about America's fallen law enforcement officers. The four-day fund-raising bicycle ride began in Florham Park, NJ ended at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, DC. The event took place May 9-12, 2022. Erika is the daughter of the late Dement Person and Sonya Scott Person.



Laryn Alyce Bell Nelson is the daughter of Louis Bell, and the granddaughter of Virginia Harding and Lewis Bell. She was recently named the new principal of Lake Forest Elementary in Atlanta, GA. She

is beginning her 30th year in education. Her 27-year-old twin daughters, Alexandria and Leigha, are both working for the Federal government at Fort Gordon, Augusta, GA, where they are both Information Technology Specialists in cybersecurity. Her 14-year-old son, Brice, is entering high school this fall after finishing middle school with all A's. He plays basketball and runs track, with his favorite race being the 200-meter sprint. He finished his track season with placing first in the 100x4, 200x4, and triple jump.

Sonya Jenkins and daughter, **Whitney Jenkins** enjoyed a spring vacation in Hawaii.

Margaret Bell Hawkins and the late **Quincy Hawkins, Sr.** are pictured visiting *The Red Star Horse*



Farm in Durham. The farm is owned and operated by their son, Pastor Quincy L. Hawkins, Jr. Horse Owners may rent stalls for their horses. Pastor Hawkins is the owner of six horses and a donkey named Fred. Upon arriving at the farm, Fred greets everyone with a special yell. Quincy, Sr. and Margaret are feeding one of the horses, Misty. Pastor Hawkins also gives horseback riding lessons to children.



Mrs. Mary Boone shares time with her first great-grandson, Lennox Boone Henderson. Lennox was born on June 19th, 2022 (Father's Day). Lennox is the first grandchild of Dr. Michelle Pass and the first child of her daughter, Tyler, and her husband, Eric Henderson.



Skylar Gregg-Lewis shows off snowman. She is the daughter of Atty. Dorothy Lewis and Granddaughter of Dr. Arthur Lewis and Atty. Yvonne Lewis of Rocky Mount, NC.

Together, We Continue the Legacy



Louis (Rip) M. Bell, Jr. is the son of Louis M. Bell and grandson of Virginia Harding and Lewis Bell. He is a graduate of South Carolina State University '89 with B.S in Marketing on a full Golf Scholarship. In 1991, he pursued his dream and moved to Florida to play professional golf. Upon traveling in various mini tours across the country, he began to work part time in the music business. There, he discovered a passion for the Music Industry and became the Co-Founder and President of Rip-it Records. His company went on to set Billboard Chart records and sell over 6 million albums worldwide. After many years of changes in the Music Industry, he eventually sold the business. During this time, he went back to school and earned a B.A. in Theology and found his purpose in serving his community. This led him into the Financial Services industry with a purpose to close the wealth gap in our community and help navigate his clients to financial independence. Louis has been a licensed Financial Advisor for over 20 years in the Orlando, Florida area. He is married to Anita, and they are parents of Duke 30, Cierra 27, and Joshua 15. He is a grandfather of two little joys, Jordyn 7 and Elias 2 (Children of Cierra & Rashad McNair). He still loves golf, traveling, fishing, and his new addiction on the Peloton bike.



Warren Keith Bell was a candidate for the Halifax County School Board in the May 17, 2022 primary. An experienced educator and administrator, Keith is the son of the late

Douglas Bell, Sr. and Beatrice Ivey Bell. Keith and wife, Dionne reside in Roanoke Rapids, NC.



Florine Bell led efforts resulting in the Roanoke Rapids Graded School District Board of Trustees approving a resolution au-

thorizing the placement of a historic marker commemorating the historical significance of the John Armstrong Chaloner School at the Chaloner Middle School campus. The marker will commemorate the historical significance to the Roanoke Rapids Graded School District community. John Armstrong Chaloner School was one of the first modern schools in Halifax County to serve African American students and operated from 1924 to 1970.

Freda Peele Wellman and Sharisse McClain pose with **Jamaal Wellman, Jr.**

Jamaal was promoted to sixth grade at Harris Creek Elementary School in Raleigh, NC.



Terry Bell, Independent Beauty Consultant, and sales director with Mary Kay Cosmetics, participated in the Emerald Seminar on April 23rd, preparing her sales team for seminars at the July 2022 Mary Kay Convention in Dallas, Texas. Terry is featured in Mary Kay **applause** Magazine Winter

2021 edition. She was honored for her outstanding record as sales director for her team during recent annual meetings. In the fall of 2021, Terry was presented a gold-toned watch in recognition of 20 years of public service with the state of North Carolina.

Together, We Continue the Legacy



Emma Smith celebrated her birthday with dinner and a show in Atlantic City and attended US Open Tennis matches in New York. She enjoyed a trip to Disney World with her family.

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Mrs. Viola Pittman Boone enjoyed cake and ice cream with her family to celebrate her 97th birthday on March 30. Mrs. Boone is the wife of the late James Boone. She is a Bell-Ransom Family Honoree.

Mrs. Lucy Turner Sligh of Greensboro, NC and a member of Northampton County Training School Class of 1943, celebrated her 100th birthday on May 18, 2022. Mrs. Turner was a classmate of Barbara Bell Jones.



Mrs. Geraldine Pittman Clark of Garysburg, NC, celebrated her 102nd birthday on May 4th with a cake cutting and ice cream social in her Garysburg home. Present were her sons, Marvin Thomas and John Thomas, and several other relatives. She and her sister, Mrs. Viola Boone are the surviving daughters of the late Cary and Almyra Pittman of Enfield, NC.



Sherri Belfield was featured in *Pride Magazine Charlotte-Influential Women Leading the Way* in Charlotte, NC. Sherri is Director of University Communications and Marketing at Johnson C. Smith University. Read more:

<https://www.pridemagazine.com/specialsection-influential-women-leading-the-way-in-charlotte-9/>

Dr. Michelle Pass is the first ever Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Department of Biological Sciences at UNC Charlotte. Dr. Pass co-taught a global microbiology course for students at the University of Lagos in Lagos, Nigeria. Dr. Pass is the daughter of Mrs. Mary Boone and the late Michael Boone.



Jasper W. Jones celebrated his February 22, 2022, Centennial Birthday on February 21st at his home in Gaston, NC. The celebration was hosted by his niece, Dr. Georgette Kimball. Due to Covid restrictions, the relatives, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Brothers, and friends gathered in Jones' back yard as drivers honked their horns to say, "Happy Birthday." Jasper W. Jones was a retired school principal and Northampton County Superintendent of Schools. The husband of the late Barbara Bell Jones is a Bell-Ransom Honoree.



Rocquel Lowe and the RAQfit Wellness Program promotes good health through nutrition, exercise, and a positive attitude. Her Merry Fitness Challenge was an example of the many special activities she offers throughout the year.

Together, We Continue the Legacy



Brion Gardner and Tala Gardner of Dun Loring, VA.

Taylor Gardner celebrated his 5th birthday on May 12 and brother, **Aric Gardner** turned 7 on June 9. They are the sons of Dr.



Robert Lockhart, Jr. is pictured with his sons, **Jackson** and **Logan**. Robert is the son of the late Robert Lockhart, Sr. and Terry Bell.



Makayla Wellman celebrated her first birthday on November 8th. On the same date,

her brother, **JJ**, celebrated his 11th birthday. Makayla and JJ are the grandchildren of proud grandmother, Freida Peele Wellman.



Talisa Bell announced the birth of Miles Josiah, born 11:44 pm, August 18, weighing in at 9 lbs. 2 oz. Talisa is the daughter of Michael Bell.



Tshika Wellman made the Varsity Cheerleading Team at Wilson Prep High School for the third year. She attended her school's prom and was chosen as a graduation Marshal. The honor student, shown with niece, Makayla, is the granddaughter of Freida Peele Wellman.



RJ Pyatt was promoted to 6th grade at his Indian Head, MD School. During the school year he played basketball on the Charles County Parks and Recreation Select Basketball Team. RJ attended Camp Sims in Seattle, WA with his cousins in July.

Jamel Bell went fishing and is celebrating the catch of a "Big One." Jamel is the son of Jamel and Minggia Bell and the grandson of Michael Bell.



Sophia Pyatt performed with the Charles County Maryland Schools Honors Chorus in April. Sophia was active in Girl Scouts and was a member of the Safety Patrol at J.C. Parks Elementary. She attended camp in Seattle, WA in July.



Augustus Owen Caldwell was born in May. The proud parents are Dr. Jarrett Caldwell and Mesa Lewchalermwang. Augustus is the grandson of the late Dr. Marilyn Caldwell and great-grandson of the late Douglas and Beatrice Ivey Bell, Sr.

Together, We Continue the Legacy



Ava Gardner celebrated her second birthday on October 23, 2021, with a fairy princess themed party. Ava is shown on her first day of summer

camp. Ava is the daughter of Dr. Brion Gardner and Tala Gardner of Dun Loring, Virginia and granddaughter of Beatrice Bell Gardner.



Rawls, Bell, and Ransom Cousins enjoyed a harbor cruise on the Spirit of Norfolk, May 28, 2022 celebrating the Gumberry High School Class of 1975.



Cary "CJ" Bell with father, Cary Bell, mother, Anissa Bell and brother, Elijah Garcia celebrating his 9th birthday on March 11 in Long Beach, California.



Margaret McGee wears a crown as she travels to join family and friends for lunch in celebration of her June 24th birthday. Margaret is a Pre-K teacher at Everetts Elementary STEM Academy in Roanoke Rapids, NC. Margaret is married to Rodney McGee and is the daughter of Margaret B. Hawkins

and the late Quincy L. Hawkins, Sr.



Beatrice Bell Gardner celebrated her 80th birthday in the Dominican Republic in April. Bea celebrated with her sons, Brion, Alex, and Randy Gardner and their families and friends. Also in attendance were sisters, Jeanette Bell Richardson, who turned 79 while



in the Dominican Republic and sister, Wanda Bell Owens. The trip was organized and paid for by Bea's son, Brion Gardner. Brion rented 2 villas with chefs who prepared daily breakfast and dinner. Family and friends came from Arizona,

Maryland, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and Washington DC. The party of 32 enjoyed a week of deep-sea fishing, scuba diving, boat tours, spa, and spending time on the beach.



Catherine R. Bell stands in front of the altar of the new Mount Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Jackson, NC. The dedication service for the new church building was on July 31, 2022. The facility updates make it possible for the church to more adequately meet its ministry needs.

Together, We Continue the Legacy



Summer Wells is dressed up to celebrate being "Fabulous Two." Her second birthday was on December 3rd. She is daughter of Donovan Wells, granddaughter of Cheryl Bell, and great-granddaughter of Clarence Bell.



Deborah Hill of Landover, MD is shown in her new Washington Commanders Football Team jacket, a gift from the team. Deborah is an avid fan and has been featured on several Washington, DC television stations, highlighting her support for the team. She is known as the "Queen of the Team."



Clariel Bell graduated from Pre-Kindergarten on June 1, 2022, from Florence Elementary School in High Point, NC. Clariel is the daughter of Clarence Rashawn' Bell, granddaughter of Clarence S. Bell, Jr. of Toms River, NJ, and great granddaughter of Clarence S. Bell, Sr. of Roanoke Rapids, NC.



Clarence 'Rashawn' Bell completed Level 2 cotton ginning training at the 34th annual Stoneville Cotton new building Ginners School, in Stoneville, MS. The training courses

were held at the USDA-ARS Ginning Research Facility, on the Mississippi State University Delta Research and Extension Center campus. Clarence's goal is to one day become a certified ginner. Clarence also participated as a cast member for a new docuseries called reConnected. The docuseries examined black professionals who pursue career paths in industries that are underrepresented in the black community. He talked about cotton ginning, and how it affects blacks and minorities in modern day times. Clarence was also featured in Our State Magazine July 2022 edition, focusing on North Carolina agriculture. Clarence is the son of Clarence S. Bell, Jr. of Toms River, NJ, grandson of Clarence S. Bell of Roanoke Rapids, NC, and great grandson of the late Thomas and Ozette Pittman Bell.



The town of Halifax King Street Sidewalk Project honored the S.F. Bell Family with a certificate and sidewalk brick.

Linda Strickland and Jacqueline Pyatt participated in the Family Reunion Institute's Virtual Workshop on using Zoom technology and reunions. The Bell-Ransom Family Reunion was featured in several 2021 and 2022 editions of Reunions Magazine.

Bell-Ransom Scholars



Paul Jakob Lawson earned his BS degree in Animal Science and a minor in Communications Studies from Texas State University. Paul is the son of Paul and Bettye-Lowe Lawson of Houston, Texas.

Serenity Ellis graduated from the University of North Carolina Greensboro. She has entered the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill to study for a master's in social work. Serenity is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Rodney Ellis.



Lella Ransome graduated from Emory University in May. Lella is the daughter of James and Lesa-Cline Ransome of Rhinebeck, NY.



Rev. Florine Bell, vice chairwoman of the Edward Cheek House Museum, received the keys to the Edward Cheek House from owner, David Birdsong on July 12. Mr. Birdsong donated the house to the Edward Cheek House Museum also known as the Halifax County, NC African American Cultural Center. The house was home to Edward Cheek, one of three African American postmasters in Halifax during Reconstruction. His sister, Gille Cheek Bell resided in the house with him at one time.

(Photo from The Roanoke Rapids Daily Herald)

The Edward Cheek House Museum and the Roger A Cheek, Sr. Family, son of Edward Cheek.



Seated from L-R: Irma Quay Cheek, Roger A. Cheek, Sr., Willie Howell Cheek, and Fannie E. Cheek.



Standing from L-R: Quinten V. Cheek, Irvin Charlie Cheek, Purcell H. Cheek, Sr., Dr. Conrad H. Cheek, Sr., and Roger A. Cheek, Jr.

Bell-Ransom Scholarship Recipients 2022



Quintin A. Ballard of Montgomery Village, MD, graduated from Watkins Mill High School and will attend University of Maryland Baltimore County to study Computer Science and Cyber Security. Quintin is the son of Walter Ballard, Jr. and Anjanette Ballard.



Kailey Ramiel graduated from DuVal High School in Lanham, MD and will attend Temple University. Kailey is the daughter of Tammy Ramiel and granddaughter of Ralph Bell, Sr.



Aidan Dozier graduated from Jamestown High School in Williamsburg, Virginia. Prior to this, he studied theater at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington, DC. He is scheduled to attend Old Dominion University in the Fall. He was recently recognized at the

200+ Black Men's Honors Breakfast (Virginia Beach Convention Center) which recognizes African American males graduating from public and private high schools with a 3.0 or better grade point average. He received a scholarship from Williamsburg chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated. He is the son of C Mustafa Dozier Esq. and Tonita Ross-Dozier, grandson of Ermogene Sweatt Ross, great-grandson of Martha Ransom Sweatt, and great-grandson of Ned Ransom.



Olivia Bell will join the New York City Ballet as an apprentice in August 2022. She has been a student at The School of American Ballet at Lincoln Center, the official school of the New York City Ballet, and was invited to join the company by the Artistic Director upon her graduation from the school. Earlier in 2022, Olivia was selected to perform at the Kaatsbaan Summer Festival during Rising Stars Weekend, and at the Vail Dance Festival. She also performed a lead role in the world premiere of *Signs* by choreographer Gianna Reisen at The School of American Ballet Annual Workshop in June. Olivia graduated from the University of Missouri High School in June and will attend Louisiana State University Online in the fall. Olivia is the daughter of Damion and Katoiya Bell and the granddaughter of Sumner Bell, III and Janice Bell.

Photo credit: e Rosalie O'Connor



Nyia Turner, graduated from high school on May 22. She is the granddaughter of Julia Taylor Sessoms of Jackson, NC.

Autumn Reveley of Dunkirk, MD, graduated from the prestigious National Cathedral School in Washington, DC. Autumn is the daughter of Dawn Douglas Reveley and granddaughter of Sandra Bell Rosser.

Thank-You Notes

Aaron Chase Hunter, East Carolina University
Naseyah Williams, Nacyah Williams, NC A&T State University, **Kelsey Bell** Drexel University, and **Javieon Palmer**, Georgia Southern University sent thank-you notes to the Bell-Ransom Family for scholarships received in 2021.

In Memoriam



June 21, 1932
August 7, 2021

Willie "Diddle" Hill of Greenbelt, MD, was a US Army veteran. He was a longtime resident of the District of Columbia. Willie worked at GSA for 31 years and received several honors as a Federal Protective Officer. He also worked as a special police officer for the DC Courts. He was a

member of several fraternal organizations including the Eastern Star, Shriners, and Masons. Willie was a deacon at New Dawn Baptist Church. Despite his busy life, his greatest joy was in time spent with his family: His wife of 63 years, Maxine Bell Hill, and his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Willie will be remembered for his smile, good humor, his enjoyment of travel, taking pictures at the family reunion, and supporting his favorite sports teams.



January 15, 1933
January 7, 2022

Rudolph A. Pyatt, Jr. of Fort Washington, MD, was a native of Charleston, SC. After his discharge as a US Army Officer, he worked in education before becoming a trailblazing journalist as a Capitol Hill correspondent for the Charleston News and Courier. He later worked for WETA Television, and in communications for DC Public Schools, and DC Government before returning to journalism at The Washington Evening Star. Pyatt joined the Washington Post in 1981, where he wrote a business column until his retirement in 2000. Pyatt was a sports fan, enjoyed discussing public affairs, listening to music, and being with his family. Married to Jacqueline Bell Pyatt for 59 years, he was the father of twin sons and twin grandchildren. He was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. and South Carolina State Alumni Association.

They served their country. They were among the original founders of the Bell-Ransom Family Reunion. They lived their lives as models of the Bell-Ransom legacy: With Abiding faith, Excellence in their life's work, Service to their communities Deeply rooted in love for their neighbors and their families.



March 20, 1947
March 3, 2022

James Carlton Bell, Sr. of Cheverly, MD, was affectionately known as "Ma". He was the son of Sumner Fairfield Bell, Jr. and Maxine Mills Bell. James grew up in the "neck," graduating from Gumberry High School. James joined the United States Marine

Corps. The Vietnam Veteran was a two-time Purple Heart recipient. After discharge, James worked in security at Howard University Hospital until his retirement in 2002. James was married to Angela B. Bell. He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin, and friend. James will be remembered for his kind heart, his modesty, his mechanical skills, his willingness to help others, and his love for his family.



October 2, 1934
February 25, 2022

Quincy L. Hawkins, Sr. of Weidon, NC, was born in Halifax County. Quincy attended Hampton University and received his degree from Wesleyan College. Quincy joined the United States Marine Corps and served in the Korean Conflict. He received an award as "Marine of the

Month" and appeared on the television show Truth or Consequence. His career in law enforcement included work as a member of the Metropolitan Police Department in Washington, DC, where he was on duty for the Martin Luther King, Jr. "I Have a Dream" speech. He also was a correctional officer for the state of Virginia and North Carolina. Quincy was married to Margaret Bell Hawkins for 62 years. He was the father of three and grandfather of five. He was active in the Harvest of Souls Church with his son, Quincy Hawkins, Jr. as pastor.



February 22, 1922
May 5, 2022

Jasper W. Jones, of Gaston was born in Wise, NC. He was affectionally known as "Jap". He was a World War II Navy Veteran. After his discharge, he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree from Show University and a master's degree from New York

University with additional studies toward a Doctorate. Jasper Jones had a distinguished career in education as instructor, principal, and superintendent in Northampton County Schools. He was an active member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. since 1949. He was married to the late Barbara Bell Jones. Jasper W. Jones was a Bell-Ransom Family Reunion Honoree in appreciation for love, support, and for being a role model and mentor.



In Memoriam

"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith; Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but all of them also that love His appearing."
— II Timothy 4:6-8

Mr. Robert Lee Lockhart, Sr. of Garysburg, NC, father of Stephanie, Kyle, and Rob Lockhart, Jr.

Mr. Harold Williams of Garysburg, NC, brother of Iris Williams.

Bishop Wayne Welch, Sr. of Halifax, NC, son of John A. Welch, Sr.

Ms. Shirley Long Jackson of Garysburg, NC, daughter of the late Raymond and Lula Williams.

Jerome K. Davis of Iselin, NJ, son of the late Emmitt and Janette Branch and cousin of Melvin Branch.



Mrs. Beatrice Freeman McDay (102) of Greenbelt, MD, last surviving daughter of the late Bruce and Alice Freeman of Garysburg, NC.

Mrs. Jennifer Leona Ellis Webb of Garysburg, NC, a daughter of the late Lannie Ellis, Sr. and Vivian Ivey Ellis.

Mrs. Mary Virginia Lewter of Roanoke Rapids, NC, aunt of Sonya Jenkins.

Mrs. Ernestine Doles of Alexandria, VA, wife of the late Emanuel Doles.



Mrs. Almeda S. Carroll of Carroll of Cheverly, MD, grandmother of Erika Person, mother-in-law of James Bell.

Ms. Sarah Boone Vassor of Garysburg, NC, daughter of the late William Thomas Boone and Cozy Johnson Boone.

Mr. Fred McGee of Bronx, NY, uncle of Rodney and Margaret McGee.

Mr. Vincent Chiedum Anyaso of Chicago, IL, husband of Carla Anyaso and son of Claudia Rowles Anyaso and Dr. Victor Anyaso.



Mrs. Jean Gee of Weldon, NC, wife of the late Lawrence Gee, Jr. Mother of Lawrence Gee, II.

Rev. John Green of Weldon, NC, husband of Evelyn Green.

Mr. Theodore Rowles, Jr. of New York, son of Theodore and Maggie Rowles of Jackson, NC.



Dr. Alton Anderson of Weldon, NC, husband of Terri Lowe Anderson.

Rev. Willie Jones of New York, brother of the late James Jones.

Mrs. Mary Bonds of Roanoke Rapids, NC, wife of the late Walter Bonds.

Mr. Lester Greenwood of Garysburg, NC, husband of Lillie Lee Greenwood and cousin of Sandra Rossier.



Rosa Bell MacKey of Elizabeth City, NC, wife of the late John MacKey and friend and god-mother of many Bell-Ransom family members.

Mrs. Delma Anthony (97) of Edenton, NC, mother of Jolyquin Beffield and mother-in-law of Louis Beffield.

John Wesley Britt, Sr. of Suffolk, VA, husband of Janet Allen Britt.

We Remember and We Honor



**Mrs. Nannie Mason
Ransom**

Wife of Douglas Ransom

Jan. 1856-July 1896 (Douglas, N. Thomas,
Sumner, Adams, Ark.)

Douglas and Nannie were married on December 25, 1881, at the home of the Ransoms in the town of Ransom, Adams County, Ark. They were married in the home of the Ransoms in the town of Ransom, Adams County, Ark.

After living in the town of Ransom, Arkansas, they moved to the town of Gentry, Arkansas, in 1885. In 1896, Douglas moved to the town of Sumner, Arkansas, and later moved to the town of Thomas, Arkansas. They were the proud parents of eight children: (1) Alice Belle, Douglas, N. Thomas; (2) James; (3) John; (4) Mary; (5) Ozzette; (6) Virginia; (7) Maxine; and (8) Jack.

Children of Douglas and Nannie Mason Ransom



Alice Ransom Bell



Nannie Ransom Jones



James Ransom Thomas



Mary Ransom Baker



Douglas Ransom, Jr.



Samuel Ransom



Ozzette Ransom



John Ransom



**The Family of
Summer Fairfield &
Alice Ransom Bell**



David Odom Bell



Maxine Bell Gee



Thomas Bell, Jr.



Sumner Bell, Jr.



Douglas Bell, Jr.



Loren Bell



Jack Ransom Bell



Alice Bell Odom



Ozzette Bell Thomas



Beatrice Bell Jones



On August 11, 1979, the vision of Gillie Bell Branch became a reality when her siblings, Geneva Gee, and husband, Lawrence Gee; Alice Odom and husband, David Odom; Barbara Jones and husband, Jasper Jones; Summer Bell and wife, Maxine Bell; and Jack Bell; sister-in-law, Ozzette Bell (Thomas); sister-in-law, Virginia Bell (Loren); and sister-in-law, Beatrice Bell (Douglas); relatives and friends of the Bell-Ransom family gathered for a reunion sponsored by the children and grandchildren of Sumner F. Bell, Sr. and Alice Ransom Bell. That reunion was planned to reminisce, get acquainted with relatives and friends, pay tribute to the deceased, to honor their aunts and uncles, and to learn about their heritage. Over the years, the reunion has been expanded to include all members of the family tree. Sumner and Alice Bell instilled in their children an abiding faith, a strong work ethic, pursuit of excellence, and a dedication to service. That tradition continues as **together, we continue the legacy.**

The Bell-Ransom Family Tree



GROWING AND THRIVING

BELL

Anderson	King
Archer	Pierce
Cheek	Pittman
Clanton	Strickland
Ivory	Scott
Jenkins	Vincent

RANSOM

Boone	Mason
Bracey	Mitchell
Cochran	Rawles
Copeland	Summerell
Freeman	Vassor
Garner	Walker
Jordan	Wyche
Long	

