

① RPU ENTRY-1- AVERY COUNCIL U.
20 JUN 2016

PG1

XID-930

I. Nathan U, I- Healy Clan

A. Burtis U

1. Gilbert Burtis U

a. William Burtis U

i. Rufus Merriman U

(I) Anha Merriman U

~~See Inactive File
for details~~

(A) Avery Council U

230 JUN 1994 - was
Mayor of Raleigh, NC

② Input to RPU by phone from Daniel Hoan Sean 10 JUL 2009

DNS knew Avery U & thought highly of him. Also
knew Avery's PFL and the manette Eric Stahan
on Hillsboro Street. DNS knew near the Mordecai House
and often saw the Community Rep to appear before
Avery as Mayor who DNS says was loved by all
and all. He tells 2 stories about Avery:

1. A lady called & talked to Mayor Uychinski about
her garbage not being picked up. He got in his
city car and went to get the garbage - reported
in Newspaper

2. Re Kinky Kinn Sign at Peace & Peacem. At was
larger than a new sign ordinance allowed. Avery
came out to inspect & DNS argued that the
sign was a marker for anyone trying to
find their way even though it exceeded limits
Avery listened to DNS argument and the
sign is still there. To Kinky Kinn people
never knew to thank DNS.

③ FROM SHAFER'S MAP OF RALEIGH, N.C. - 1881
BY: A. W. SHAFER, C.E. - RPU EXTRACT 14 FEB 2012

RPU ANNOTATIONS:

A Present site of
Raleigh City Hall
named for MAYOR
AVERY COUNCIL U.

- ⓐ W. M. BUSBEE
- ⓑ BAILEY P. (2 LOTS)
WILLIAMSON
- ⓒ MRS. W. W. HOLDEN
- ⓓ WILLIAM GEORGE U.
- ⓔ J. H. WILLIAMS
- ⓕ CORNER FIRESTONE
TIRE STORE - SOURCE
OF RPU 1939 BICYCLE.
NEXT DOOR WEST IS
OFFICE OF LAWYER
R. L. McMILLAN
VISITED BY RPU 2010

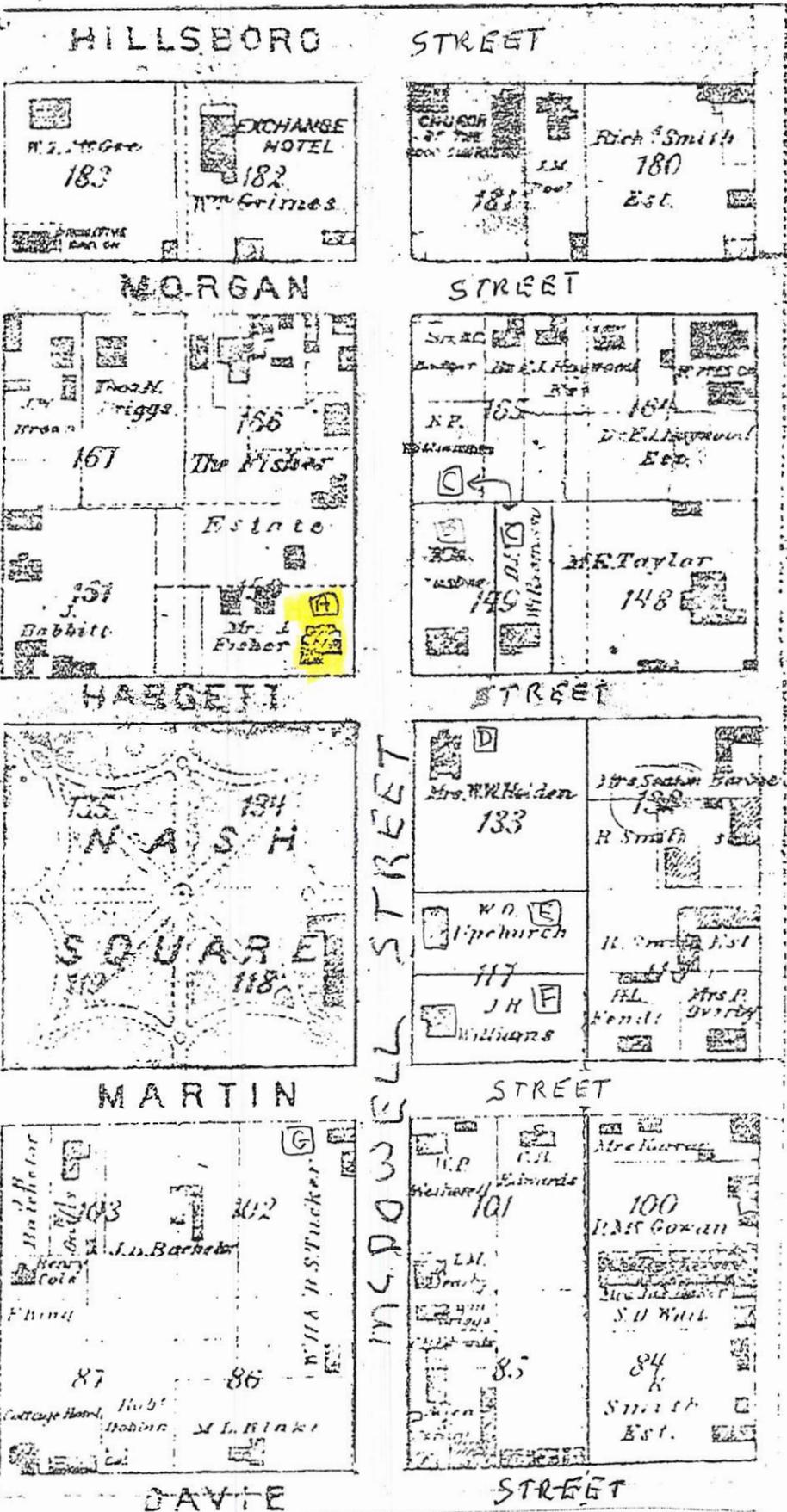
- EMAIL 9 JAN 2012
GETTIS BRADLEY U
TO RPU SENDS
WGU HOUSE ADDRESS
AS 219 SOUTH
MCDOWELL ST
- HEAVY MARKER
ON STREET AT
ⓓ:

H-92 ⓓ WILLIAM W. HOLDEN
1818-1892

Editor. Appointed provisional governor,
1865. Elected governor, 1868; impeached
and removed, 1871. Home stood here.

US 70/401/NC 50 (McDowell Street) at
Hargett Street in Raleigh / 1986

• NOTE ⓓ IS IN NAME
OF WIFE OF W. W. HOLDEN



DAWSON STREET

MCDOWELL STREET

DAVITE STREET

④ Item in the SMAY 2000 News Bulletin of RDU. This goes to her by a neighbor who is a 1949 Graduate of NC State and of Hedham Broughton High.

BROUGHTON MAYORS OF RALEIGH

Thomas Wood Bradshaw, Jr.

Class of '57
 Pres. Raleigh J.C.'s
 Sec. N.C. Dept. Trans.
 Mayor '71-73



"Tommy" ... Clothes ... Dancer ... Lover

Junior Civic Council 3; Audio Visual Committee 1, 2;
 Traffic Club 1; Spanish Club 4; Hi-Y 1,2, Vice-President 2;
 Senior Hi-Y 3, 4; Chorus 1; Home Room President 1,
 Sergeant-at-Arms 2, 3.

Avery Council Upchurch

Class of '47
 Pres. N.C. Service Station Assc.
 A Director of the N.C. Oil Jobbers
 Raleigh Municipal Bldg named
 in his honor
 Mayor '83-93

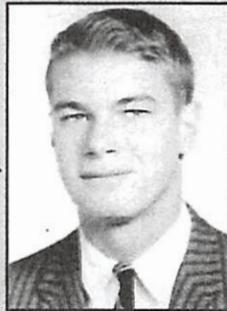


Anne ... Q-Ball Quartet ... blushing ... Chevy

Green Hope High School, Green Hope, N.C., 1, 2; Basketball
 1, 2, 3; Glee Club 2; Boy Scouts 1; Vice-President Class 1; Apex
 High School, Apex, N.C. 3; President Class 3; Student Council
 Representative 3; Sports Editor 3; American History Club 4;
 LATIPAC, Business Staff 5.

George Smedes York "Smedes"

Class of '59
 Chm. N.C. Citizens for Bus. & Ind.
 Chm. RDU Airport
 Pres. Ral-Dur Regional Comm.
 Mayor '79-83

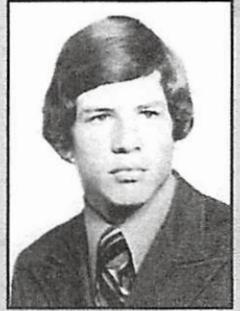


Hatchet ... tall'n blond ... brains!

Student Council Representative 3, Alternate 2;
 Homeroom Officer 2, 4; Monogram Club 3, 4; Hi-Y 2, Vice-
 President 3, President 4; Marshal 3, 4; Football 2, 3, 4;
 Basketball 2, 3, 4; Gold 2, 3, 4; Queen of Hearts Escort 3;
 Boys' State 3.

Paul Yelverton Coble

Class of '72
 City Council '93-99
 Newly installed mayor 1999



Tuffstuff

Student Council Representative 4; Homeroom Officer,
 Sergeant-at-Arms 3; Poster Committee 4; Hi-Y 4; Little Theater 4;
 Monogram Club 4; Fellowship of Christian Athletes 4; Wrestling
 Team 3, 4.

⑤ From: Raleigh Memorial Park Cem. - Glenwood Ave, Raleigh,
 Wake Co, NC - Inspected by RPA 10 OCT 2004

Avery C. 4 "Beloved Father & Husband"

22 DEC 1928 - 30 JUN 1994 [No reference to his being mayor]

6 OBITUARY DOWNLOAD BY JENNA LANE U FOR RPU

Paper: News & Observer, The (Raleigh, NC)
Deceased: James L. "Jay" Jenkins Jr.
Date: November 1, 2003

RALEIGH -- James L. "Jay" Jenkins Jr., a member of the North Carolina Journalism Hall of Fame and retired senior assistant to the president of the University of North Carolina system, died Thursday after a brief illness. He was 84.

Born in Robeson County, Jenkins was the son of the late Rev. Dr. J. L. Jenkins of Boiling Springs and his wife, the late Kate Watson Jenkins. Dr. Jenkins was senior pastor of the Boiling Springs Baptist Church for 25 years, and a former president of what is now Gardner-Webb University in North Carolina's foothills. Mrs. Jenkins was a long-time teacher and principal in Boiling Springs.

Jay Jenkins was a member of a large and distinguished extended family descended from 18th century Scottish missionaries with branches all over Eastern and Western North Carolina. His great uncle, John Charles McNeill, was poet laureate of North Carolina in the early part of the 20th century. Jenkins' cousin, the late Gerald White Johnson of Baltimore, was a colleague of the legendary H.L. Mencken on the Baltimore Sun and the author of numerous books. Jenkins spent parts of his youth in Scotland County, of which both Johnson and McNeill considered themselves native. In addition, the family had a prominent role in the founding of Meredith College in Raleigh, where buildings are named for Jenkins' relatives.

As a schoolboy in Boiling Springs, Jenkins was an accomplished and noted outdoorsman and athlete who played semiprofessional baseball. In later life, he was a low-handicap golfer and devoted follower of the Atlanta Braves and his beloved Wake Forest Demon Deacons.

The family has included many other writers and journalists, and has had a long association with Wake Forest University, where a member of the family had been enrolled or employed on the faculty continuously since 1838, with rare breaks. Jay Jenkins was a graduate, class of 1940. (His father was a graduate of the class of 1910.)

Jenkins also was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Army Air Corps in the Pacific Theater for 30 months. He spent a total of four years in military service.

Jenkins' career in journalism began with United Press International in 1941. He later worked for The Shelby Star, The Wilmington Post and later the Star-News, The News & Observer, The Charlotte Observer and The Winston-Salem Journal. He was regarded by many colleagues as a mentor among them the late Charles Kuralt of CBS News, David Cooper, retired editorial page editor of the Akron (Ohio) Beacon-Journal, James Batten, the late president of the Knight-Ridder Publishing Co., Joe Doster, retired publisher of the Winston-Salem Journal and Eugene Roberts, retired managing editor of The New York Times. Jenkins' reputation as a liberal editor was reflected in his professional and personal life. A long-time member of Raleigh's Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, he was an early and ardent supporter of the civil rights movement and a friend of long standing of that church's courageous minister of 30 years, W.W. Finlator.

Jenkins was the recipient of numerous journalism awards, including, in 1953, the national Sidney Hillman Award for investigative articles in The News & Observer exposing activities of the Ku Klux Klan in North Carolina. At that time, Jenkins and Jonathan Daniels, then-editor of The News & Observer, nominated two small-town North Carolina editors, Willard Cole and Horace Carter, for the Pulitzer Prize because of their daring reporting on the Klan. Cole and Carter won. In the course of his newspaper career, Jenkins knew a multitude of North Carolina politicians, dating to the 1940s, and he attended many national political conventions. Along the way, he made many close friends of considerably different political persuasions: While he was a student in the late 1930s at what was then called Wake Forest College, he formed what would be a lifelong friendship with a fellow student, Jesse Helms. His other closest friend in that arena was the late governor and U.S. Sen. Terry Sanford.

In 1970, Jenkins joined another long-time friend, William Friday, then-president of the University of North Carolina system, as his senior assistant for public affairs and as a lobbyist, which at that time meant Jenkins supervised media relations and promoted the UNC system's campuses in the General Assembly. He and R.D. McMillan, also a close friend and the senior lobbyist for the UNC system, were consistently rated among the top lobbyists at the Legislative Building.

One of Jenkins' most notable accomplishments while with the university system was his creation of "North Carolina People," a television show for which Friday was, and still is, the host. In retirement, Jenkins dabbled in local politics (advising the late Raleigh Mayor Avery Upchurch in his first successful campaign for the office), wrote a column for the Charlotte Observer and continued to serve as a source of information for numerous books written on state and national politics. He also worked for an oral history program in the North Carolina Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill, interviewing many subjects whom he personally knew.

Jenkins is survived by his wife of more than 58 years, the former Lillian Ruth Byers of Shelby and one son, James L. (Jim) Jenkins III, deputy editorial page editor and columnist for The News & Observer. Both are of Raleigh. Other survivors in his immediate family include three sisters: Mrs. Betty Washburn of Boiling Springs, Mrs. Neil Burrus of Shelby and Mrs. Cathy Vosecky of Cullowhee. There also are many surviving members of the extended family, including those from the Riverton community of Scotland County and the Jones family of Shelby.

Family members wish to express their thanks to Dr. Mary Beth Jones, and to the entire staff of the Mayview Convalescent Center, for their extraordinary compassion and care.

The family will greet friends Sunday, November 2 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Brown-Wynne Funeral Home on St. Mary's Street in Raleigh.

In lieu of flowers, those who wish to acknowledge Jay Jenkins may do so with a contribution to the needbased general scholarship fund at Wake Forest University, to the comparable fund at Meredith College or Gardner-Webb University, or to the Salvation Army.

Section: Obit
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7 OBITUARY DOWNLOAD BY JENNA LANE U FOR RPU

Paper: News & Observer, The (Raleigh, NC)
Deceased: Noted journalist dies
Date: October 31, 2003

RALEIGH -- James L. "Jay" Jenkins Jr., a member of the North Carolina Journalism Hall of Fame and retired senior assistant to the president of the University of North Carolina system, died Thursday after a brief illness. He was 84.

Jenkins was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Army Air Corps in the Pacific Theater for 30 months. He spent four years in military service.

Jenkins' career in journalism began with United Press International in 1941. He later worked for The Shelby Star, The Wilmington Post and later the Star-News, The News & Observer, The Charlotte Observer and The Winston-Salem Journal.

"He had that rare quality of being a good listener," said William Friday, president emeritus of the UNC system. "He was the best of his generation that came back here after World War II to help North Carolina get back on its feet and starting to move again."

Jenkins' reputation as a liberal editor was reflected in his professional and personal life. A longtime member of Raleigh's Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, he was an early supporter of the civil rights movement.

Jenkins received numerous journalism awards, including, in 1953, the national Sidney Hillman Award for investigative articles in The N&O exposing activities of the Ku Klux Klan in North Carolina. At that time, Jenkins and Jonathan Daniels, then-editor of The N&O, nominated two small-town North Carolina editors, Willard Cole and Horace Carter, for the Pulitzer Prize because of their daring reporting on the Klan. Cole and Carter won.

Jenkins was inducted into the state's Journalism Hall of Fame in 1991.

Jenkins became close friends with a multitude of North Carolina politicians of considerably different political persuasions.

While he was a student in the late 1930s at what was then Wake Forest College, he formed what would be a lifelong friendship with a fellow student, Jesse Helms. Another close friend was the late governor and U.S. Sen. Terry Sanford.

In 1970, Jenkins joined another longtime friend, then-UNC President Friday, as his senior assistant for public affairs and as a lobbyist, which at that time meant Jenkins supervised media relations and promoted the UNC system's campuses in the General Assembly.

He and R.D. McMillan, a senior lobbyist for the UNC system, were consistently rated among the top lobbyists at the Legislative Building.

One of Jenkins' most notable accomplishments while with the university system was his creation of "North Carolina People," a television show for which Friday is still the host.

In retirement, Jenkins dabbled in local politics, advising former Raleigh Mayor Avery Upchurch in his first successful campaign for the office. He also wrote a column for The Charlotte Observer.

He also worked for the oral history program in the North Carolina Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Jenkins is survived by his wife of more than 58 years, Lillian Ruth Jenkins, and a son, Jim Jenkins III, deputy editorial page editor and columnist for The News & Observer, both of Raleigh; and three sisters.

The family requests that contributions be made to the need-based general scholarship fund at Wake Forest University, to the comparable fund at Meredith College or Gardner-Webb University, or to the Salvation Army.

A private memorial service will be held at an undetermined date on the banks of the Lumber River in Scotland County.

Author: From Staff and Wire Reports
Section: News
Page: B5
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8 OBITUARY DOWNLOADED BY JENNA LANE U FOR RPU

Paper: News & Observer, The (Raleigh, NC)
Deceased: Margaret Lane Turner
Date: November 4, 2007

DURHAM – Mrs. Margaret Lane Turner, 75, passed away Thursday, November 1, 2007 at Durham Regional Hospital. Mrs. Turner was born in Durham, daughter of the late Chet and Elizabeth Taylor.

She worked for many years at Liggett & Myers Tobacco Company and would be recognized by many as a representative for the Estee Lauder Companies. Margaret was very active in civic affairs for the City of Raleigh while married to former Mayor Avery Upchurch. She also enjoyed serving the Look Good Feel Better organization that benefited women with cancer. Margaret's family and friends' hearts will smile when they reminisce about her sense of humor, and the things she loved... the beach, her dogs Princess, Joy and Abigail, and her desire to help others. Many of her friends will miss the encouragement and laughter she brought to their lives and how she lived so boldly, staying true to her beliefs. After the tragic death of her former husband, she was able to find the courage to open her heart again to Jim Turner, whom she married and had 10 wonderful years with.

Margaret Turner was not afraid to live her life to the fullest, always excited about change and trying new things. She was always glowing and ready to greet each new day and the challenges it would bring. Margaret's advice was to live life now and not put off the things you aspire to in life.

Surviving: her husband, James C. Turner of Durham; son, Lane West of Cornelius, NC; stepdaughter, Sharon F. Davis and her husband, Matt Davis of Durham; stepson, Eric Turner of Durham; grandchildren, Ashley Turner and Amanda Turner.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, Joe and Ray Taylor.

A funeral service will be held 2:00 p.m. Sunday at Pleasant Green United Methodist Church, Rev. Brian Wingo presiding. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

The family will receive friends 3:00-5:00 p.m. Saturday evening at Howerton & Bryan Funeral Home.

Flowers are acceptable or donations may be made to: Pleasant Green U.M.C., 3005 Pleasant Green Rd., Durham, 27705.

The Turner family is under the care of Howerton & Bryan Funeral Home.

Online condolences at www.howertonbryan.com

IN MEMORIAM

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I LNET TAYLOR

A. JOE TAYLOR

B. RAY TAYLOR

A C. MARGARET LANE Taylor

Δ Md (ISA) Amy U

md (2nd) James C. Turner

④ Obituary Download by James Lane U for RPH

Paper: Herald-Sun, The (Durham, NC)
Deceased: Margaret Lane Turner
Date: November 4, 2007

DURHAM - Mrs. Margaret Lane Turner, 75, passed away Thursday, November 01, 2007, at Durham Regional Hospital. Mrs. Turner was born in Durham, daughter of the late Chet and Elizabeth Taylor.

She worked for many years at Liggett & Myers Tobacco Company and would be recognized by many as a representative for the Estee Lauder Companies. Margaret was very active in civic affairs for the City of Raleigh while married to former Mayor Avery Upchurch. She also enjoyed serving the Look Good Feel Better organization that benefited women with cancer.

Margaret's family and friends' hearts will smile when they reminisce about her sense of humor, and the things she loved: the beach, her dogs Princess, Joy and Abigail, and her desire to help others.

Many of her friends will miss the encouragement and laughter she brought to their lives and how she lived so boldly, staying true to her beliefs.

After the tragic death of her former husband, she was able to find the courage to open her heart again to Jim Turner, whom she married and had ten wonderful years with.

Margaret Turner was not afraid to live her life to the fullest, always excited about change and trying new things. She was always glowing and ready to greet each new day and the challenges it would bring.

Margaret's advice was to live life now and not put off the things you aspire to in life.

Surviving is her husband, James C. Turner, of Durham; son, Lane West, of Cornelius, N.C.; stepdaughter, Sharon F. Davis and her husband Matt Davis, of Durham; step-son, Eric Turner, of Durham; grandchildren, Ashley Turner and Amanda Turner. She was preceded in death by two brothers, Joe and Ray Taylor.

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, at Pleasant Green United Methodist Church, Rev. Brian Wingo presiding. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

The family will receive friends Saturday evening from 3 to 5 p.m. at Howerton & Bryan Funeral Home. Flowers are acceptable or donations may be made to Pleasant Green U.M.C., 3005 Pleasant Green Rd., Durham, N.C. 27705.

The Turner family is under the care of Howerton & Bryan Funeral Home.

Online condolences at www.howertonbryan.com.

I - - 4
Δ A. Avery Council 4
md(1) Margaret Lane Turner / md (2nd) - After Avery died
Jim Turner
[James C. Turner]

(10) Download for RPU by Jenna Lane U

Paper: News & Observer, The (Raleigh, NC)

Deceased: City workers remember Upchurch's life and mourn his death

Date: July 2, 1994

RALEIGH -- Among the dozens of events that the city's Public Affairs Office has organized over the years, one might always be remembered as the easiest to pull together: the farewell party last fall for the retiring Mayor Avery C. Upchurch.

"He was so dearly loved that absolutely everybody in City Hall wanted to help out," said Jayne Kirkpatrick, the city's public affairs director.

On Friday -- just seven months after Upchurch left office -- the same city employees were in mourning over his death.

They said that with his passing the day before, Raleigh had lost one of its best-loved leaders -- and that many of them had lost an extraordinarily caring and compassionate friend.

"Avery was the kind of person who everybody liked," said Clay Rhodes, a plans examiner in the city's inspections department. "It didn't matter if you worked in the mail room or emptied the trash or cleaned the bathroom. Avery had time for you, and in most cases knew you by your first name."

Flags at the Municipal Building were lowered to half-staff Friday morning in honor of Upchurch and his unprecedented decade in the mayor's office, and they will remain lowered through today. Upchurch's funeral is today at 2 p.m. at Forest Hills Baptist Church. Burial will follow at Raleigh Memorial Park.

His passing weighed heavily Friday on many of the city's 2,500 employees, from the city's manager office down through the ranks. Before the inauguration of Tom Fetzner in December, Upchurch had been the only mayor most current city staff had served.

"It's very quiet, very somber here today," said Brenda Hunt, the city's deputy clerk.

She said she kept thinking about Upchurch's visit to the clerks' office just a few weeks after he retired. With his characteristic smile, he came bearing candy for everyone there.

That was the last time many of them saw him. In January, he was diagnosed with cancer of the esophagus, which soon began to spread to other parts of his body.

Hunt said she had come to know Upchurch long before he was elected mayor for the first time in 1983. When she was a young girl, Hunt said, Upchurch and his wife Margaret would shop in her father's grocery store. She and her family would stop at the gas station Upchurch operated.

"I just don't ever remember not knowing him," she said.

Just down the second-floor hall from the clerk's office, City Attorney Thomas McCormick sat back and reminisced about his friend. A day earlier, he had sat by the former mayor's bedside when he died at Duke University Medical Center.

"He always was a great personal booster for me," McCormick said. "When I felt discouraged about things, he'd always push me back up. ... You always had to force it out of him to find out if something was troubling him because he was always so concerned about you."

Upchurch was first elected to a seat on City Council in 1979, about three years after McCormick's arrival in the city attorney's office.

"We spent a lot of time together," McCormick said, adding that Upchurch's passing really hadn't sunk in yet. "I still keep thinking about needing to go visit him in the hospital today."

City employees repeatedly mentioned in interviews Friday that Upchurch took remarkable pride in their work.

(10) CONTINUED

When the city began its recycling program several years ago, **Upchurch** came out to the sanitation warehouse to take a look at the city's new fleet of recycling trucks -- and beamed at what he saw.

"He was so proud of our people," said Gerald Latta, the city's sanitation superintendent. "It meant a lot. He was a good man. He really looked out for the employees."

Planning Director George Chapman said he thought many city staff members who knew **Upchurch** well were "still at the coping stage" Friday.

"It's a major loss," Chapman said, "not only of the leadership he provided, but also, because he was such a personable mayor, a lot of people will miss him as a friend."

Chapman recalled that a few years ago, his daughter, who was 12 at the time, had told **Upchurch** that the city should have a movie theater located downtown on Fayetteville Street Mall.

Chapman said both he and his daughter were taken aback when **Upchurch** wrote a detailed letter explaining why that might be difficult.

"He took the time to write a letter to a 12-year-old. That's the kind of person he was," Chapman said.

When he retired, **Upchurch** said he wanted to spend more time with his wife, two sons and granddaughter. Others said he certainly deserved to relax a little after devoting so much time to serving the city.

"What a shame that that time was so short," Chapman said. "He had such promise as a retired mayor, as a statesman who could continue to bring people together."

For the last six of **Upchurch's** 10 years as mayor, council member Mary Watson Nooe worked out of the office next door to his at City Hall.

"I'm really having a hard time dealing with this," she said Friday, holding back tears as she spoke from the office she continues to occupy.

She said she receives some comfort from knowing how full **Upchurch's** life has been.

"Avery got to do what he wanted to do," she said. "He really wanted to be mayor of Raleigh. Avery served the city for 10 years and every day he got up, and he was proud to be mayor."

Nooe said she considered **Upchurch** a mentor, even though the two didn't always agree on the issues.

"I will miss him," she said. "I will miss him very, very much."

Author: JOHN WAGNER

AVERY COUNCIL U PE10

XFD-930

(11) Download for RPH by Jenna Lane 4

Paper: News & Observer, The (Raleigh, NC)
Deceased: Ex-Mayor Upchurch dies of cancer
Date: July 1, 1994

Avery C. Upchurch, a gas station operator who stepped forward to serve an unprecedented five terms as Raleigh's homespun mayor from 1983 to 1993, died Thursday after a six-month battle with cancer. He was 65.

In his decade at the city's helm, Mr. Upchurch presided over Raleigh's transformation from a growing government town to an emerging American city lauded for its high quality of life. He was known for his folksy style, even temper and willingness to listen.

Mr. Upchurch retired from politics in December and was

diagnosed with cancer of the esophagus in January. He had been treated for the disease at Duke University Medical Center and recently had been re-admitted. He died at 5:33 p.m.

"He earned the title of Raleigh's drive-in mayor," said his friend G. Wesley Williams, former executive director of the Raleigh Merchants Bureau. "You could drive into the service station and have a conference with the mayor without having an appointment, and he always had time to talk."

He earned a reputation as an amiable, around-the-clock public servant. When an angry woman called him to complain that her garbage hadn't been picked up, Mr. Upchurch didn't shove the problem off to a bureaucrat. He drove to the woman's house and picked it up himself.

Mr. Upchurch's tenure bridged the gap from the time when City Council candidates ran campaigns geared mainly to pro-business or pro-neighborhood interests to the more modern, more expensive, media-dominated election that produced Tom Fetzter, the city's first Republican mayor.

"Avery Upchurch served as mayor of Raleigh longer than anyone else in modern times and left an indelible imprint on our city," Fetzter said. "He will be remembered not only for his achievements, but the way he went about accomplishing them. He always conducted himself with consummate grace, dignity and humility. In doing so, he set a standard for myself and all others who will follow him."

The funeral will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Forest Hills Baptist Church. Burial will follow at Raleigh Memorial Park. The family will receive friends at Mitchell Funeral Home, 600 St. Mary's St., from 7 to 9 p.m. today. In the ice cream of Raleigh politics, Mr. Upchurch was the dependable, comfortable vanilla that separated old-fashioned strawberry from Rocky Road.

He drew support from business and neighborhood groups, and pleased enough of the people enough of the time to be re-elected four times. His wide popularity was illustrated by the fact he was a registered Democrat, but his biggest financial supporter most of the time was developer Steve Stroud, a power in the Republican party.

Born and reared in the Upchurch community in southwestern Wake County, Mr. Upchurch moved to Raleigh with his family in 1945. He graduated from Broughton High School in 1947. He took economics and business classes at N.C. State University for two years, and in 1953 started a heating oil business in Raleigh.

Besides the heating oil business, he operated two gas stations, one on Glenwood Avenue and the other on Peace Street.

He said running those businesses taught him a skill that would come in handy later -- how to be a good listener. He heard a lot of complaints, and he got a lot of advice.

Over the next few years, Mr. Upchurch served as executive director and later as president of the N.C. Service Station Association. He was president of the Raleigh Merchants Bureau, director of the N.C. Oil Jobbers Association and a member of a state advisory board for distributive education in North Carolina. He also was a national director of an organization of service station dealers in America.

His political career was launched in 1976 when he was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Raleigh Planning Commission. For

(11) - CONTINUED

the folksy **Upchurch**, the planning commission became a springboard.

In August 1979, he filed for an at-large seat on the Raleigh City Council. His platform had four planks: the need for

comprehensive planning; stimulating economic development; reining in government regulation; and cooperating with other governments and agencies.

He was elected to the council and won re-election in 1981. In 1983, he decided to go for the whole bag of marbles and ran for mayor, defeating Tony Jordan and two other candidates.

Shortly after he took office, **Mr. Upchurch** showed people what kind of new mayor they had elected.

On Christmas Day 1983, during an unusually bitter cold spell, police found a man had frozen to death outside a downtown building. As soon as he heard it, **Mr. Upchurch** stopped his own Christmas Day observance with his family and came downtown to see what he could do.

In 1985, **Mr. Upchurch** faced O. Thomas Dobbs and swept every precinct, collecting 85 percent of the vote.

He ran unopposed in 1987 and went for a fourth term in 1989, defeating at-large council member Charles Meeker with 56 percent of the vote. He promised to fight the city's drug problem, and the council endorsed Project Phoenix, a joint city-state effort to combat drugs with education and law enforcement.

Mr. Meeker and **Mr. Upchurch** were at odds on mass transit, taxes, the Outer Loop and controls on development, but agreed on a downtown coliseum and expansion of the Civic Center and Memorial Auditorium.

Mr. Upchurch was elected to what would be his final term in 1991. He had closed his Peace Street service station in 1988 but still ran his Glenwood Avenue business until 1991.

During his tenure, he was an officer in the N.C. League of Municipalities, a member of the State Capital Planning Commission, the N.C. Transportation Task Force and the governor's Local Government Advocacy Council. He also served on the Falls/Jordan Lake Steering Committee and at one time was chairman of the Triangle J. Council of Governments.

Woodrow Wilson was his idol. A collection of President Wilson's speeches and a series of his lectures occupied a prominent place on a shelf in the **Upchurch** home on Fernwood Drive.

Mr. Upchurch was a bit of an international man himself, using his own money to visit Raleigh's sister city in England,

Kingston-Upon-Hull, and twice attending meetings of the

International Association of Cities of the Future in Europe. He said that dealing with foreign dignitaries helped him realize the whole world is really one big community.

He said being mayor was like living in a glass house. But he kept his philosophy simple.

"To be elected is the honor. to serve is the opportunity, and to be effective is the reward," he once said.

But he received criticism as well as praise during his tenure.

He spearheaded a successful \$20 million bond issue for roads that gave Raleigh taxpayers a visible, and useful, return on their investment -- new corridors that got them across town more quickly and easily.

He championed the cause of downtown revitalization, and saw Moore Square grow from a run-down park and shabby commercial area to an attractive downtown drawing card with speciality shops, art galleries and restaurants and a \$4.5 million six-level parking deck on East Martin Street.

He drew praise from the black community when he appointed Ralph Campbell Jr., then a council newcomer, to head the powerful Law and Finance Committee. But other factions criticized him for not appointing long-term council member Mary Cates to chair the Public Works Committee.

(1) - CONTINUED

He was praised when he called for the city manager to investigate complaints about police tactics in a sex-offense case because some didn't think police had acted responsibly.

Early on, he called for restraints on development in the sensitive Falls Lake watershed, and he prodded the city to hire private help to get the city's streets cleared of snow during a particularly messy winter.

But the down-home mayor sometimes failed to move the City Council out of the dithering stage, and sometimes it seemed as if council members couldn't see the forest for the trees. A quandary over where to put a new aquatics center dragged on for years before the council finally made a decision. And sometimes he was frustrated when he couldn't negotiate compromise between warring neighborhood-oriented and business-oriented groups.

When a reporter asked how he made his decisions, Mr. Upchurch responded by saying that problems really built a fire under him, and he based his decisions on past experience and by attempting to put himself in the other person's shoes. He wrote notes to himself about important things he wanted to remember, and sometimes, he said, he awakened in the middle of the night with answers to dilemmas.

During Mr. Upchurch's tenure, Raleigh adopted billboard and landscape ordinances, an urban forestry program, a program to beautify Capital Boulevard, and a landscaped median on the Raleigh Beltline.

He never appeared in public without his coat and tie -- he disapproved of politicians in shirt sleeves -- but to most of his constituents, he was just Avery. Titles such as Mr. Mayor and His Honor were reserved by most for formal occasions.

He was the people's mayor. Quiet and definitely un-flashy, Mr. Upchurch could be counted on to be there when there was a ribbon-cutting or a ground-breaking or a new community program that needed to be launched.

He rode an elephant, danced with Donald Duck, won the 1984 lizard race at the State Fairgrounds, and once got blown away in a hot air balloon until the pilot managed to slow it down by dragging it against trees.

But he knew where to draw the line. Mr. Upchurch never would dive into a pool of Jello, not even for charity.

When a "Goodbye, Avery" party was given shortly before he left office, hundreds of people massed in Hargett Street to wish him well and thank him for his service. The outgoing mayor seemed overwhelmed and at one point had tears in his eyes as he pointed to a sapling planted in his honor in Nash Square, across from City Hall. It had been grown from an acorn collected from Raleigh's historic Henry Clay Oak.

"Look at that," he said, pointing to the sapling. "That's going to be here for a long time after I'm gone."

But if health concerns played any role in Mr. Upchurch's retirement, he never mentioned it. He said he decided to step aside in 1993 when he was asked to go to Morocco for a week to visit a water treatment plant and realized he hadn't had a vacation in years.

When he left office after Mr. Fetzer's swearing-in last December, he told a reporter, "I'm ready to have some fun."

But as it turned out, he had very little time for that.

In January, Mr. Upchurch had difficulty with swallowing and speaking, and was admitted to Duke University Medical Center for tests. He was diagnosed with esophageal cancer, which had spread to his lymph nodes before it was detected.

He received treatments at Duke and appeared to be responding well, even feeling good enough to preside over a Research Triangle World Trade Center meeting in February.

In May, the city's Appearance Commission honored him with a lifetime achievement award, but the former mayor had to watch the ceremony at home on cable television because he was too weak to attend. Mr. Upchurch started the awards, to acknowledge excellence in landscaping and architecture, in 1983.

"The family greatly appreciates the efforts put forth by his many friends and the staff of Duke Medical Center to make him comfortable," Mr. Upchurch's son, Edward, said in a statement Thursday night.

The family asked that memorials be made to the Avery C. Upchurch Foundation, 702 N. Person St., Raleigh 27604. The foundation was created to sponsor annual conferences for students at City Hall to teach how cities are organized, planned and

(11) - CONTINUED

governed.

In addition to his son, he is survived by his wife, Margaret; a stepson, Lane West; a brother, Thurman Upchurch, of Swansboro; and a sister, Bobbie Denton, of Raleigh.

Staff writers Wade Rawlins, Debbi Sykes and John Wagner contributed to this report.

###(This story has 3 side bars.)

Author: TREVA JONES

(12) NC DIVORCE LISTINGS FOR UPCHURCH COUPLES
1958-2004 - COUNTY OF DIVORCE = WAKE

Arthur Upchurch	Stormie Upchurch	14 Oct 1981	Wake
Avery Upchurch	Marilyn Upchurch	10 May 1965	Wake

(13) N.C. MARRIAGES

Avery C Upchurch

birth: 1929
North Carolina
Marriages, 1759-1979
marriage: 21 Jul 1951
Raleigh, Wake, North Carolina
spouse: Marilyn F Morrissette

(14) North Carolina Death Records 1968-1996

UPCHURCH, AVERY COUNCIL Death Date: 30 June 1994 Gender: Male
Place of Death: Durham (P), Durham, North Carolina Race: White
Residence: Raleigh, Wake, North Carolina Age: 65 Years
Autopsy: No Marital Status: Married
Hospital: General Hospital Bed Code: 100 Beds & Over
Attendant: Physician Burial: Burial in state
Birth Date: 22 December 1928 State of Birth: North Carolina
Father: UPCHURCH Death Date: SS# 239389416

(15) Re Avery Council Upchurch - Article reproduced from Upchurch Bulletin Vol 6 No 2 April 1985 pages 47 and 48 By Robert Phillip Upchurch, Editor Upchurch Bulletin.

(15) CONTINUED

II. PHOTOGRAPH

A. A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE AVERY COUNCIL UPCHURCH -
MAYOR OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA.

XID
930



AVERY COUNCIL UPCHURCH

In December 1983 Avery Upchurch was sworn in as Mayor of Raleigh, 930 the Capital City of NC. His successful election to the Mayorship followed eight years in city government and a lifetime of struggle, growth and performance. He served on the Raleigh Planning Commission 1976-1978 and on the City Council 1979-1983.

On 27 FEB 1985 your Editor visited Mayor Upchurch in his office and had the pleasure of conferring about family history and about how a country boy feels as Mayor of a major city.

Avery is the son of Auba Merrimon Upchurch, the gs of 930,926
Rufus Merrimon Upchurch, the ggs of William Burtis Upchurch I, 909, 93
the gggs of Gilbert Burtis Upchurch, the ggggs of Burtis Upchurch 135, 80

and the gggggs of Nathan Upchurch I, Head of Upchurch Clan 3.	XID
Avery Upchurch was born and raised in a farm community in western	78
Wake Co., NC near Green Level where his ancestor Nathan Upchurch I	930
had settled about 1802.	78

Avery was b. 27 DEC 1928 and grew up during the depression.	930
---	-----

Life on the farm was hard but there was productive work to do. His father and his grandfather were stern taskmasters and they drilled into Avery the importance of success and of saving money. When he graduated from Needham Broughton High School in Raleigh, NC circumstances did not offer the prospects of a college education. Accordingly, he set out to gain further education through experience and public service. Over the years he has never stopped pushing forward and striving for greater and greater success.

In the early years Avery started working for his father-in-law at Morrisette's Esso Service Station on Hillsborough Street across from N. C. State University. This launched him on the path to being a successful small businessman. Today he owns two service stations and a heating oil company. Along the way he has found time to enrich his life with formal courses at N. C. State University and he has contributed to numerous civic and public service clubs. His life-long goal is to contribute one-half of his time to public service.

The success of Avery U. grows out of his feeling for the common man. They believe he understands their problems and their viewpoints. They visit him as he pumps gas at his station on the corner of Glenwood Avenue and Oberlin Road. While I waited for my appointment with the Mayor, an elderly black minister dropped by to get help with a problem. I was ever so impressed with the helpful attitude of the Mayor's staff. The gentleman left the office with the conviction that he had the Mayor's support. Clearly Avery attracts the common man and surrounds himself with helpful, caring people. The result of all of this is that there is an excellent balance in the Capital City with respect to the interests of the ordinary citizen and the interests of the larger firms.

The people of North Carolina are comfortable with Avery as well they should be. We know not what additional opportunities he may yet have for service in high office. We do know that he is accumulating a record of performance that will serve him well whatever may come. He has developed a creed which is posted in his office. It reads as follows:

"To be elected is the honor,
 To serve is the opportunity,
 To have been effective is the reward."

With this philosophy is there any wonder that Avery Council Upchurch has come so far and developed so much potential. I am proud to count him my third cousin twice removed and know that all the members of our extended Upchurch family wish him well and will watch with interest his continuing achievements.

(Nathan → Buster → William Buster I → Rufus Memmon → Auler → Aney C)

(10) Aney C. U. was son of Auler and Mertie (Newell) U. Aney and (1) — Marshall

(2) — — (30, pg 8).

(2) Clipping provided by Barnett Phillip U - his handwriting on the clipping

(17)

The News & Observer - RALEIGH (2)
NC

Oct. 1, 1977

who said we didn't have people in high places.

Charge for directions called 'bad for image'

The president of the N.C. Service Station Association, Avery Upchurch, Friday objected to a Raleigh service station owner's practice of charging drivers for giving directions.

M.G. Parrish posted a sign reading "Information 50 cents, unless buying," at his Amoco station at the corner of Glenwood and Vick Avenues two weeks ago because he was tired of drivers getting off the Raleigh beltline stopping in just for directions to Raleigh.

"It's bad public relations," Upchurch said of Parrish's sign.

"Information is one of the things we do give and 99 per cent of the dealers are happy to give it. We don't want the public to think we're all going to start charging," he said.

Despite the sign, Parrish doesn't normally charge customers, but the sign deters people from driving up with their horns honking, demanding directions to everywhere from Hillsborough Street to Texas, he said.

He said he'd only collected about \$1.50 in two weeks.



Avery Upchurch

Upchurch Honored

(3) By Distributive Education Clubs

RALEIGH (AP) — The North Carolina Association of Distributive Education Clubs of America Saturday named Avery Upchurch of Raleigh as its "man of the year."

DECA is an organization for distributive education students in the state's high schools.

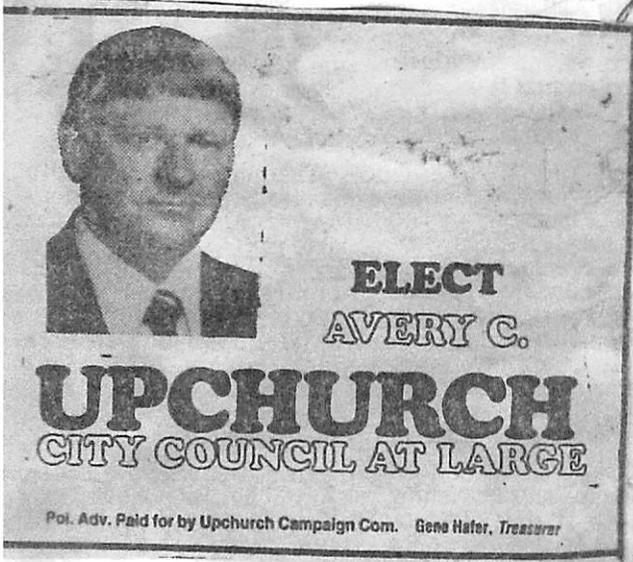
Upchurch, executive director of the North Carolina Service Station Association, was honored for providing leadership in the field of distributive education.

The award was presented during the 28th annual DECA state leadership conference in Raleigh.

(18) Clipping provided by Belle West in her 15 JUN 1978 Ltr to RPU.

19 See 11 NOV 1979 Ltr from Emma Fossie U

"Item #1 since I wrote you, a friend of mine from Columbus, Ohio sent this pol. adv. for ~~the~~
 A very Upchurch. Her husband had seen it
 when he was in Raleigh on a business trip
 My friend is very generous with compliments
 so I am attaching that portion of her note
 which concerns Avery. I didn't study the
 chart - is he one of ours? "



#1

20 See Notes of RCU 25 FEB 1980 Visit to Brown - Myron
 Funeral Home - Raleigh, NC

Deceased = Sara Forest U, 707 Beaver Dam Rd 9 NOV 1972
 lms 11 NOV 1972 Raleigh Mem. Park, Address
 Raleigh, NC. - Charge to father: Avery C. U 3721
 Fernwood Dr 27612. - Second note says - Charge
 to Mrs Marilyn M. U 707 Beaver Dam Rd 27609

21

In Ltr James Allen Arnold, Sr to RPU 16 JUL 1991
 The News & Observer TUE 9 JUL 1991 Raleigh, NC

Mayor's style, concern wear well with voters

By **DUDLEY PRICE**
 Staff writer

When Raleigh garbage collectors failed to pick up a woman's trash several years ago, she complained to Mayor Avery C. Upchurch. He drove to the woman's house and picked up the garbage himself.

Such personal concern for the city and its residents — and the mayor's easygoing, down-to-earth personality — offers insight into how Mr. Upchurch has won an unprecedented four terms as mayor, say friends, supporters — even adversaries.

"I think the mayor's human, sort of folksy style has made him very popular," said Norma DeCamp Burns, a former council member who sometimes was at odds with Mr. Upchurch. "People feel very comfortable with him. I think that's the basis of his success as a politician — he's very human and people see him that way."

On Wednesday, Mr. Upchurch announced he would seek a fifth term. And if the handicappers are correct, Mr. Upchurch will be difficult to beat — should anyone even try.

Make no mistake. Not everyone loves Mr. Upchurch.

Neighborhood leaders think he's too favorable to developers. They disagree with his support for some large entertainment projects, such as a planned sports arena near N.C. State University's Carter-Finley Stadium. As proposed, the arena would be funded by city, county and state taxes.

"I cannot imagine he would want citizens to be paying triple taxes, not for the health and welfare, but for the amusement of people and profit of private enterprise," said Miriam P. Block, a neighborhood leader and former council member.

Another former council member said Mr. Upchurch was neither visionary or even particularly imaginative in the city's top job.

Business leaders also have been angered by his stands. For example, Mr. Upchurch won few friends among that group last

summer when he publicly questioned efforts to land a National Football League team. He also turned off business leaders with his reluctance to involve the city with a proposed Children's Museum.

Even his backers aren't known for wildly enthusiastic support.

"I call him the Teflon mayor," said former Mayor G. Smedes York, head of a major development firm and chairman of the Raleigh-Durham Airport Authority. "Even when things went wrong, nobody blamed him because of the positive feel people have about him as a person. It's a real attribute in politics."

A case in point: A year ago, Mr. Upchurch defended a downtown redevelopment plan that called for expansion of the Civic Center southward toward Memorial Auditorium. A strong supporter, E. Stephen Stroud, the chairman of Carolantic Realty Inc., objected.

A months-long fight ensued over how downtown redevelopment should proceed, with Mr. Stroud proposing his own plan. The revolt led to a totally new plan.

But when Mr. Upchurch made his re-election announcement Wednesday, Mr. Stroud was on hand. The downtown issue "was resolved," Mr. Stroud said simply.

There have been other unpopular stands. In the early 1980s, Mr. Upchurch questioned whether vendors should be allowed to sell balloons on the Fayetteville Street Mall.

"The problem with Avery is the questions he should ask privately, he asks publicly," said one observer.

Neighborhood activists have been enraged recently by his support for new shopping centers at Six Forks and Strickland roads, at Millbrook Road and Atlantic Avenue and on U.S. 64. All of those developments won council approval.

"There's a lack of interest in following and supporting the comprehensive plan and there is a lack of interest in protecting neighborhoods," said Mary Ruth Johnson, a former member of the Raleigh Planning Commission.

But Mr. York and others noted that Mr. Upchurch works from a

positive agenda that stresses transportation, water quality and downtown redevelopment.

For example, he has tried to get uniform regulations to protect the quality of Falls Lake, the city's sole source of drinking water, they said.

In announcing his re-election bid, he named a \$100 million downtown convention center, new roads and mass transit, and the jointly funded arena as projects he intended to pursue.

But what Mr. Upchurch may enjoy most about the office are the little things. His wife, Margaret, said the mayor liked to get up at 6 a.m. And what does he do then?

Mr. Upchurch personally investigates citizens' complaints. For example, if someone wants a traffic light placed at a particular intersection, he'll go check it out.

That personal interest has never changed, friends and supporters say. For example, during his first mayoral campaign, Mr. Upchurch chose to ride for a night with some police to get a better idea of his city. Among the stops were gay and topless bars.

F. Michael James, pharmacist and owner of Person Street Pharmacy who has been Mr. Upchurch's campaign coordinator during all previous mayoral bids, called Mr. Upchurch "Raleigh's number one concerned citizen. He wants to see Raleigh progress in the right direction."

"He feels a total commitment to Raleigh and future mayors will be judged by his performance," Mr. James said. "He's made mayor a full-time office."

Benjamin B. Taylor, a council observer and frequent spokesman for developers, offered a different insight. "I think he feels like some of the big things aren't as important as the little ones."



Avery C. Upchurch.

Born: Dec. 22, 1928 in Upchurch, a tiny farming cross-roads in Western Wake County.

Family: Margaret Taylor Upchurch; one son, Edward; and one stepson, Lane West.

Education: 1947 graduate of Broughton High School. Raleigh.

Career: Former owner and operator of two Exxon service stations and a heating oil business; executive director of the North Carolina Service Station Association from 1969 to 1978; served on Raleigh Planning Commission from 1976 to 1979; elected to the City Council 1979, re-elected 1981; elected mayor 1983, 1985, 1987 and 1989.

Hobbies: boating, gardening and playing with his dog, Joy.



Staff photo by Roger Winstead
 'People feel very comfortable' with Mayor Avery C. Upchurch

THE NEWS & OBSERVER TUE 14 MAY 1991 Raleigh, NC

22 From RA 29 MAY 1991 James Allen Arnold, R R 54

Mayor giving up gas station

By C.E. YANDLE
Staff writer

Avery C. Upchurch was getting impatient. The Raleigh mayor had expected the questions to focus on his decision to retire after 38 years as operator of Upchurch Exxon.

Instead, a reporter asked Mr. Upchurch, 62, about the new owner, LeGrand McDonald, a Lumberton businessman who operates several other service stations.

"The story isn't him taking over," Mr. Upchurch chided. "It's me retiring."

On Sunday, Mr. Upchurch will retire as operator of the station at 2601 Glenwood Ave. He said he would decide next month whether to seek a record fifth consecutive term as mayor. He said the two matters were not related.

Mr. Upchurch said he was retiring because of rising costs, slimmer profits and increasingly complex federal and state regulations affecting gasoline stations.

He said he also was getting out of the heating oil business. His company for years served hundreds of Raleigh homes with heating fuel, but that business has dwindled to fewer than 100 customers.

Mr. Upchurch's decision ends eight years in the city's history when the mayor frequently could be found pumping gas.

"I think people have always thought they could find him there," said G. Smedes York, president of York Construction Co. in Raleigh and Mr. Upchurch's predecessor as mayor. "People are going to miss seeing him at the service station. I know I'm going to miss being able to drop by and see him."

Mr. Upchurch started his business in 1953 as Upchurch Esso, using the oil giant's former name. Esso recruited Mr. Upchurch to run the station after the company leased the land from L.W. Morrisette, who ran an Esso station on

'Your headline should say: "Mayor looking for job."'

— Avery C. Upchurch, discussing plans

Hillsborough Street where Mr. Upchurch was employed.

Over the years, Mr. Upchurch regularly has greeted patrons at his Glenwood station and at a second station at the intersection of Peace Street and Glenwood Avenue that he closed in 1988.

Because Exxon controls the station, Mr. Upchurch owns only the equipment, gasoline and automotive parts in stock. Exxon will buy the gasoline and parts — such as spark plugs, hoses and belts — and Mr. McDonald will buy the equipment. Mr. Upchurch de-

business

clined to state the purchase price.

Mr. McDonald could not be reached for comment.

While Mr. McDonald will buy the equipment, gasoline and other assets, he will not have to pay Mr. Upchurch a fee for the customers who may continue to patronize the station. In financial circles, customers are known as "good will."

"That does not enter into this transaction," Mr. Upchurch said. "The oil companies say, and this is their quote: 'There is no good will in a service station.' It's always baffled me."

He said his retirement did not mean he planned to quit working. He said he was looking for full-time work, and might consider becoming a lobbyist in the General Assembly. But he emphasized that he didn't yet know what he was going to do.

"Your headline should say: 'Mayor looking for job.'"



Avery C. Upchurch, Raleigh's mayor, has operated Upchurch Exxon for 38 years

Staff photo by Robert Thomason



City Of Raleigh
North Carolina

REC'D
27 FEB 85

23

AVERY C. UPCHURCH
MAYOR

VITA

AVERY C. UPCHURCH
MAYOR

RESIDENT OF RALEIGH: 40 Years

EDUCATION: Graduate of Broughton High School
Attended North Carolina State University

BUSINESS: Owner and Operator of Upchurch Exxon
2602 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, North Carolina

MUNICIPAL MEMBERSHIPS
AND ASSOCIATIONS: Secretary, International Association of the Cities of the
Future
Third Vice President, North Carolina League of Municipalities
Member, State Capital Planning Commission
Chairman, Transportation Advisory Committee
Past Chairman, City Council Intergovernmental Liaison
Committee
Past Member, City Council Public Works Committee
Past Member, Municipal Building Block Committee
Past Chairman, Raleigh Planning Commission
Past Alternate, Triangle J Council of Governments

BUSINESS AND
PROFESSIONAL: National Director, Service Station Dealers of America
Member and Past Director, North Carolina Oil Jobbers
Association
Member, Past President, Past Executive Director, North
Carolina Service Station Association

23 CONTINUED

COMMUNITY AND CIVIC
ACTIVITIES:

Chairman, 1985 Friends of the College Fund Drive
Member, Past President, Raleigh Merchants Bureau
Past President, Raleigh Tourist Convention Association
Member, Raleigh Chamber of Commerce
Member, Past President, West Raleigh Rotary Club
Past District Governor, Rotary Club, District 771
Past Member, State Advisory Committee, Distributive
Education in North Carolina

PUBLIC OFFICE:

Elected Raleigh City Councilman, At Large, 1979; 1981
Elected Mayor 1983

AWARDS:

"Man of the Year" 1974, Distributive Education Students
of North Carolina

CHURCH AFFILIATION:

Forest Hills Baptist Church

FAMILY:

Wife: Margaret Lane Taylor [△]
Children: Two sons

24 From Jt 20 AUG 1992 Ernest Carl U DRPA

Editorial



The People's Forum

N + O -

Our Cousin Avery Upchurch
Mayor of Raleigh

Confession was over a church's right
to fly a Flag - Newse Right Ch -

The Board has not settled the issue as of date.
8.20.92

by E. U.

25

MR. RALEIGH MEETS HIS PUBLIC WHO COME OUT TO SAY GOODBYE

Thank You Mayor Upchurch



Well-wishers add tributes to departing Mayor Avery Upchurch on a huge thank-you card in front of the Raleigh Municipal Building.

STAFF PHOTOS BY HARRY LYNCH

Upchurch tribute funny and moving

BY STEPHEN HOAR
STAFF WRITER

RALEIGH — Departing Mayor Avery C. Upchurch was hailed as “Mr. Raleigh” on Thursday at farewell festivities that were sometimes poignant, sometimes hilarious.

House Speaker Dan Blue and a host of other leaders praised Upchurch, who has headed city government for 10 years, as an unselfish public official with a knack for getting all sides to cooperate.

“He is a politician in the best sense of the word,” Blue said, “a person well-versed in the art or science of government. That’s Avery Upchurch — pulling people

together for the common good.”

Just as baseball Hall-of-Famer Reggie Jackson is remembered as Mr. October, Blue said, Upchurch has served the city so long and well he seems like Mr. Raleigh. No elected mayor in the city’s history has served longer than Upchurch.

The goodbye party, held in front of the Municipal Building on West Hargett Street, drew about 200 city and state leaders, city employees, friends and citizens. Most wore green “Thank You Avery” buttons.

Todd Sanders, who lives in southeast Raleigh, came with his four children. Sanders said he



Geoff Elting, City Council member, gives Upchurch a wreath symbolizing his success in building the Raleigh Greenways.

25 - CONTINUED

appreciated the mayor's efforts to improve his neighborhood.

Music of all kinds filled the air: spicy Latin numbers from the Sanderson High School Marching Band, Dixieland jazz from the Dick Gable sextet, and various offerings from Jack Wardlaw's Banjos and a violin-viola duet. A professional clown mingled with the crowd. So did Joe Overby, a perennial political candidate wearing his familiar Uncle Sam outfit.

Upchurch, 64, announced in May he wouldn't seek re-election and will leave office in December. The elaborate sendoff Thursday was organized to thank him for 18 years of public service as a Raleigh Planning Commission member, city council member and mayor.

"We're here to show our love, honor and respect for Avery Upchurch," said Charlie Gaddy, the WRAL-TV news anchor and emcee for the afternoon. The fun began when Gaddy turned the proceedings over to city officials.

Mayor Pro Tem Anne Franklin presented the guest of honor with a bright orange jumpsuit — the uniform of a city sanitation worker — and Upchurch obediently put it on. The uniform was a memento of his response to an angry citizen's complaint back in the 1980s that her garbage hadn't been picked up. The mayor went over and got it himself.

Council Member Mary Cates gave Upchurch a large white triangle, open in the middle, to show that "Avery Upchurch's heart and mind are smack in the middle of the Triangle" — an allusion to his service as head of the Triangle J Council of Governments.

Council member Geoff Elting placed a green wreath over the mayor's head as a reminder that 12 miles of city greenways have been added while he was in office. Each time Upchurch was be-

The Upchurch Decade, 1983-1993

Highlights of Mayor Avery C. Upchurch's five terms:

- Voters approved \$60 million worth of bonds to help finance the construction of nearly 44 miles of new roads.

- Comprehensive monitoring of the water quality in Falls Lake and other regional water supplies was established.

- The Police Department increased its number of sworn officers from 335 to 496, carried out drug-abuse prevention programs and fought organized drug dealers.

- Memorial Auditorium underwent a \$10.3 million renovation; Artspace and the City Gallery of Contemporary Art opened.

- Downtown, the City Market was renovated and Moore Square Station, Wilmington Street Station and the Cabarrus Street parking deck were built. The Founder's Row residential block was completed, and higher standards were enacted for landscaping commercial buildings and parking lots.

- Four community centers, eight parks and 12 miles of greenways were built. The city opened the Walnut Creek Amphitheatre and softball complex; six pools, including the Pullen Aquatic Center, and acquired land for 10 new parks or park expansions. In 1990, the parks and recreation system was honored as the best in the nation.

- Capital Area Transit expanded and modernized its fleet of buses and adopted a five-year plan to bring bus service within one-third of a mile of 95 percent of all city residents. So far, bus-route miles have increased 43 percent.

- Raleigh was among the first U.S. cities to start collecting household hazardous waste.

- The Neuse River Wastewater Treatment Plant's capacity expanded 50 percent, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency hailed it as the best large advanced treatment plant in the nation.

- The city maintained the highest fire defense rating of any city in the Southeast.

- Recycling reduced the volume of the city's solid waste by 25 percent.

- World Trade Magazine listed Raleigh among the 10 best cities in the United States for international companies.

- The Raleigh-Durham area ranks fifth on Money Magazine's 1993 list of best places to live.

- Governing Magazine's 1993 rankings of the 100 largest cities in the United States show Raleigh 10th in personal income, ninth in percentage of high school graduates, 94th in welfare recipients per capita and 95th in unemployment.

Source: City of Raleigh Public Affairs Office

decked with a new gift, he looked a little more ridiculous. City Attorney Tom McCormick gave him a box of Krispy Kreme doughnuts, a reference to a legal imbroglio over the Krispy Kreme store's compliance with the city sign law.

State Auditor Ralph Campbell Jr., a former city council member, presented Upchurch with two glass bottles of a new beverage:

"Raleigh Clear." Campbell said one bottle came from the city's water-treatment plant, the other from its sewage-treatment plant.

Finally came a serious gift: a check for \$25,000 "from the citizens of Raleigh" to set up the Avery Upchurch Foundation. It will bring students to Raleigh for annual conferences to explain how a city is provided with services.

210 Items from Str BJUL1994. Mary Edith Sledge & 13JUL1994
 James Allen Arnold, Sr to RPA From News & Observer FRI 13JUL1994

Ex-Mayor Upchurch dies of cancer

BY TREVA JONES
 STAFF WRITER

Avery C. Upchurch, a gas station operator who stepped forward to serve an unprecedented five terms as Raleigh's homespun mayor from 1983 to 1993, died Thursday after a six-month battle with cancer. He was 65.

In his decade at the city's helm,

Mr. Upchurch presided over Raleigh's transformation from a growing government town to an emerging American city lauded for its high quality of life. He was known for his folksy style, even temper and willingness to listen.

Mr. Upchurch retired from politics in December and was diagnosed with cancer of the esophagus in January. He had been treated for the disease at Duke University Medical Center and recently had been re-admitted. He died at 5:33 p.m.

"He earned the title of Raleigh's drive-in mayor," said his friend G. Wesley Williams, former executive director of the Raleigh Merchants Bureau. "You could drive

into the service station and have a conference with the mayor without having an appointment, and he always had time to talk."

He earned a reputation as an amiable, around-the-clock public servant. When an angry woman called him to complain that her garbage hadn't been picked up, Mr. Upchurch didn't shove the problem off to a bureaucrat. He drove to the woman's house and picked it up himself.

Mr. Upchurch's tenure bridged the gap from the time when City Council candidates ran campaigns geared mainly to pro-business or pro-neighborhood inter-

Blending folksiness with immediate response to Raleigh's needs, the one-time gas station owner guided the city through a time of immense growth.

Avery C. Upchurch at a glance

CAREER

1953-91: Owner-operator of Upchurch Exxon at 2601 Glenwood Ave., along with a heating oil business. Another station he owned on Peace Street closed in 1988.

1970-77: Lobbied Congress and the General Assembly as executive director of the N.C. Service Station Owners Association.

1976-79: Member of the Raleigh Planning Commission, part of that time as chairman.

1979-83: At-large member of Raleigh City Council.

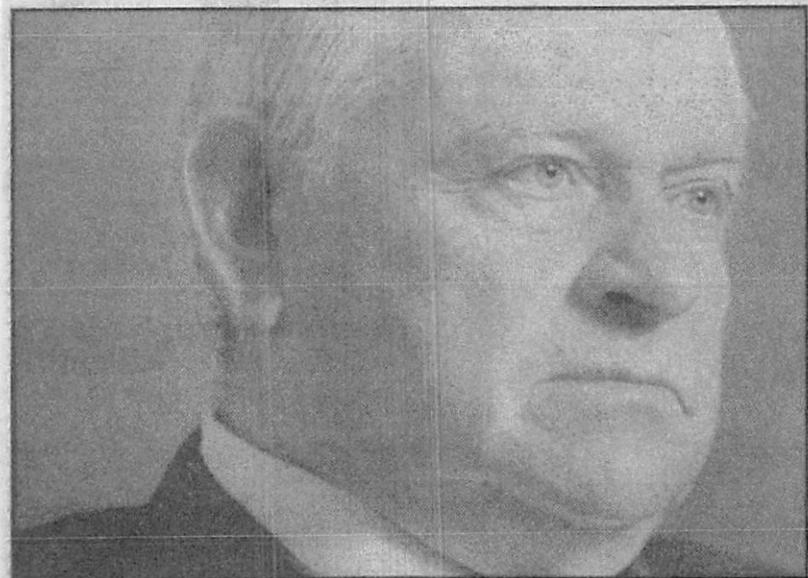
1983-93: Mayor of Raleigh. Re-elected four times, holding the title longer than anyone since the office was created by the General Assembly in 1856.

December 1993: Turned over the office to Tom Fetzer, after deciding not to seek another term.

January 1994: Diagnosed with cancer of the esophagus.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Among others, helped create the Triangle Transit Authority. Key champion of road improvements and protection of water supplies, including restrictions on development. Helped win passage of a \$20 million bond issue for roads in 1984, and another for \$40 million in 1987.



Avery C. Upchurch, the down-to-earth former mayor of Raleigh who retired last year, died Thursday at age 65.

STAFF PHOTO BY ROGER WINSTEAD

ests to the more modern, more expensive, media-dominated election that produced Tom Fetzer, the city's first Republican mayor.

"Avery Upchurch served as mayor of Raleigh longer than anyone else in modern times and left an indelible imprint on our city," Fetzer said. "He will be remembered not only for his achievements, but the way he went about accomplishing them. He always conducted himself with consummate grace, dignity and humility. In doing so, he set a standard for myself and all others who will follow him."

The funeral will be at 2 p.m. Saturday at Forest Hills Baptist Church. Burial will follow at Raleigh Memorial Park. The family will receive friends at Mitchell Funeral Home, 600 St. Mary's St., from 7 to 9 p.m. today.

In the ice cream of Raleigh politics, Mr. Upchurch was the dependable, comfortable vanilla that separated old-fashioned strawberry from Rocky Road.

He drew support from business and neighborhood groups, and pleased enough of the people enough of the time to be re-elected four times. His wide popularity was illustrated by the fact he was a registered Democrat, but his biggest financial supporter most of the time was developer Steve Stroud, a power in the Republican party.

Born and reared in the Upchurch community in southwestern Wake County, Mr. Upchurch moved to Raleigh with his family in 1945. He graduated from Broughton High School in 1947. He took economics and business classes at N.C. State University for two years, and in 1953 started a heating oil business in Raleigh.

Besides the heating oil business, he operated two gas stations, one on Glenwood Avenue and the other on Peace Street.

He said running those businesses taught him a skill that would come in handy later — how to be a good listener. He heard a lot of complaints, and he got a lot of advice.

Over the next few years, Mr. Upchurch served as executive director and later as president of the N.C. Service Station Association. He was president of the Raleigh Merchants Bureau, director of the N.C. Oil Jobbers Association and a member of a state advisory board for distributive

education in North Carolina. He also was a national director of an organization of service station dealers in America.

His political career was launched in 1976 when he was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Raleigh Planning Commission. For the folksy Upchurch, the planning commission became a springboard.

In August 1979, he filed for an at-large seat on the Raleigh City Council. His platform had four planks: the need for comprehensive planning; stimulating economic development; reining in government regulation; and cooperating with other governments and agencies.

He was elected to the council and won re-election in 1981. In 1983, he decided to go for the whole bag of marbles and ran for mayor, defeating Tony Jordan and two other candidates.

Shortly after he took office, Mr. Upchurch showed people what kind of new mayor they had elected.

On Christmas Day 1983, during an unusually bitter cold spell, police found a man had frozen to death outside a downtown building. As soon as he heard it, Mr. Upchurch stopped his own Christmas Day observance with his family and came downtown to see

what he could do.

In 1985, Mr. Upchurch faced O. Thomas Dobbs and swept every precinct, collecting 85 percent of the vote.

He ran unopposed in 1987 and went for a fourth term in 1989, defeating at-large council member Charles Meeker with 56 percent of the vote. He promised to fight the city's drug problem, and the council endorsed Project Phoenix, a joint city-state effort to combat drugs with education and law enforcement.

Mr. Meeker and Mr. Upchurch were at odds on mass transit, taxes, the Outer Loop and controls on development, but agreed on a downtown coliseum and expansion of the Civic Center and Memorial Auditorium.

Mr. Upchurch was elected to what would be his final term in 1991. He had closed his Peace Street service station in 1988 but still ran his Glenwood Avenue business until 1991.

During his tenure, he was an officer in the N.C. League of Municipalities, a member of the State Capital Planning Commission, the N.C. Transportation Task Force and the governor's Local Government Advocacy Council. He also served on the Falls/Jordan Lake Steering Committee and at one time was chairman of the Triangle J. Council of Governments.

Woodrow Wilson was his idol. A collection of President Wilson's speeches and a series of his lectures occupied a prominent place on a shelf in the Upchurch home on Fernwood Drive.

Mr. Upchurch was a bit of an international man himself, using his own money to visit Raleigh's sister city in England, Kingston-Upon-Hull, and twice attending meetings of the International Association of Cities of the Future in Europe. He said that dealing with foreign dignitaries helped him realize the whole world is really one big community.

He said being mayor was like living in a glass house. But he kept his philosophy simple.

"To be elected is the honor, to serve is the opportunity, and to be effective is the reward," he once said.

But he received criticism as well as praise during his tenure.

He spearheaded a successful \$20 million bond issue for roads that gave Raleigh taxpayers a visible, and useful, return on their investment — new corridors that got them across town more quickly and easily.

He championed the cause of downtown revitalization, and saw Moore Square grow from a run-

down park and shabby commercial area to an attractive downtown drawing card with speciality shops, art galleries and restaurants and a \$4.5 million, six-level parking deck on East Martin Street.

He drew praise from the black community when he appointed Ralph Campbell Jr., then a council newcomer, to head the powerful Law and Finance Committee. But other factions criticized him for not appointing long-term council member Mary Cates to chair the Public Works Committee.

He was praised when he called for the city manager to investigate complaints about police tactics in a sex-offense case because some didn't think police had acted responsibly.

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Early on, he called for restraints on development in the sensitive Falls Lake watershed, and he prodded the city to hire private help to get the city's streets cleared of snow during a particularly messy winter.

But the down-home mayor sometimes failed to move the City Council out of the dithering stage, and sometimes it seemed as if council members couldn't see the forest for the trees. A quandary over where to put a new aquatics center dragged on for years before the council finally made a decision. And sometimes he was frustrated when he couldn't negotiate compromise between warring neighborhood-oriented and business-oriented groups.

When a reporter asked how he made his decisions, Mr. Upchurch responded by saying that prob-

lems really built a fire under him, and he based his decisions on past experience and by attempting to put himself in the other person's shoes. He wrote notes to himself about important things he wanted to remember, and sometimes, he said, he awakened in the middle of the night with answers to dilemmas.

During Mr. Upchurch's tenure, Raleigh adopted billboard and landscape ordinances, an urban forestry program, a program to

beautify Capital Boulevard, and a landscaped median on the Raleigh Beltline.

He never appeared in public without his coat and tie — he disapproved of politicians in shirt sleeves — but to most of his constituents, he was just Avery. Titles such as Mr. Mayor and His Honor were reserved by most for formal occasions.

He was the people's mayor. Quiet and definitely un-flashy, Mr. Upchurch could be counted on to be there when there was a ribbon-cutting or a ground-breaking or a new community program that needed to be launched.

He rode an elephant, danced with Donald Duck, won the 1984 lizard race at the State Fairgrounds, and once got blown away in a hot air balloon until the pilot managed to slow it down by dragging it against trees.

But he knew where to draw the line. Mr. Upchurch never would dive into a pool of Jello, not even for charity.

When a "Goodbye, Avery" party was given shortly before he left office, hundreds of people massed in Hargett Street to wish him well and thank him for his service. The outgoing mayor seemed overwhelmed and at one point had tears in his eyes as he pointed to a sapling planted in his honor in Nash Square, across from City Hall. It had been grown from an acorn collected from Raleigh's historic Henry Clay Oak.

"Look at that," he said, pointing to the sapling. "That's going to be here for a long time after I'm gone."

But if health concerns played any role in Mr. Upchurch's retirement, he never mentioned it. He said he decided to step aside in 1993 when he was asked to go to Morocco for a week to visit a water treatment plant and realized he hadn't had a vacation in years.

When he left office after Mr. Fetzer's swearing-in last December, he told a reporter, "I'm ready to have some fun."

But as it turned out, he had very little time for that.

In January, Mr. Upchurch had difficulty with swallowing and speaking, and was admitted to Duke University Medical Center for tests. He was diagnosed with esophageal cancer, which had spread to his lymph nodes before it was detected.

He received treatments at Duke and appeared to be responding well, even feeling good enough to preside over a Research Triangle World Trade Center meeting in February.

In May, the city's Appearance Commission honored him with a lifetime achievement award, but the former mayor had to watch the ceremony at home on cable television because he was too weak to attend. Mr. Upchurch started the awards, to acknowledge excellence in landscaping and architecture, in 1983.

"The family greatly appreciates the efforts put forth by his many friends and the staff of Duke Medical Center to make him comfortable," Mr. Upchurch's son, Edward, said in a statement Thursday night.

The family asked that memorials be made to the Avery C. Upchurch Foundation, 702 N. Person St., Raleigh 27604. The foundation was created to sponsor annual conferences for students at City Hall to teach how cities are organized, planned and governed.

In addition to his son, he is survived by his wife, Margaret; a stepson, Lane West; a brother, Thurman Upchurch, of Swansboro; and a sister, Bobbie Denton, of Raleigh.

Staff writers Wade Rawlins, Debbi Sykes and John Wagner contributed to this report.

② Item from the 6 JUL 1994 Mary Edith Sledge & 13 JUL 1994 James Allen Arnold, Sr. to RPA From: The News & Observer FRI 1 JUL 1994 Raleigh, NC

Remembering Upchurch

Gov. Jim Hunt: "Avery Upchurch was a common man who developed a great vision for the capital city and for this state. He developed into one of the most far-sighted leaders that Raleigh has ever known, and I will always be grateful to him as governor for his championing of better highways and environmental and water protection in North Carolina."

Raleigh Mayor **Tom Fetzer:** "On behalf of the city employees who were fortunate enough to work with him and for the citizens of Raleigh who were the beneficiaries of his many years of service, I would like to express my sincere condolences to Mrs. Upchurch and the family for their personal loss, a loss in which we all share."

State Auditor **Ralph Campbell Jr.**, who served on the City Council from 1985-92:



"I'm deeply saddened at the passing of the one that's become my very good friend and my mentor. Avery was one that moved Raleigh to the vanguard of what cities and communities ought to be."

Former council member **Barlow Herget:** "Avery Upchurch will be remembered as one of Raleigh's best loved mayors. It was hard not to like Avery. He treated everyone equally. That was a real gift for a politician. They were all citizens to Avery."

Retired Raleigh Merchants Bureau Director **G. Wesley Williams:** "Avery died the same way he lived, with courage, grace and dignity. He lived a simple life, but his simplicity was profound."



Mike James, longtime friend and campaign manager:

"Even in the hospital, the one thing

he was always interested in talking about and always wanted to discuss, no matter how bad he felt, was how the city of Raleigh was doing."

Smedes York, former Raleigh mayor: "I think Avery set a very positive and consistent program for the city. He was a person that people really liked and respected. They knew he didn't have any agenda other than what he thought was best for the city."

Thurman Jones, who worked for Mr. Upchurch for 17 years: "I never knew a finer gentleman than Avery. He was a man of his word, as honest as the day is long. He's a wonderful guy to work for."

Former City Council member **Miriam Block:** "He was a very gracious Southern gentleman — a good old boy in the best sense of the word."

Scotland Neck mayor **Ferd Harrison,** who preceded Mr. Upchurch in leadership in the N.C. League of Municipalities: "He was a very low-key person, but he was a scrapper in his own way, and sometimes that's the best way to do it."



One friend said Upchurch 'earned the title of Raleigh's drive-in mayor ... He always had time to talk.'



Avery Upchurch in a happy moment in 1983, hearing the news that Raleigh voters had elected him mayor. Joining him at left is Betsy Watson.

28 Item from file 6 JUL 1994 Mary Edith Sledge & 13 JUL 1994 James Allen Arnold, Sr to RPA

Mayor Upchurch remembered as friend of everyone he met

After hot campaign, he went fishing with his opponent

BY WADE RAWLINS AND DEBBI SYKES
STAFF WRITERS

RALEIGH — Former Mayor Avery Upchurch's friends and associates recalled him as a steady hand equally at home at the helm of the city government or behind the wheel of a gas station wrecker.

LaVergne Goodwin worked for 30 years as a mechanic for Upchurch at his gas station.

"He was out pumping gas, talking with customers, just like one of us who worked for him," Mr. Goodwin said Thursday. "He wore a pair of coveralls with a screw driver in one pocket and a pair of pliers in the other just like everybody else."

Mr. Goodwin recalled that Mr. Upchurch took all his employees deep sea fishing every July Fourth weekend as a way of expressing his appreciation for their service.

"He loved to fish," Mr. Goodwin recalled. "We'd rent a boat and go out fishing. He paid for everything, the rooms, the meals, the boat."

Mr. Upchurch even took his former political foes fishing.

After a hotly contested mayoral campaign in 1983 between Mr. Upchurch and Tony Jordan Jr., Mr. Upchurch maintained their friendship. Mr. Jordan said he frequently visited the Upchurch home in Oriental and went fishing on their boat.

Former Raleigh Mayor Jyles "Jack" Coggins helped get Mr. Upchurch interested in politics, recommending him for appointment to the Wake County planning board. Later he encouraged him to run for city council.

"He was very low-key and likable," said Mr. Coggins, who was a regular breakfast partner for Mr. Upchurch. "He liked everybody and was very effective one-on-one. He was dedicated to civic duty."

It was his open door policy at the gas station that earned Mr. Upchurch the nickname as Raleigh's drive-in mayor. And he made people feel comfortable when they came to city hall.

"He was an inclusive kind of person in the way he conducted meetings," Raleigh City Manager Dempsey Benton said. "He wanted everyone to feel like it was their opportunity to be heard."

State Auditor Ralph Campbell Jr., who served as mayor pro tem during Mr. Upchurch's last term, said he was touched that Mr. Upchurch appointed him

the first freshman chairman of a City Council committee after he was elected in 1985.

He said Mr. Upchurch was second only to his father in influencing his career.

The former mayor often explained strategy to Mr. Campbell in breakfast meetings — stressing the importance of working on broad goals instead of getting wrapped up in the details, and of voting your convictions no matter how unpopular.

Steve Stroud, a commercial real estate broker and one of Mr. Upchurch's biggest supporters, said Mr. Upchurch had a naivete when it came to politics.

"He was straightforward and honest and refreshingly so," Mr. Stroud said. "Avery wanted to do the right things for the city as shown in his desire to build roads, to make Raleigh a greener city, to lessen the sign pollution, to protect the watershed."

"If Avery had looked at the politics of a lot of those issues in which he was a major leader, I don't think a lot of them would have gotten done."

Mr. Benton said that Mr. Upchurch helped people understand the importance of investing in the city to build a firm foundation for future residents. During his 10 years as mayor, he led three bond referendums.

State Agriculture Commissioner Jim Graham said Mr. Upchurch's rural upbringing in western Wake County gave him an understanding of people from all walks of life.

Mr. Graham said Mr. Upchurch recognized the North Carolina State Fair as a great boost to the city of Raleigh and enjoyed welcoming visitors on the fair's opening day each fall.

"As commissioner, I put him in charge of weather," Mr. Graham said. "He did an excellent job for the last five or six years. We had wonderful weather. He was a great ambassador for his city."

Mr. Upchurch was diagnosed with cancer in January after leaving office in December after five 2-year terms as mayor and four years as a member of the council.



His honor, the 'drive-in mayor,' on the job at his Exxon service station, where he greeted all with a helping hand and a smile.
STAFF PHOTO BY ROBERT WILLETT

From: The News & Observer
FRI 15 JUL 1994 Raleigh, NC

29 Item in file 6 JUL 1994 Mary Edith Sledge & 13 JUL 1994
 James Allen Arnold, Sr. Ed. R. Ad T. From The News & Observer
 SAT 2 JUL 1994 Raleigh, NC

City workers remember Upchurch's life and mourn his death

People who worked with former mayor recall his kindness and common touch, as they struggle with the fact of his death.

BY JOHN WAGNER
 STAFF WRITER

RALEIGH — Among the dozens of events that the city's Public Affairs Office has organized over the years, one might always be remembered as the easiest to pull together: the farewell party last fall for the retiring Mayor Avery

C. Upchurch.

"He was so dearly loved that absolutely everybody in City Hall wanted to help out," said Jayne Kirkpatrick, the city's public affairs director.

On Friday — just seven months after Upchurch left office — the same city employees were in mourning over his death.

They said that with his passing the day before, Raleigh had lost one of its best-loved leaders — and that many of them had lost an extraordinarily caring and compassionate friend.

"Avery was the kind of person who everybody liked," said Clay Rhodes, a plans examiner in the city's inspections department. "It didn't matter if you worked in the mail room or emptied the trash or cleaned the bathroom. Avery had time for you, and in most cases knew you by your first name."

Flags at the Municipal Building were lowered to half-staff Friday morning in honor of Upchurch and his unprecedented decade in the mayor's office, and they will remain lowered through today. Upchurch's funeral is today at 2 p.m. at Forest Hills Baptist Church. Burial will follow at

Raleigh Memorial Park.

His passing weighed heavily Friday on many of the city's 2,500 employees, from the city manager's office down through the ranks. Before the inauguration of Tom Fetzer in December, Upchurch had been the only mayor most current city staff had served.

"It's very quiet, very somber here today," said Brenda Hunt, the city's deputy clerk.

She said she kept thinking about Upchurch's visit to the clerks' office just a few weeks after he retired. With his characteristic

smile, he came bearing candy for everyone there.

That was the last time many of them saw him. In January, he was diagnosed with cancer of the esophagus, which soon began to spread to other parts of his body.

Hunt said she had come to know Upchurch long before he was elected mayor for the first time in 1983. When she was a young girl, Hunt said, Upchurch and his wife Margaret would shop in her father's grocery store. She and her family would stop at the gas station Upchurch operated.

"I just don't ever remember not knowing him," she said.

Just down the second-floor hall from the clerk's office, City Attorney Thomas McCormick sat back and reminisced about his friend. A day earlier, he had sat by the former mayor's bedside when he died at Duke University Medical Center.

"He always was a great personal booster for me," McCormick said. "When I felt discouraged about things, he'd always push me back up. . . . You always had to force it out of him to find out if

something was troubling him because he was always so concerned about you."

Upchurch was first elected to a seat on City Council in 1979, about three years after McCormick's arrival in the city attorney's office.

"We spent a lot of time together," McCormick said, adding that Upchurch's passing really hadn't sunk in yet. "I still keep thinking about needing to go visit him in the hospital today."

City employees repeatedly mentioned in interviews Friday that Upchurch took remarkable pride in their work.

When the city began its recycling program several years ago, Upchurch came out to the sanitation warehouse to take a look at the city's new fleet of recycling trucks — and beamed at what at he saw.

"He was so proud of our people," said Gerald Latta, the city's sanitation superintendent. "It meant a lot. He was a good man. He really looked out for the employees."

Planning Director George Chapman said he thought many city staff members who knew Upchurch well were "still at the coping stage" Friday.

"It's a major loss," Chapman said, "not only of the leadership he provided, but also, because he was such a personable mayor, a lot of people will miss him as a friend."

Chapman recalled that a few years ago, his daughter, who was 12 at the time, had told Upchurch that the city should have a movie theater located downtown on Fayetteville Street Mall.

Chapman said both he and his daughter were taken aback when Upchurch wrote a detailed letter explaining why that might be difficult.

"He took the time to write a letter to a 12-year-old. That's the kind of person he was," Chapman said.

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When he retired, Upchurch said he wanted to spend more time with his wife, two sons and granddaughter. Others said he certainly deserved to relax a little after devoting so much time to serving the city.

"What a shame that that time was so short," Chapman said. "He had such promise as a retired mayor, as a statesman who could continue to bring people together."

For the last six of Upchurch's 10 years as mayor, council member Mary Watson Nooe worked out of the office next door to his at City Hall.

"I'm really having a hard time dealing with this," she said Friday, holding back tears as she spoke from the office she continues to occupy.

She said she receives some comfort from knowing how full Upchurch's life has been.

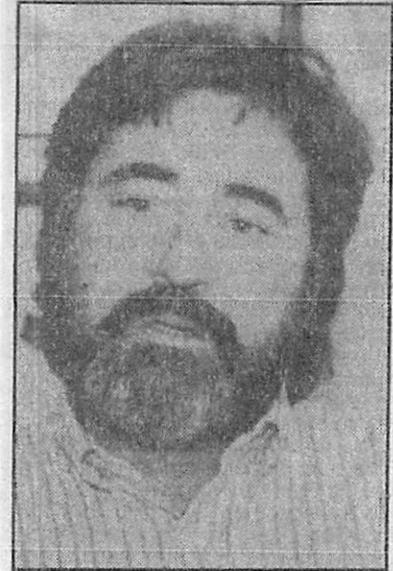
"Avery got to do what he wanted to do," she said. "He really wanted to be mayor of Raleigh. Avery served the city for 10 years and every day he got up, and he was proud to be mayor."

Nooe said she considered Upchurch a mentor, even though the two didn't always agree on the issues.

"I will miss him," she said. "I will miss him very, very much."



City Council member Mary Watson Nooe says she considered Upchurch a mentor.



Clay Rhodes recalls Upchurch as 'the kind of person everybody liked.'

STAFF PHOTO BY ROBERT THOMASON

* (30)



Staff photo by Robert Willett

Princess and Mayor Avery Upchurch go over some reports in their North Raleigh home

'Restless drive' pushes mayor

By ELAINE WESTARP
Staff Writer

Six times, a young farm boy named Avery Upchurch took the bus into Raleigh to see the same movie.

A movie on the life of President Woodrow Wilson, of all unlikely adolescent fascinations. But something in the sad tale caught hold in the boy's heart — a boy who has since become Raleigh's mayor.

Maybe it was the way Wilson had died pushing — pushing hard after a political dream. Young Upchurch had no political aspirations then, but he already understood the push.

A farm son of the Depression, Upchurch was weaned on the gospel of life as a struggle.

It was a bittersweet lesson. From a gentle mother, Mertie Upchurch, now living in Raleigh, he carries a fond

reverence for anyone "who gives their all and still has difficulty."

From his stern, late father, Auba Upchurch, he carries the mark of a son trying desperately to prove himself.

"(My father and grandfather) would cause me to cry to no end when I was a kid," he recalls of his raising among the acres of tobacco in the Wake County community of Upchurch, named for his family, near Apex. "Everything was 'hard times' and 'You gotta save a nickel, boy, or else.' They put the pressure on me.

"I took everyone so seriously. I was the little fair-haired kid come along, and I was going to do just what my father wanted me to do ... and he just rubbed my nose in the mud, put the pressure on me to do right and make money and be successful."

Even now in good times, Upchurch

cannot slow down or ease off.

"He's got a relentless drive, honest to God," says his stepson, Lane West. "I don't know what drives him, but he's always hard at it."

From the 1947 Broughton High School graduate who began work as a gas station attendant on Hillsborough Street to the 55-year-old owner/operator of two Raleigh service stations and a heating oil business, Upchurch is a working man's model of how far persistence and work will carry you.

He has overheard the sniffs of people who don't think the man who was sworn in as mayor in December ought to be seen realigning front ends at his service stations, one at the corner of Glenwood Avenue and Oberlin Road, the other at the corner of Glenwood and Peace Street.

See HARD, page 2C

From Enid Lawson for 30 MAR 84

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2C

The News and Observer, Raleigh, N.C., Sun., March 25, 1984



| Avery Upchurch balances two lives — that of the open-collared gas-station owner ...

Hard work, dedication turn gas-station owner into Raleigh's mayor

Continued from page 1C

"I know that remarks have been made about me in this position — being a small-business man, not qualified to be mayor, 'He'll never be able to handle the job."

"That hurts. But yet at the same time, I know my capabilities and my ambitions and my desires. I just always walk straight ahead and never look back. I don't think you'd ever find a person who was any more dedicated to doing what's right than I am."

G. Wesley Williams, executive director of the Raleigh Merchants Bureau, has known Upchurch for 30 years. "He has come a long way through dedication," Williams says. "Most everything Avery gets into, he goes to the top. He's always had a keen interest in civic affairs." He cites Upchurch's longtime membership in the Rotary Club and association with the public schools' distributive education programs, which lets students work under supervision for school credit.

"He has a quiet type of charisma," Williams says. "He's not a flamboyant, back-slapping sort of person."

He is, in fact, a private person. Friends and family will not — or cannot — reveal much about the inner Upchurch.

"I'm not a person who gets close to people," Upchurch says, "not a person likely to push myself and my feelings off on someone else for them to carry the burden. When I feel that (burden), I just swallow big and take it with me."

Those feelings have a tender root — the death 11 years ago of his 14-year-old daughter, Sarah, of bone cancer.

"(I watched them) carve the arm and shoulder off my child," he says, the memory catching in his throat.

His eyes drop to the desktop in front of him, searching for a moment's private hiding place for a father's grief.

He finds none there — only the all-too-public desk of a mayor. And so the red-faced man behind it pushes on, speaking of things clearly close to his heart.

"I guess during that period I became more of a private person. So many people would try to come up and talk about it. And it's something you don't want to talk about. There's nothing to be said."

Her death, a year after the operation, was an unspoken certainty. "I knew, and I thought she knew it, but I couldn't tell her," Upchurch says.

"She was always cheerful and happy. I never saw her depressed. If there's ever an experience in one's life to see the Supreme Power working, that was it. I mean, it was just a miracle to see how (she) could

stand up under that — and not ...cry on somebody else's shoulder."

Two grown sons remain — Edward of Richmond, Va., from Upchurch's first marriage, which ended in divorce, and a stepson, Lane West of Denver, Colo., from his present marriage of 19 years to Margaret Taylor Upchurch.

Avery and Margaret Upchurch share the suburban home in North Raleigh they moved into as newlyweds. They also share an understanding that Upchurch will always be a busy man.

"It's hard for me to fix a meal and know when he's going to be there," Mrs. Upchurch says, "but I've adjusted to it. I look for him when I see him."

Their home has her precise but comfortable touch. She also keeps her own schedule-busy, working full time in the cosmetics section of Thalhimers at Crabtree Valley Mall.

One of Upchurch's greatest joys is music. "In some way, I'm captured by it," he says. Recordings of the opera "Faust" and musical "Camelot" have been worn out on the family stereo. At the request of Stewart Theater at N.C. State University, he'll even make a guest appearance April 8 in the comic opera "Daughter of the Regiment" at Memorial Auditorium.

That's APPEAR, not sing, stresses Upchurch, trying to downplay his role. "Singing opera would abolish me from the Chitlin Club I've just become a member of," he says, referring to a collection of politicians and others who consider themselves good ol' boys. "I'm already on club probation because I went to Harvard for a mayor's meeting.

"I enjoy learning and reading, but I'm not the type to sit down and read a book from cover to cover" — unless, of course, it is about Woodrow Wilson, still his idol.

"I didn't have access to funds to go to college," says Upchurch, who did take night business courses at NCSU for a year after high school. "I chose (instead) to educate myself through my career and my community."

Other joys include his family (in particular a spoiled 5-year-old collie named Princess) and gardening.

Piddling among the turnip greens is where Upchurch may be on Sunday afternoons, and he takes pride in the sculpted hedges and carefully manicured lawn of his large yard. If he had it all to do again, he claims he would have become a landscaper.

These days, there is scarcely time even for the garden. His mayoral schedule alone stretches easily into

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a 50-hour week — marathon city council sessions, breakfast speeches at ladies' auxiliaries, official meetings and official greetings. All told, not the easiest way to earn \$700 a month.

Then, of course, there is the matter of running his two Exxon service stations and home heating oil business, all of which carry his name.

"I used to be very active in the church, but I've kind of backslid on that — so don't ask me too many questions about that," Upchurch says with a sheepish grin.

A typical workday (and there are at least six of them a week) is the never-ending tug of pulling on a necktie at a service station and heading off to a short midday meeting, and pulling it off afterward to climb under an automobile hood.

Those two worlds, though, have a frustrating way of overlapping.

"The thing that's really bad for me is that people consider I'm available (as mayor) when I'm (at the service station)," he says. "You get a customer who expects to be served and then you have a citizen who wants to be listened to. And no one leaves there quite satisfied."

Last weekend was no different. His working Saturday stretched from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. at his station on the corner of Glenwood Avenue and Oberlin Road. No sooner had the front door been unlocked than the first of the day's customers — and concerned citizens — came rolling in.

Leaning back against a rack of carburetor intake fluid and Turtle Wax, Avery Upchurch held court with the citizens — in between answering pump calls.

By 9 a.m., he had already had a visit from one man angry about water and sewer service on his property and two phone calls on city business.

At 10 a.m., he had to rush home to change into a coat and tie for a speech to a secretaries' association. Sunday promised more of the same.

"The most awakening experience, once you're sworn in (as) mayor, is ... all of a sudden, everything that you say and everything that you do, someone's watching you," he says. "... Everyone would like to know what you think. But I've gotten used to it."

After eight years in city government — 1976-1978 on the Raleigh Planning Commission, 1979-1983 on the City Council — life in the public eye has become second nature.

That public performance is not yet perfect, he concedes.

"I guess if I had to tell you my greatest fault, where I have the greatest problem, it's that I'm sensitive," he says. "I'm very emotional. That's one reason I have to watch myself."

For all its headaches, he would not trade the dizzying rounds of politics and civic duties for a narrower business-only life.

"I have not accumulated wealth, although I have lived comfortably," Upchurch says. "But when I write my memoirs, I'm going to have a treasure far greater than a lot of my friends and associates. Because the material things you gain are not that lasting."

"When I turn back and look, I'll say I wouldn't have had it any other way."



Staff photos by Karen Tam

...and that of the business-suited mayor, speaking to civic groups and secretaries' associations

34 Item in Str 6 JUL 1994 Mary Edith Sledge & 13 JUL 1994
 Jamie Allen Arnold, Sr Ed Ruff From The News & Observer
 MON 11 JUL 1994 Raleigh, NC

Avery Upchurch was Raleigh's full-service mayor

RALEIGH

The obituaries referred to Avery Upchurch as the capital city's drive-in mayor.

Like drive-ins, Upchurch was a charming anachronism. In a white-collar city filled with college professors, IBMers and government bureaucrats, you could drive into hizzoner's gas station, fill 'er up and complain about your garbage collection.

After one such complaint, Upchurch personally picked up a woman's garbage. DING, DING. Your basic full-service mayor.

Avery — everybody called him Avery — seemed to be a throw-back to an earlier era, a time when you could parallel park along Fayetteville Street, when the Sir Walter was still the pre-eminent hotel and ladies still wore white gloves.



ROB CHRISTENSEN

Avery was that way, too. Wouldn't think of venturing out in public without a coat and tie, don't you know. Old school and all that.

His politics were from a different era as well — pre-political consultants, pre-Democratic/Republican, pre-Congressional Club, pre-political stepping stone.

Which is not to say Avery wasn't forward-looking. He sometimes got so far out in front of the public that he got smacked around a little.

When he wanted to build a coliseum in downtown Raleigh, it was derisively dubbed "The Avery Dome."

One of his last major projects before retiring in November was to push for a new downtown convention center. Voters gave him a loud raspberry on that one.

No wonder there was a little bit of Rodney Dangerfield in Upchurch. There were times when he felt he didn't get the respect he deserved.

But the voters must have thought he was doing something right. He served as Raleigh's mayor from 1983 until 1993, longer than anybody in history.

Upchurch, in fact, was one of the four best mayors that Raleigh has had in the post-World War II era.

The others were Bill Enloe (1957-63),

Tom Bradshaw (1971-73) and Smedes York (1979-83).

Enloe had a high school named after him; Bradshaw, the southern leg of the Beltline. York hardly needs any monuments. His family name — he comes from a line of builders — is on such city landmarks as Memorial Auditorium, the N.C. State University bell tower, Cameron Village, the Velvet Cloak and the Mission Valley Inn.

Enloe was a skilled politician and a forceful personality — a theater owner who could tell stories about all the show biz personalities he had met: Eddie Cantor, Will Rogers, Al Jolson, Fred Waring, Lily Ponds.

Bradshaw and York were the city's golden boys. They were young, energetic, and handsome — Bradshaw was 33 when elected, York 38.

York was prince of the city, the scion of one of Raleigh's most prominent families. Even today, when anything important needs to be done in the city, it seems that everybody's Rolodex swivels automatically to "Y."

Bradshaw came up the hard way, growing up in the Halifax Court public housing project. He would later become state transportation secretary.

There was nothing charismatic about Avery. He was a regular guy who worked his tail off. He was soft-spoken, self-deprecating and as comfortable as an old pair of loafers. What he lacked in formal education, he more than made up with horse sense — a vastly underrated commodity.

Like those of many state capitals, Raleigh's highways suffer from arteriosclerosis before holidays, as people head for home to visit their families. But Upchurch was a rooted man. He grew up in a southwestern Wake County crossroads that bore his family name.

Raleigh's main problem in recent decades has been handling prosperity. How do you build enough roads to keep up with the traffic? How to protect the water supply? How to maintain the city's leafy character?

Like other cities, Raleigh also has had to work constantly to revive a sagging downtown and to make sure the city's rising tide lifts all boats.

Bradshaw and York played important roles in saving a deteriorating downtown — building a civic center and a pedestrian mall, promoting development and building parks. Enloe helped push through urban renewal and the building of public housing. The Fayetteville Street Mall was originally Enloe's idea.

Upchurch provided leadership for two road-building bond issues — \$20 million in 1984 and \$40 million in 1987. He led efforts to protect the city's water supply. He helped with efforts to revitalize the Moore Square/City Market area.

Enloe, Bradshaw, York and Upchurch all were consensus builders. One of the secrets of city hall is that mayors — grandiose campaign promises aside — are little more than glorified ribbon cutters. If a mayor is to accomplish anything, he must persuade a majority of the City Council to go along with him.

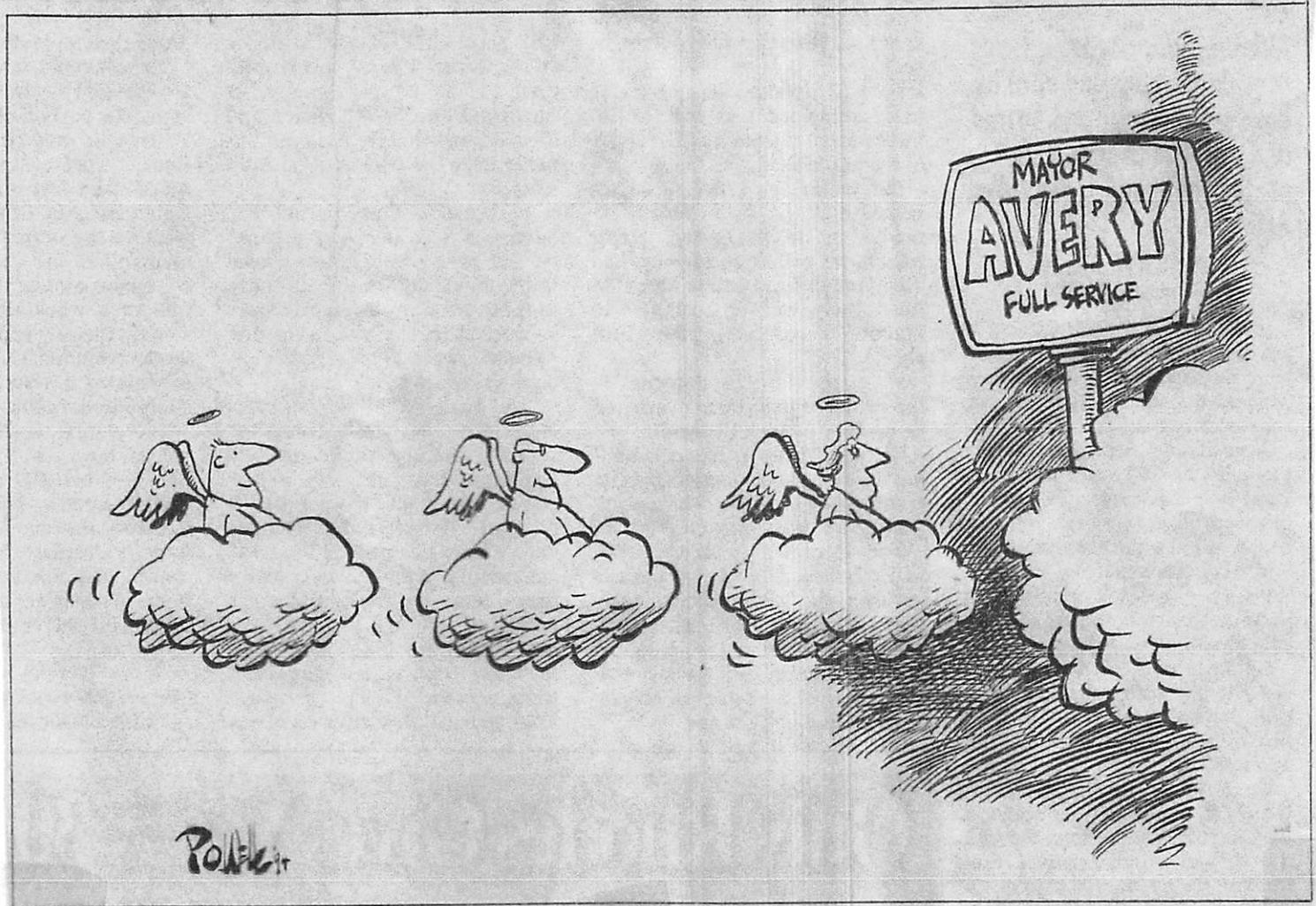
Like Columbo, the TV detective played by Peter Falk, Upchurch was easy to underestimate. Reporters would pull out their hair trying to get a usable quote from his Casey Stengalese comments. What'd he say?

But at the end of the day, Upchurch proved a durable politician with a strong record. He never forgot to check under the city's hood, measure the fire pressure or make sure the windshield was clean. DING, DING.

35 Item in Str 6 JUL 1994 Mary Edith Sledge & 13 JUL 1994
James Allen Arnold, Sr. to RPA. From The News &
Observer SUN 3 JUL 1994. Raleigh, NC

EDITORIAL

22A



Item in Str JUL 1994 Mary Edith Sledge + 13 JUL 1994
 James Allen Arnold, Sr. to RPA T From New & Observer
 SAT 2 JUL 1994. Raleigh, NC.]



THE NEWS & OBSERVER

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1994

I advise and enjoin those who direct the paper in the tomorrows never to advocate any cause for personal profit or preferment. I would wish it always to be "the tocsin" and to devote itself to the policies of equality and justice to the underprivileged. If the paper should at any time be the voice of self-interest or become the spokesman of privilege or selfishness it would be untrue to its history.

— from the will of Josephus Daniels, Editor and Publisher 1894-1948

The people's mayor

Avery Upchurch handed dignitaries the keys to the city, and filled the gas tanks of his constituents when they dropped by the station on Glenwood Avenue. He was a caring, dedicated servant of all.

Avery Upchurch was a nice man, a really nice man. If ever there were proof that life isn't fair, it is in his premature death from cancer, after he had completed 10 years of good leadership as Raleigh's mayor. Upchurch had earned some years at the beach, some relaxation. Instead, he spent these last months battling a fearsome disease.

Many memories, many emotions now wash over those he touched in his years of public service.

And service is what was most important to Upchurch. He really saw his positions on the City Council, and later as mayor, as a trust bestowed by his friends, the citizens. Some — thousands — he knew from his gas stations, where he was known to work even in his mayoral days. Others got to know the mayor through his civic work. All came away impressed with the ruddy, stocky Upchurch.

He wore authority well — with command, but with no arrogance. That was evident in council meetings, and in the many hundreds of community meetings in which he was involved each year. Upchurch was aware of being in charge, and he could get fed up, but he recog-

nized that the responsibility of his position compelled him to bend over backward to balance order with fairness. Everyone felt that at least they had a say.

The mayor also was a champion of better race relations. He did not wait for crisis — he sought to involve people from all neighborhoods and backgrounds and social stations in decision-making. Some would quarrel with his decision; few would claim the decision was made in a vacuum.

Nor were decisions made in secret. One reason that Raleigh's City Council remains comfortable operating in the spotlight today is Avery Upchurch. Though he at times would have been more at ease behind closed doors, the mayor recognized that government simply can't work that way. So he demanded openness of himself and others — and he did not tolerate secrecy in city agencies.

He was not flashy, nor was he a fiery orator who left volumes of colorful quotes in his public wake. He was more a worker, a do-er, an achiever. The city he served was better for his service. The friends he knew were richer for his friendship. No more satisfying epitaph can be written.

31 Item in the 6 JUL 1994 Mary Edith Sledge and in the 13 JUL 1994 James Allen Arnold, Sr. to RPA from News & Observer MON 4 JUL 1994. Raleigh, NC

Upchurch rites attract big names, rank and file

Ex-mayor mourned as a 'people person'

BY TREVA JONES
STAFF WRITER

RALEIGH — Just before city firefighters buried long-time Raleigh Mayor Avery C. Upchurch on Saturday, they removed the only adornment that had been on his coffin — a City of Raleigh flag.

The red and white flag with the city emblem was folded into a precise triangle and presented by Raleigh senior firefighter K.D. Harris to Upchurch's wife Margaret, who sat beside the grave site and was surrounded by family, friends and clergy.

As the brief graveside service ended, Mrs. Upchurch stood and placed a sheaf of three red roses atop the casket. Then she gently kissed the tips of her fingers and, just as gently, touched them to the top of the casket.

Upchurch, 65, who was Raleigh's mayor 10 years, longer than anyone else in city history, died Thursday after a six-month battle with esophageal cancer.

He decided not to run for a sixth consecutive two-year term last fall and handed over the reins of city government to new Mayor Tom Fetzler the first week in December. In January, Upchurch was diagnosed with cancer.

He received chemotherapy and radiation treatments at Duke at Duke Medical Center, but his condition worsened and he was readmitted to Duke, where he died.

At the funeral, big-name business and government officials sat beside rank-and-file city employees and Upchurch's neighbors and friends. The only flowers in the church were arrangements of red and white carnations and gladiolus, the same colors as the city

flag that covered Upchurch's casket.

"He was a statesman, a man of high morals and great integrity, with a real love for the people and the city of Raleigh," said Vernon Malone, chairman of the Wake County Board of Commissioners, as he entered the sanctuary at Forest Hills Baptist Church for the funeral.

Upchurch had been a member at Forest Hills for years. Before he ran for public office, he helped plant the trees that now shade the church.

"Avery was a people person," said Dr. John Lewis, Forest Hills' interim pastor, and one of three clergymen who participated in the service. "He was caring, he was helping. With quiet dignity and a clean integrity, he was approachable."

Even when he was extremely ill, just two days before his death,

the always-affable Upchurch managed a smile for him, said Rev. Arthur Calloway, a former Raleigh City Council member who helped conduct the service.

"That was Avery," Calloway said. "We looked at him as a grand and gentle person."

Upchurch, a service station operator and heating oil business owner, started his political career in 1976 when he was appointed to the Raleigh Planning Commission. He served on the commission, including a stint as chairman, until he ran for an at-large seat on the Raleigh City Council in 1979.

After serving two consecutive terms as at-large councilman, Upchurch entered the race for mayor in 1983 as an underdog candidate. He won, and was so popular with the voters that they

re-elected him for four more terms.

By the time he left office last December, Upchurch had earned the title "Mr. Raleigh."

"God has made us richer for having known him," said the Rev. Bo Prosser, the last of the three ministers who spoke.

Prosser said Upchurch's last statement to him, made a few days before he died, was typical of what Upchurch was all about.

"I'm disappointed that I wasn't able to do more," Prosser said Upchurch told him.



Pallbearers carry the coffin of Avery Upchurch to the burial site at Raleigh Memorial Park.

STAFF PHOTO BY MARC J. KAWANISHI

38 Item Rec'd in Ltr 3 JUL 1994 O. Marie Oden to RPA

Avery Upchurch, known as the 'drive-in mayor'

RALEIGH, N.C.

Avery C. Upchurch, 65, who was known as the "drive-in mayor" during his decade in office because he was always ready to talk about civic matters at the service station he operated, died here of cancer of the esophagus.

Upchurch was mayor from 1983 to 1993, championing the cause of downtown revitalization.

"You could drive into the service station and have a conference with the mayor without having an appointment, and he always had time to talk," said Wesley Williams, former executive director of the Raleigh Merchants Bureau.

39 Item in Ltr 6 JUL 1994 Mary Edith Sledge and 13 JUL 1994 James Allen Arnold, Sr to RPA T From The News & Observer SAT 2 JUL 1994 Raleigh, NC



AVERY C. UPCHURCH

RALEIGH — Avery C. Upchurch, 65, 3721 Fernwood Drive, died June 30, at Duke University Medical Center.

Mr. Upchurch is survived by his wife, Margaret; son and daughter-in-law, Edward and Elizabeth Upchurch of Charlotte; stepson, Lane West of Raleigh; granddaughter, Meredith Upchurch of Charlotte; brother, Thurman Upchurch of Swansboro; sister, Bobbie Denton of Raleigh.

A native of Wake County, Mr. Upchurch was mayor of the City of Raleigh from 1983 to 1993. He served as an at-large member of the City Council from 1979 to 1983. His service to the Capital City began in 1976 when he was appointed to the City's Planning Commission. He served as the commission's chairman in 1978 and 1979.

Mr. Upchurch's extensive record of public service included: serving as chairman of the State Transportation Advisory Committee from 1979 to 1993; membership on the Legislative Study Commission on Transportation, which led to a \$9 billion state roads program; membership on the Falls/Jordan Lake Steering Committee; serving as president of the North Carolina League of Municipalities; chairing the Triangle J. Council of Governments; and serving on the board of the National League of Cities.

A 1947 graduate of Broughton High School, Mr. Upchurch attended North Carolina State University and began his professional career in 1953, starting a heating oil business. He owned and operated two gasoline stations, one on Peace Street until 1988, and the station on Glenwood Avenue until 1993.

His professional associations included serving as president and later, executive director of the North Carolina Service Station Association, director of the North Carolina Oil Jobbers Association, president of the Rotary Club of West Raleigh, District Governor of rotary International District 771, president of Raleigh Merchants Bureau and membership on the State Advisory Board for Distributive Education.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. today at Forest Hills Baptist Church. Burial will follow at Raleigh Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting that contributions be made to the Avery Upchurch Foundation, Inc., 702 N. Person Street, Raleigh, 27604.

40 Phone Book 1980

Avery C. Upchurch
3721 Fernwood Drive } In AF
Raleigh, NC 27609 }

41 Avery Council U to 27 DEC 1928 and (1st) 21 JUL 1951
Marilyn M. Mansette to NOV 1930 and (2nd) Margaret
Taylor. (35, Pg 23)

42 Item in It's 10 FEB 1994 James Allen Arnold, Sr. D R PH
From News & Observer TANDR 27 JAN 1994 Raleigh, NC

Upchurch in hospital for cancer testing

BY DEBBI SYKES
AND JOHN WAGNER
STAFF WRITERS

RALEIGH — Former Mayor Avery Upchurch has been admitted to Duke University Medical Center, where he is undergoing a series of tests for cancer, city officials said Wednesday.

Upchurch, 65, recently began having problems swallowing and speaking, and when he went to Duke for a consultation Tuesday, he was admitted.

"It's a situation, it's not easy to explain when things are being diagnosed — you really don't know what the answer will be," Upchurch said from his hospital room in Durham. He is continuing to undergo tests, and all the results aren't expected until the end of the week.

City officials and friends of Upchurch said doctors have confirmed cancer in his esophagus and lymph nodes and now are testing to find whether it has spread elsewhere.

Upchurch was mayor for a decade, until he decided last year

not to run for re-election. His decision wasn't swayed by his health problems, though. He wasn't aware that anything might be seriously wrong until last week. During his last weeks in office, other council members and city staff members noticed he was growing hoarse.

Upchurch was enjoying a break from the stress of elected office since new Mayor Tom Fetzter was sworn in last month. Although he has been named chairman of the board of the Research Triangle World Trade Center, Upchurch is free now of the lengthy meetings and appearances that come with being mayor.

He was scheduled to donate memorabilia to the city museum Wednesday, but he had to cancel.

On Wednesday morning City Manager Dempsey Benton and City Attorney Tom McCormick visited the former mayor, as did Fetzter.

"His spirits are good, and he has accepted this challenge just as he accepted the challenge of public service so ably for the last 14 years," Fetzter said. "I can assure those who know him that his cheerfulness and optimism have not deserted him."

Council member Mary Watson Nooe encouraged well-wishers to write Upchurch at Duke Medical Center, rather than call.



Upchurch

43

Fond farewells begin for mayor

Avery Upchurch spent his first day as a lame duck doing what he has done for 10 years — acting as the city's ambassador.

BY BILL MULLER
STAFF WRITER

RALEIGH — The woman was loading her kids into a car at the Amtrak station downtown when she suddenly called the freckled faces to attention.

"C'mon, y'all," she said, her voice booming proudly, "let's say hello to the mayor."

And as he has done countless times, Avery Upchurch stopped what he was doing and greeted each child. They all went away grinning.

For the last 10 years, that's how it's been in Raleigh.

You might run into the mayor just about anywhere. For years, lost motorists who stopped at Upchurch's filling station on Glenwood Avenue were often given directions by his honor himself.

On Thursday, Upchurch drew a little more attention, getting patted on the back and embraced. The day before, he'd announced that he would not run for an unprecedented sixth term. Five two-year terms were enough, but it all doesn't end

until after the election Oct. 5.

Though people around him offered sympathy and encouragement, Upchurch said it seemed like just another day as mayor.

"I don't really feel any differ-

ent," he said. "I've just been wrestling with this so cotton-picking long."

He spent much of the day working as the city's chief diplomat, riding an Amtrak train with Gov. Jim Hunt from Rocky Mount to Raleigh. It was the Swedish train, X2000, capable of 150 mph, if the tracks are good.

At the train station on West Cabarrus Street, more people told Upchurch they'd miss him after he's left office.

"It's been a very interesting day," he said. "Everybody's

been really nice. They're all saying they wish I hadn't, or you can't do it, or they won't let me do it."

"I had one guy say, 'Why'd you do that for? I was about to write you a check,'" he said. "But they always say that."

The mayor's car is littered with evidence of his ribbon-cutting prowess, from the hard hat on the back seat to the CAT bus hat lying in the front.

"People are always giving me these things," he admits, "and I

don't know where to put them."

During lunch, Upchurch joked with Big Ed Watkins at his restaurant in the City Market, off Moore Square. Upchurch told Watkins that he was ready to go into the restaurant business.

"I know one you can buy, mayor," Watkins said. "You just let me know."

Across the street, Upchurch chatted with Charlie Coats, who sells produce at the open air market there. Walking down the brick sidewalks, the mayor remembered trying to get the City Market project started in 1983.

"There were plans but there was no money," he said. "They told me, 'Avery, you've got to go to the bankers.' I went to the bankers, and they just laughed."

Back at City Hall, there were people to meet, and messages to return. Dodging well-wishers, Upchurch chided City Manager Dempsey Benton for not going on the Amtrak ride. Benton went to a regional managers meeting instead.

***I had one guy say,
"Why'd you do that
for? I was about to
write you a check."
But they always say
that.'***

Avery Upchurch,
mayor of Raleigh.



Mayor Avery Upchurch, left, and Big Ed Watkins, owner of Big Ed's restaurant at the City Market, joke about post-retirement opportunities for his honor.

STAFF PHOTO BY CHRIS SEWARD

"You make one little announcement and you don't see the city manager anymore," Upchurch joked.

Council member Mary Watson Nooe was in her office when the mayor arrived. Over the years, she'd said she was most impressed by his kindness.

"When my father died, the council sent me flowers," she said. "But Avery sent me flowers and then came down to Pittsboro to see me. He does those kinds of things."

Nooe also remembers the occasional practical joke.

"When Avery turned 60, his friends borrowed a hearse and had a big cake done up and put it in the back of the hearse," she said. "Then they drove up to his gas station and told him they'd come to get him."

THE NEWS & OBSERVER
FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1993

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AVERY C. UPCHURCH
MAYOR

COUNCIL OFFICE
P.O. BOX 590
RALEIGH, NC 27602
(919) 890.3050

RESIDENCE:
3721 FERNWOOD DRIVE
RALEIGH, NC 27612
(919) 787-1836

MICHAEL U I



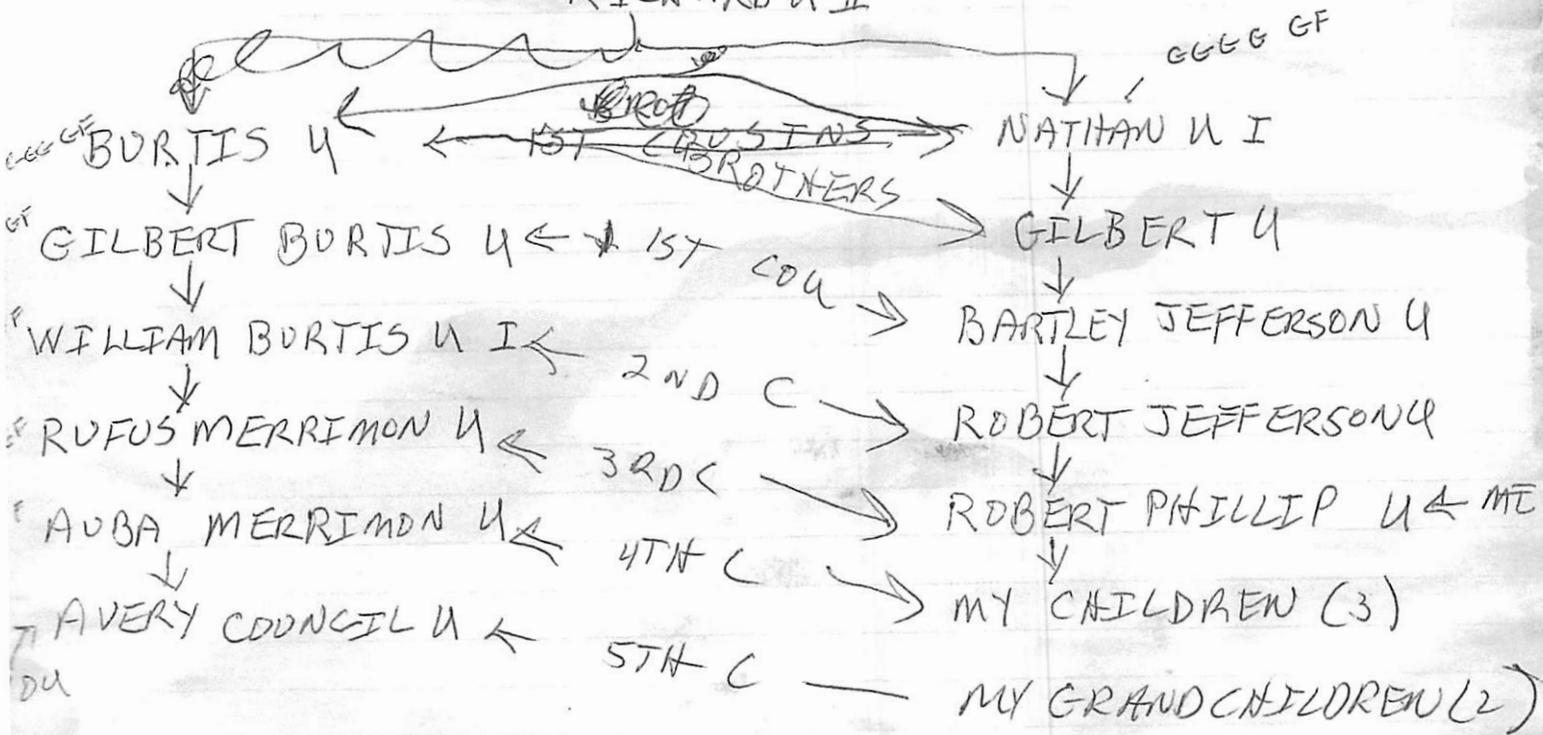
RICHARD U I



JAMES U I



RICHARD U II



27 FEB 85
 Rec'd ch # 7205 for 75
 signed Avery C. Upchurch
 For UB 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85
 Avery C. U
 260 N Glenwood Ave
 Raleigh, NC 27608

} This is his personal
 business address
 which he prefers

- B-13-80
- B-10-81
- B-8-82
- B-7-83
- B-6-84
- B-5-85

Bulk

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International Flower

Proud of being #3

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Persistence & Credibility

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To serve in the apartment
To have been elected in
the reward.
1/2 life in service started.

AVERY C

U

Pg 46

46

FROM 1995 CD-ROM

Upchurch A	1924 Carrbridge Way	Raleigh	NC 27615-2576	919-848-0081
Upchurch A E	610 Willard Pl	Raleigh	NC 27603-1752	919-832-1074
Upchurch Angela C	117 Gilbert Av	Raleigh	NC 27603-2419	919-833-9880
Upchurch Anna & Pender	1924 Carrbridge Way	Raleigh	NC 27615-2576	919-848-0081
Upchurch Arthur	720 Lunar Dr	Raleigh	NC 27610-3429	919-231-4873
<u>Upchurch Avery C</u> ↑	3721 Fernwood Dr	Raleigh	NC 27612-6219	919-787-1836
Upchurch Bobbie M	2429 Greenway Ave	Raleigh	NC 27608-1305	919-783-7712
Upchurch Brian & Kim	1004 Willow Run South Dr	Raleigh	NC 27615-5251	919-847-2506
Upchurch Brian E Atty	4600 Marriott Dr	Raleigh	NC 27612	919-787-7711
Upchurch Brian E Atty	4600 Marriott Dr	Raleigh	NC 27612	919-787-7711
Upchurch Bryan	7720 Harps Mill Rd	Raleigh	NC 27615-5427	919-847-0958
Upchurch Bryan	7720 Harps Mill Rd	Raleigh	NC 27615-5427	919-847-0958
Upchurch Bryan Builders Inc	7720 Harps Mill Rd	Raleigh	NC 27615-5427	919-847-0958
Upchurch Carolyn	1113 S East St	Raleigh	NC 27601-2715	919-829-9577
Upchurch Carolyn	3217 Crandon Ln	Raleigh	NC 27604-2432	919-876-3130
Upchurch Charles B	404 Bickett Blvd	Raleigh	NC 27608-2562	919-828-9753

March 18, 1985

Honorable Avery C. Upchurch
3601 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, North Carolina 27608

Dear Cousin Avery:

I want to thank you for taking time to visit with me on February 27, 1985 and for your \$75.00 in payment for the UPCHURCH BULLETIN 1980-1985. The issues for 1980-1984 and the first issue for 1985 will be sent to you by bulk mail on March 18 and they will take a week or so to arrive. When you go over them let me know if you have any comments, corrections, additions, etc.

Your GGGG Grandfather, Nathan Upchurch I, (he was my GG Grandfather) settled in western Wake Co., NC about 1802 and was the first Upchurch in western Wake Co. He owned 1000 acres of land centered on Green Level. You will note many details on him in the bulletin. My Grandfather was born in the Green Level area in 1842. He later settled in the Inwood Baptist Church-Yates Mill Pond area where I was born and raised.

My present intent is to publish your picture and a write-up on you in the April 1985 issue of the bulletin. It will reach readers about the end of June.

Thanks again for your interest and congratulations on your dynamic leadership of the City of Raleigh.

Sincerely yours,

R. Phillip Upchurch
Your 3rd cousin
twice removed

/s