

WILLIAM HENRY CORBITT

News of the passing of William Henry Corbitt from this life to his eternal home on November 10 came as a great shock to a host of friends who thought of him as a picture of health and sturdiness. Death came at Obici Memorial Hospital, Suffolk, where he was taken on the previous Sunday, after being stricken with a heart attack following the services he had conducted at the Warwick Swamp Baptist Church of Hobbsville, N. C.

Having retired from the active pastorate in 1963, he made his home at Holland, Virginia, and served many churches in the area as interim pastor. A native of Zuni, in Southampton County, he was born April 23, 1902, the son of Robert Lee and Nancy Rebecca Carr Corbitt. To this union were born also three sisters and three brothers who survive him, all of whom live in the Virginia Tidewater area, including the Reverend Rufus H. Corbitt of Poquoson.

He attended Hargrave Military Academy, the University of Richmond, and received the Bachelor of Theology degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. His first pastorate after seminary days was at Holland Baptist Church. He also served as pastor at South Quay and Apex, N. C. As the first pastor, he helped to found the work at Temple Baptist Church, Newport News, later served at Westhaven Church, Portsmouth, and concluded his active ministry as pastor of the Hillcrest Baptist Church near Suffolk. Jovial in spirit and a friend to all, he was "a good minister of Jesus Christ."

Surviving, besides his widow, Etheleen Smith Corbitt, are two daughters, Mrs. Richard W. Faison of Portsmouth, and Miss Judith Ann Corbitt of Holland. Funeral services were conducted in the Holland Baptist Church by Carl Lee Ousley, pastor, assisted by the Reverend Mr. Jerry Odom, with burial at Holly Lawn Cemetery, Suffolk.

- -Edward E. Rutledge

VIRGINIA BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION ANNUAL, 1966, p. 104 (also a photograph facing page 103. (206.9755/M66)

(Note: William Henry Corbitt served Olive Chapel Baptist Church, Apex, NC from 1940-1943. Photograph in BIOGRAPHY OF A COUNTRY CHURCH by Garland A. Hendricks, facing p. 67. BHC-Staff)

WILLIAM HENRY CORBITT

William H. Corbitt, age 64, died Monday, November 10, in North Carolina where he was serving as interim pastor. Mr. Corbitt was a native of Southampton County. He held the B.A. degree from the University of Richmond and the Th.M. degree from Southern Baptist Seminary. At the time of retirement from the active ministry he was pastor of Hillcrest Church in Blackwater Association. Earlier he had been pastor at Holland and South Quay, and churches in Newport News and Portsmouth. A funeral service was conducted at Holland Baptist Church on Wednesday by Rev. Carl Lee Ousley and Rev. Jerry Odom. Interment was at Holly Lawn.

RELIGIOUS HERALD, November 24, 1966, p. 5:2

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