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**NEWS HERALD
AHOSKIE, N. C.**

Bio - John F. Parker

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291 **Rev. John F. Parker** *48*

RICH SQUARE — Rev. John Francis Parker, 84, a native of Atlanta, Ga., died January 14, 2000, at Guardian Care Nursing Home, Scotland Neck.

A funeral was conducted Monday at Seymour Funeral Home Chapel, Goldsboro, by the Rev. Robert Rogers. Burial was in Wayne Memorial Park. Memorials may be made to Rich Square Baptist Church, PO Box 589, Rich Square, NC 27869.

Rev. Parker was a retired Baptist minister having pastored Union Chapel Baptist Church, Zebulon; Rosewood Baptist Church, Goldsboro; Immanuel Baptist Church, Kinston; South Creek Baptist Church, Aurora, Hebron Baptist Church, Woodland; and served as interim pastor of Creeksville Baptist Church, Conway, for three years. He was a member of Rich Square Baptist Church and was a graduate of West Forest University. Rev. Parker was also a World War II veteran of the United States Navy.

Survivors include his wife, Mildred Hollowell Parker; a daughter, Frances Phelps of New Bern; sons, David Parker of Nashville, Gerald Parker of Durham, Donald Parker of Garner, Eric Parker of Kinston; a brother, Emulon Bernard Parker of Goldsboro; sisters, Elizabeth P. Kern of Durham and Edna P. Hood of Goldsboro; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Parkers will be missed



The Rev. and Mrs. John Parker

By MABEL PIERCE

CREEKSVILLE — To know them is to love them, and the three years the Rev. John Parker served as interim pastor of Creeksville Baptist Church, the members learned to love and revere this spiritual giant and his lovely wife.

Though the Rev. Parker never officially became the pastor of the church, the congregation most assuredly felt he was their minister not only in the pulpit but in every area of their lives where the loving support of a pastor was needed.

Mrs. Parker ably served as choir director. She was a member of both missionary circle, taking an active part in their work and activities.

Her many talents enabled her to assist in most every phase of church work, lending grace and beauty to her every performance.

The Parkers taught school for many years, along with their work in the ministry.

They successfully reared five children; each has a college degree and are living productive lives in their chosen field.

They admit, quite frankly, that the demands made on them during the years they were actively involved in school work, the church and family, taxed their strength and endurance daily. However, while observing the two of them doing the task they seem to be fitted best for — serving their Lord — there is visible, a glowing thread interwoven in the fabric of their lives that points towards deep convictions and strong dedication.

All else in their lives is secondary and

therein lies the power behind their success in enriching the spiritual life at Creeksville Baptist Church.

A member of the church remarked that should the Rev. Parker ask you to serve in some capacity at church, one could never give a negative answer. Such was his gentle, but persuasive approach.

His love for the unchurched people compelled him to go into the byways and seek out the lost and uncared for people and bring them into the fellowship of the church. Thus, the church grew and was made spiritually alive under his divine inspired leadership.

A diabetic condition forced him to resign as interim pastor at Creeksville about a month ago. The congregation here wishes the Parkers God speed as they serve their Lord in a less active capacity. May the blessings of good health, joy and the peace that comes from a task well done abide with them always.

We trust that Mrs. Parker will now have the time to pursue her art career, if only for her enjoyment. As for the Rev. Parker, we can envision for him many happy hours spent with friends, relating to them his vast store hours of humorous stories and experiences, which causes him to be a delightful guest and friend.

In a more serious vein, he might ask you if you know the Lord as your savior. If the answer is negative, then he will attempt to help you know Him, all the while giving God the credit for the successful redemptive act.

That is the man he is, may his tribe increase!

Signup on for

JACKSON — Plans for the Annual Arts and Crafts Fair to be held in the Jackson gym on Wednesday, October 8 are well under way. This crafts fair is co-sponsored by the Agricultural Extension Service and the Extension Homemakers organizations in Northampton County.

Any person or group who might wish to exhibit or to sell their craft work should bring an example of their work by the Extension Office on or before August 1. A screening committee will



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