

# Alumni notes

## 1930s

**Hazel Miracle Burnham (SN'34)** died at Loma Linda on February 3, 1996. She was born at Wewoka, Oklahoma, in 1911, and served as head nurse at Baylor University Hospital, and nursing supervisor at White Memorial Medical Center and Glendale Adventist Medical Center. She is survived by three children: **Kathleen Burnham (SD'79)**; **Marjorie Burnham**, and **Gilbert Burnham (SM'68)**; two brothers, **Everett Miracle (SM'36)**; **Floyd Miracle (SM'43)**; and a sister, **Gladys Thompson**.

**James Lloyd Mason (SM'34)**, one of the founders of Monument Valley Hospital in Utah, died on July 13, 1995, at the age of 86. Dr. Mason, his wife, Bess, and his four children first moved to Monument Valley in 1958 at the request of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. "Although he owned a thriving private practice in Bishop, California, he had always wanted to be a missionary," says his daughter, Ann Mason Holiday. "When the church contacted him and asked him to go to Monument Valley for a year to learn if there was a need for a hospital to serve the Navajo people, he was delighted to go."

Dr. Mason sold his practice, moved his family to Monument Valley, and opened a clinic to serve the Native Americans there. At the end of the year, after delivering several hundred babies in the clinic, he reported to church officials that a hospital was urgently needed. Donations provided much of the funding, and in 1961, the new 21-bed hospital was dedicated.

"It offered a full range of services," says Ms. Holiday, "from OB to med-surg, emergency services, and more." In addition to being the hospital's only physician, Dr. Mason served as hospital administrator as well as pastor of the local church. "He even preached every week until a partner joined him two years later."

Mrs. Mason, a registered nurse, was the physician's assistant and administered anesthesia for minor surgeries. In addition,

she served as a Bible worker.

After working in Monument Valley for 12 years, the Masons moved to California where Dr. Mason was director of employee health services for Glendale Adventist Medical Center. Upon his retirement, he moved to Lakeport, California, where even though he was retired, he continued to work full time in the local Indian Health Services clinic.

"Monument Valley always held a special place in his heart," says Ms. Holiday. "That's where he gave most of his energy. Besides overseeing the building of the hospital, he was responsible for obtaining funding for, and subsequently building Stonem Chapel. He always was completely dedicated to his work, loved his patients, and loved his Lord."

**Elmer Olson (SM'34)** has passed away.

## 1940s

**Elmer Bottsford (SM'43)** wrote last summer from Ridgetop, Tennessee.

Regarding the opening paragraph of the *SCOPE* article "A Christian Outreach to El Hongo" that appeared in the Summer, 1995, issue, Dr. Bottsford wrote:

"I'm sure the minister didn't use these meaningless syllables. It should have been 'Yo le bautizo.'

"I enjoyed very much this issue of *Scope* with its emphasis on missions. I was medical director of the Juliaca Clinic from 1943 to 1948. It is closer to 12,500 feet and it's not many kilometers away. After leaving Juliaca, we pioneered the work in eastern Bolivia and then served as director of the Belem Hospital at the mouth of the Amazon until 1955. We had the privilege to work with the veteran of the medical launch work—Leo B. Halliwell. In 1966 we were called to the South American Division, where I served as medical and temperance secretary until 1969. In 1971 we went to Uganda for a three-month stint at the Ishaka Hospital.

"I'm retired now and am enjoying my hobbies, but there's a cloud on the horizon.



**Hazel M. Burnham (SN'34)**  
...passed away in Loma Linda

In February, my wife Grace was diagnosed with cancer of the pancreas with metastasis to the liver."

## 1950s

**Ira Bailie (SM'52)** writes from Turlock, California: "I appreciate the inclusion of my letter regarding the Turlock Sunrise Rotary project in getting \$10,000 worth of medical equipment for Scheer Hospital in Banepa, Nepal. I should have mentioned that my wife, **Rita Farrar (Norton) (SAHP'51)** is a 1951 graduate of the School of Allied Health Professions (med-tech) and is the widow of **Bill Norton (SAHP'51)** (med-tech).

"I lost my wife, **Clara Jackson (SN'49)** in July of 1992, and Rita and I were married in April of 1993. The picture [included with his story] was labeled as being in Kathmandu. In reality, it is in the Mt. Everest Sanctuary at 13,000 feet, just above the Sherpa town of Namche Bagar, and Mt. Everest is in the background. It was taken in October of 1994. What looks like snow on the ground is really hoar frost and the temperature was about 10° F."

Dr. Bailie was honored in December, 1995, as a major gift contributor of \$10,000 or more to the Rotary Foundation. He received an elegant engraved crystal as recognition.

**George L. Juler (SM'52)** retired from the Long Beach Veterans Administration Medical Center in California on October 19, 1995, after 38 years of government service. He completed an internship at the White Memorial Medical Center, after which he practiced in Chico, California.