



Dawson Addis

March 14, 1922 - January 27, 2010

James Dawson Addis, 87, died 27 January 2010, in Columbia, S.C. , where he and his wife Helen Williams Addis have lived for several years.

Born 14 March 1922, he was a native of Oconee County, the son of Minnie (Mimi) Butler Addis and Jess Addis, Sr. He is survived by his wife Helen; his daughters, Carol, Zenda, Gail, and Jamie; a son-in-law, Terry Powell; his grandchildren, Daniel, Ramsay, and Jennie; great-grandchildren are Ian and Halle; his sister, Gertrude Tharpe; and many other dear family members and friends. He was predeceased by his daughter Jennifer, brothers Butler and Jess, Jr.

His life was characterized by his work and service for others and in his various communities. He served in WWII in the Army Corps of Engineers (1942 -1944). After the war, as a young family man in Walhalla , he became a deacon at the First Baptist Church, a member and later president of the Walhalla Jaycees, and then was elected to the Walhalla City Council. On a statewide level, he served from 1959 – 1964 as elected representative from Oconee County in the S.C. State House of Representatives; and from 1964 – 1985 was a commissioner on the S.C. State Industrial Commission.

Politically, he not only served the heart and soul and vision of the Democratic Party, but worked with any and all to effect the policies and programs which would help those who most needed. From townhall meetings in the county, to

the halls of the statehouse, to the Kennedy Whitehouse, his interests and energies went for the development of the structures and policies badly needed in his era: among them, the peaceful integration of Clemson University by Harvey Gantt; the planning and implementation of the state Technical Education College system; and rural fire control for isolated communities.

When his wife Helen introduced him to the game of golf, it opened to him another world which would not only give him a life-long joy, but another important way of joining with and serving the growth and development of others. In the 70s, he was a founding member of the State Employees Golf Association, elected to the board in 1972, and president in 1975 and 1976; he continued on the SEGC board until 1991, when he was elected committee emeritus status. He later served on the board of the S.C. Athletic Hall of Fame and was himself inducted in the division of golf. In his later years he also helped found the S.C. Junior Golf Program, traveling and supporting statewide efforts to reach the young with new access and opportunities.

In his final years, his vocation became intercessory prayer, which he practiced daily for all those he knew and for everyone and every nation he did not personally know. This, he said, was his greatest service.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11:00 AM Tuesday, February 2, 2010, from the Chapel of Davenport Funeral Home with burial to follow in Oconee Memorial Park. The family will meet family and friends from 10-11:00 AM Tuesday prior to the service.

Tribute Wall



“ Dawson Addis

January 28, 2023 at 01:03 PM



“ Helen and Family,

So very sorry to hear Dawson has died. I am Anna Addis Peay's grandson and went to school with Zenda. I remember all of you when you lived in Walhalla. I even remember the twins when they were young. How time passes.

Again, I am so sorry of your loss. Please give my sympathy to Zenda and all the kids.

Kenneth Peay##imported-begin##Kenneth W. Peay##imported-end##

February 03, 2010 at 12:53 PM



“ When I read about the passing of Mr. Addis, I wanted to sent a note of my condolences to the family. My mother, Eloise Hogan Pickle, assistant to the Oconee County Treasurer, Henry Cater, always spoke highly of Mr. Addis. I imagine Mr. Addis was a recipient of several of mother's "Pickle Ties", as was Strom Thurmon and other dignitaries of South Carolina, including Fritz Hollings. Mother and Dad, J. D. Pickle, are both deceased but loved South Carolina and Oconee County. My love and prayers are with you during this great loss of a great man.

Joan Pickle Anderson##imported-begin##Joan Pickle Anderson##imported-end##

February 03, 2010 at 04:16 AM



“ Sending our love, and deepest sympathy to Aunt Helen and family as we mourn Uncle Dawson's passing. You are in our hearts and prayers.##imported-begin##Bob Williams Family##imported-end##

February 02, 2010 at 09:38 AM



“ Helen and girls,Dawson was so good to me when I lived in Columbia in nursing school in the 1960s.Our thoughts and prayers are with you now.##imported-begin##Ginger Janik Duncan##imported-end##

February 01, 2010 at 04:23 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you.Dawson was a dear friend.We treasure our memories of him. Our Love to all the family, Jack and Sarah Smith##imported-begin##jack smith##imported-end##

February 01, 2010 at 11:16 AM



“ In the early 1960s, I worked with Dawson at the SC Industrial Commission. He was a fine man. I remember Helen and Zenda and my thoughts are with all the family. My husband Sterling sends his best also.##imported-begin##Martha Beckman##imported-end##

January 31, 2010 at 12:49 PM



“ I was so sorry to hear about the loss of Mr. Addis. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Addis when I began my Court Reporting Career with the State of South Carolina in the late '70's. After his retirement, on occasions, I would run into him getting lunch at the S&S. Mr. Addis was a wonderful person. My thoughts and prayers are with the family. He will be missed.##imported-begin##Robbie Koon DeFreese##imported-end##

January 30, 2010 at 03:44 PM



“ My deepest sympathy goes to you and your loved ones at this time of sorrow and great loss. When you look at stars so shinny and bright there is one that will out shine the rest, it is your precious one looking down telling you he is safe with the Lord God who called him home..I pray God will give each his loving peact and comfort!##imported-begin##Glenda R. (Jones) Scroggins##imported-end##

January 30, 2010 at 03:34 PM



“ Helen and Children,

Lamar and I both hold many fond memories of you and Dawson from years past. Please know that you are in our prayers at this time.##imported-begin##Rosemary Bailes##imported-end##

January 30, 2010 at 11:40 AM



“ Dawson Addis is an Oconee legend! When in Walhalla, he was always investing his time and energy in behalf of our city and county. His family continues to follow his example of “Service Above Self.” Even after his move from the Golden Corner, he continued to invest himself in helping others. He is an example worthy of emulation.##imported-begin##John Kelley##imported-end##

January 29, 2010 at 07:32 PM



“ You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Hugs,
Mary Norma and Buddy##imported-begin##Mary Norma Whitten
Barnes and Buddy Barnes##imported-end##

January 29, 2010 at 06:32 PM



“ My prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Reg Tatum##imported-end##

January 29, 2010 at 05:27 PM