

## Cranky Old Man

What do you see nurses?..... What do you see?  
What are you thinking ..... when you're looking at me?  
A cranky old man, ..... not very wise,  
Uncertain of habit .....with faraway eyes?  
Who dribbles his food ..... and makes no reply.  
When you say in a loud voice ..... 'I do wish you'd try!'  
Who seems not to notice ..... the things that you do.  
And forever is losing ..... A sock or shoe?  
Who, resisting or not . . . . . lets you do as you will,  
With bathing and feeding ..... The long day to fill?  
Is that what you're thinking? .....Is that what you see?  
Then open your eyes, nurse .....you're not looking at me.  
I'll tell you who I am ..... As I sit here so still,  
As I do at your bidding, .....as I eat at your will.  
I'm a small child of Ten ..... with a father and mother,  
Brothers and sisters .....who love one another  
A young boy of Sixteen ..... with wings on his feet  
Dreaming that soon now .....a lover he'll meet.  
A groom soon at Twenty .....my heart gives a leap.  
Remembering, the vows .....that I promised to keep.  
At Twenty-Five, now ..... I have young of my own.  
Who need me to guide ..... And a secure happy home.  
A man of Thirty ..... My young now grown fast,  
Bound to each other ..... With ties that should last.  
At Forty, my young sons ..... have grown and are gone,  
But my woman is beside me ..... to see I don't mourn.  
At Fifty, once more, ..... Babies play 'round my knee,  
Again, we know children ..... My loved one and me.  
Dark days are upon me ..... My wife is now dead.  
I look at the future ..... I shudder with dread.  
For my young are all rearing ... .. young of their own.  
And I think of the years ..... And the love that I've known.  
I'm now an old man .....and nature is cruel.  
It's jest to make old age. . . . . look like a fool.  
The body, it crumbles ..... grace and vigor depart.  
There is now a stone ..... where lance had a heart.  
But inside this old carcass..... A young man still dwells,  
And now and again ..... my battered heart swells  
I remember the joys ..... I remember the pain.  
And I'm loving and living ..... life over again.  
I think of the years, all too few ..... gone too fast.  
And accept the stark fact ..... that nothing can last.  
So open your eyes, people ..... open and see.  
Not a cranky old man. **Look closer see ME!!**

(As Per On-line)

My mother, Phyllis McCormack, wrote this poem in the early Sixties when she was a nurse at Sunnyside Hospital in Montrose.



Originally entitled

*Look Closer Nurse*, the poem was written for a small magazine for Sunnyside only Phyllis was very shy and submitted her work anonymously. A copy of the magazine was lent to a patient at Ashludie Hospital, Dundee, who copied it in her own handwriting and kept it in her bedside locker. When she died, the copy was found and submitted to the *Sunday Post* newspaper, attributed to the Ashludie patient. Since my mother's death in 1994 her work has travelled all over the world ... Somehow this explanation rings true, though it immediately begs the question of how the original story was constructed in the first place and whether the poem depends on an apparent myth for its continuing appeal. The currently circulating "old man" variant of the piece is apparently an adaptation of the original by US poet David L. Griffith of Texas and can still be [seen in its original context](#) on his [website](#). Griffith calls his adaptation of the poem "Too Soon Old" but it is also known as a "Crabby Old Man" and, as in the version included above, "Cranky Old Man

Bob Ernest gave this to me a couple weeks ago, I told him I had put it in the newsletter a few years ago but requested to have it put in again and said I could say he was the Cranky Old Man, LOL, Don't think so! But I will repeat it for those that don't remember it last time. This poem could be about your father or your mother, or grandmother or grandfather or you or me someday, sooner than we think. Just remember that by faith in that blessed hope we can look forward to a new heaven and a new earth where Nursing homes aren't needed. We all need each others prayers daily, hourly so we will be ready for that day.



## The Sabbath Shoes Presented by Kay Cheser, Sabbath School Superintendent and

*Women's Ministries Leader - I think this story covers both very well. Hope you enjoy.*

A young woman entered the shoe shop where I worked. Something seemed different about her, but it took me a while to figure out that she was wearing no makeup or jewelry. Still, she seemed to glow with a wholesome attractiveness. I brought out shoes for her to try on, but we didn't have her size.

No problem, I assured her. We could order them and have them within three days. Becky ordered the shoes, and I told her to expect them in by Wednesday afternoon. "That's great," she said. "I don't need them until Saturday."

Becky returned Wednesday afternoon, but her shoes hadn't arrived. I apologized for the inconvenience and assured her that they would be in the next day. But when the shipment arrived on Thursday, Becky's shoes weren't there. I quickly telephoned the company and the manager explained that the shoes would arrive the next day. When Becky came to get her shoes, I explained the problem, and she graciously accepted my apology. "I don't live far," she said. "I can come tomorrow. You are sure the shoes will arrive tomorrow?" she asked. "I do need them on Saturday morning."

Late Friday afternoon when Becky arrived, I greeted her with a red face. The shipment had not yet arrived. I urged her to wait a few minutes. "Why do you need the shoes tomorrow?" I asked, trying to delay her departure. "I'm playing the organ, and my old shoes are rather worn," she answered. Becky waited a few more minutes, then said she had to go. Although she was very polite, I knew she was disappointed. Just 15 minutes later the driver arrived with her shoes. Quickly I telephoned Becky and told her that her shoes had arrived. To my surprise, Becky replied, "It's OK. I'll pick up them up on Saturday night." I tried to encourage her to get the shoes that evening, but she declined. Imagine my shock when Becky entered the store a few minutes later. She said she had come to assure me that she was not at all angry that the shoes hadn't arrived in time, and she was impressed at my efforts to solve the problem. Then she turned to leave. "But what about your shoes?" I asked. She said she hadn't come to pick up the shoes and would return for them Saturday evening. I offered to lend her the money for the shoes, but she smiled and declined I stood there totally confused. *Why won't she take the shoes today?* I wondered. Suddenly I had to know the answer. I ran out of the store and caught up to Becky. "Please, just tell me why you wouldn't take the shoes today," I asked her. "It doesn't make any sense." She hesitated, then said, "I am a Christian." "But I'm a Christian too," I told her. "What does Christianity have to do with your not taking the shoes today?" "If you are a Christian," she replied with a smile, "then you know that the Ten Commandments tell us to remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. That means we shouldn't buy, sell, or work on God's Sabbath day." "But it's only Friday," I said. "The Sabbath isn't until Sunday." "No," she smiled again. "The Sabbath is the seventh day of the week, not the first day. Check your calendar."



I invited her to return with me to the shoe store where I had a calendar on the desk. We walked back to the store, and I pointed to the calendar. "See?" I said confidently. Then I looked again. Saturday *was* the seventh day, not Sunday. *How could I have overlooked this for 25 years?* Then I told her, "But today is still Friday. You can still get your shoes." "I'll still wait to buy the shoes until tomorrow night," she said. "It is a little more complicated than that, but the Bible explains it quite well. Would you be interested in learning about it? The church event that I will play for tomorrow is a Revelation Seminar presented by a visiting evangelist. He'll be talking about Bible prophecy, which will include a complete study on the subject of the Sabbath and Sunday. If you're not afraid to learn the truth from the Bible, I'd like you to come." "I'm not afraid," I said bravely. "As a matter of fact, the book of Revelation is totally confusing, and I've never heard anyone even attempt to explain it. Yes, I think I will go."

The next morning I rode my motorcycle to Becky's home and followed her family van to church. During the drive I asked myself, *What are you doing following strangers to a religious meeting in a church you've never even heard of? This could be a boring waste of time, or worse. They might even be a cult!* I wrestled with these thoughts for several minutes. *I could take the next exit and forget this foolishness.* I asked God to help me decide, and suddenly an overwhelming sense of peace came over me. I decided to attend the seminar. The Bible truths I learned there shocked me, and I spent the next seven years trying to disprove them. *How could so many Sunday keeping people be so wrong?* I reasoned. But the more I studied, the more I realized I could not argue against the truths I learned in the Adventist Church. Finally I couldn't deny the truth any longer. I stopped fighting and became an Adventist.

I praise God for a young woman who refused to compromise her faith and buy the shoes she had wanted so much. Her faith led me to Bible truths I had never heard of, truths which I hold dear today. For that young woman I am eternally grateful.

## SARAH S.L. SMITH

July 11, 1936 - February 14, 2015

### Biography

Sarah S.L. Smith, 78, of Randolph died Saturday, February 14, 2015 at her residence.

She was born on Saturday, July 11, 1936 in Chilton Co., Alabama, Daughter of the late Virgil D. Gothard and the late Carra Lovett.

She was a Homemaker.

Surviving are Husband, Sam Smith, Jr. of Randolph, AL; Son, Shawn (Natalie) Smith of Randolph, AL; Daughter, Julie (Chip) Anderson of Randolph, AL; Grandchildren, Adam & Maggie Anderson of Randolph, AL; Brother, Murrel (Bobbie) Gothard of Jemison, AL; Sister, Carolyn (Curtis) Smith of Jemison, AL; 3 Sister-in-law, Lucille Gothard of Jemison, AL, Irene Gothard of Jemison, AL, Linda Gothard of Thorsby, AL



Mrs. Smith was a member of The Seventh Day Adventist Church in Clanton. She enjoyed Vegetable & Flower Gardening, Genealogy, Traveling & Quilting..

She was preceded in death by: Siblings, Howard (Louise) Gothard Edward (Mildred & Louise) Gothard, Gracy Gothard, Lois (Edwin) Smith, Earl Gothard, Dee Gothard, Gene "Bill" Gothard.

Friends will be received from 1-2, Sunday, February 15, 2015 at Mars Hill Baptist Church.

Services will be held Sunday, February 15, 2015, at 2:00 pm. at Mars Hill Baptist Church with Pastor Steve Severence, Pastor Shawn Smith and Rev. Billy Wyatt officiating.

Interment will follow in Mars Hill Baptist Cemetery, Jemison, Alabama.

Family request no flowers. Please make contributions to Mars Hill Cemetery Fund in her memory.

Martin Funeral Home directing.

Brenda reporting: The funeral was very well attended by church members, friends of the family and members of the Mars Hill Baptist church. There was hardly an extra seat by the time the 2:00 service started, just guessing there must have been at least 200 people there. There were a lot of nice things said about SL, her happy countenance, her enjoying entertaining at their house, all the nice memories that several had over the years. I didn't know that she enjoyed collecting plates from all the 49 states that they have visited. "For some reason they hadn't found the road to Hawaii yet, LOL"



There was a pretty picture of a quilt on the website from Martin Funeral home and I checked but it wasn't a picture of one that SL had made so I just found another pretty quilt to put here in her memory. I hope that you were blessed by attending and showing the family that we love them.

Funerals can be sad occasions but then to they can be joyous and for SL her pain and suffering is over and everyone that lives their lives in accordance with God's plan can look forward to visiting with her in heaven and enjoying eternity with her. I don't know if there will be a quilting bee there but I am sure we will all find something enjoyable to do.

I am looking forward to that day, aren't you?

# PASTOR'S CORNER

## *Have You Thought About Your Soul?*

Have you ever stopped to wonder  
What this life is all about?  
Why you're here and where you're going  
When your lease on time runs out?  
Maybe you've been far too busy,  
Trying hard to reach your goal;  
Would you let me ask you kindly,  
Have you thought about your soul?  
You may reach the highest portals.  
And your dreams may all come true;  
Wealth and fame may be your portion.  
And success may shine on you.  
All your friends may sing your praises  
Not a care on you may roll;  
Let me ask you just one question,  
Have you thought about your soul?  
If you've never thought it over,  
Spend a little time today:  
There is nothing more important  
That will ever come your way  
Than the joy of sins forgiven.  
And to know You've been made whole.  
In the name of Christ the Saviour  
Have you thought about your soul?



I hadn't seen this picture yet even though it was posted in November of 2014 , so thought I would get it off Facebook and share with everyone, looks like several of you have "liked" it already.

For those of you that weren't at the Church Business Meeting on Sunday, February 15. Jim Higgins, the Treasurer gave his report and let everyone know that for a small church, we are up to date with everything. When there is a need, the members are always there to help supply it.

Kay Cheser presented that the children's department attendance is increasing. The Visitation for the missing members needs to be started. Brenda Davis discussed the new Bible Basics class that will start April 7 with Bill Wiese assisting her. This class is for visitors and those that want to "start at the beginning again". It will cover "Adventese" a new term for all the abbreviations that we use regularly and each week one will be explained. This is a quarterly put out in 2010 that Elder Wilson has put his approval on also. Looking forward to starting this.

Just thought I would give a quick update about what was presented that the Church Board had voted to implement starting on March 7. The order of services will change slightly with the Personal Ministries being at **10:45 am**, instead of during the Worship Service. The Church in Worship will still start at **11:00 am**. Don't forget to come to Sabbath School and start Song service at least by **9:15am** every Sabbath.

Until next month, Brenda Davis - Church Clerk Reporting

Pastor Michel Rodriguez & wife Elizabeth—Phone: 817-219-7347

530 Old Farm Ln. S. Apt. P Prattville, AL 36066 email: wintermich@icloud.com

**Head Elder**, Robert (Bob) Ernest— 205-280-1297 Email: RobertE699@aol.com

**Assistant Head Elder** —Ralph Sheperd— 334-201-9118 Email: sheperd747@gmail.com

**Clanton Seventh-day Adventist Church**  
401 North 18th Street  
Clanton, AL 35045  
205-755-2270

### March Birthdays

- 5- Pat Gill
- 13 - Cleo Smith, Keiona Lucas
- 15- Chris Newell
- 20 - David Mahan

### Anniversary

- 4 - Shawn & Natalie Smith

### Calendar of Events

- ◆ **Weekly:** Prayer Meeting: Tuesdays at 7pm  
Jail Ministry: Sundays 6:30pm at the Clanton Jail
- ◆ **Monthly:** Tennis Shoe Sabbath: 1st Sabbath each month, after lunch. Come help us make Kingdom Friends for God.  
Book Group: 2nd Sabbath After Lunch in the Teen Room.  
Sabbath School Visitation: 3rd Sabbath each month.  
Nursing Home Visitation—4th Sabbaths
- ◆ March 9 - **Next Food Pantry** based on the weather, it will hopefully be at the church, if not it will be at the Better Living Center.
- ◆ **Speaker Schedule:** 3/7 - Pastor Rodriguez, 3/14 - Gary Linkous, 3/21 - Pastor Rodriguez, 3/28 - Elder Tui Pitman

**Jesus** is better than  
your computer...



[facebook.com/JesusLightTheWay](https://www.facebook.com/JesusLightTheWay)

Websites that Bill Weise has set up for everyone & would like special prayer about the responses from these sites.

[www.steppingupward.org](http://www.steppingupward.org)  
[www.eqwhiteclassicquotes.org](http://www.eqwhiteclassicquotes.org) <http://www.grandmastidbits.org>

## Reminiscing Corner



Last months picture: I am sure that most of you recognized my parents, Walter & Myrtis Kohler.

This month, the picture is harder to guess. This couple weren't even here at this point in their life. The only hint I will give you is that she still comes to church here. If you want to keep remembering, You need to give me a picture. Until next month, Brenda

Poem for the day. **The Search** By: Elizabeth White Barker

I went out in search of God one day,  
Desperately I sought Him along the way.  
Deep within a flower's face  
I saw the beauty of His grace.  
On a garden path that wound,  
Traces of His steps I found.  
In a tree's tall leafy laces,  
I caught a glimpse of His finger's trace.  
Beside a quietly running brook,  
I thought I caught His tender look.  
I gazed across a windswept hill,  
and felt the power of His will.  
In a flying bird, skyward bound,  
His song I heard without a sound.  
I found His love in the morning sun,  
And felt Him near when the day was done.  
All I beheld wore the Master's trace,  
But in my heart I found Him face to face.

Donated from her father Harry McWilliams things. Darlene Sumner



Kay 3's Vegan Recipes

### Vegan Hobo Casserole

- 6 large redskin potatoes, sliced
- 1 large onion thinly sliced
- 1 can Hunts petite diced tomatoes
- 1 pound vegan ground round
- 1/2 tsp onion powder
- 1/2 tsp salt



### A Happy Home Recipe

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 4 c. love        | 5 tbsp. hope       |
| 2 c. loyalty     | 2 tbsp. tenderness |
| 3 c. forgiveness | 4 qt faith         |
| 1 c. friendship  | 1 barrel laughter  |

Take love and loyalty; mix it thoroughly with faith. Blend it with tenderness, kindness and understanding. Add friendship and hope; sprinkle abundantly with laughter. Bake it with sunshine. Serve daily with generous helpings.

In large (9X13) casserole, layer half of the potatoes. Top with 1/2 of onions evenly scattered over the potatoes. 1/2 of the ground round, and then pour 1/2 can of tomatoes evenly over vegetables. sprinkle with half of the onion powder and salt, then repeat. Repeat with remaining ingredients. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes or until very hot and bubbly. Variation Begin as directed, and before baking, top with can of French fried onions.

**We have a website!! <http://clantonsda.org/>, Tony Plier has posted sermons, music & a lot of info, look under Newsletter to find this publication on line.**

**Some families have let me know they will go online, others don't have internet & say they like to read it in print. A couple even have internet but will print it out themselves so they can read it in print. Just let me know your choice. Thanks for communicating and sharing what you want to put in the Newsletter each month. So if you get the newsletter by US Mail this month, just let me know how you do or don't want it. Thanks again, Brenda**

**Return Address:**

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**To:** «AddressBlock»