

William David Lilly

November 19, 1929 – February 24, 2007

(From Ancestry and Findagrave.com)

GRETNA - The Rev. William David "Bill" Lilly, 77, of 306 Vaden Drive, Gretna, died Saturday, Feb. 24, 2007, at his residence surrounded by family and friends.

Born Nov. 19, 1929, at home in Hinton, W.Va., he was a son of the late James W. Lilly and Leona Ellison Lilly.

Rev. Lilly attended public school in Summers County, W.Va. He graduated from Bluefield College, attended the University of Richmond and graduated in 1960 from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C.

Rev. Lilly served several churches in West Virginia and North Carolina. He was pastor of the First Baptist Church in Gretna for 25 years from 1966 to 1991. After retirement, he continued to be a supply pastor to many churches in the Gretna area when the opportunity arose. Lately, he has served as pastor emeritus and Sunday school teacher of the First Baptist Church of Gretna. He was a former member of the Gretna Volunteer Fire Department, a wonderful teller of "Tall Tales" and was a Studebaker enthusiast having owned many through the years.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Phyllis Young Lilly of the residence; a daughter, Jennifer Swart and husband, Mark, of Altavista; a son, David A. Lilly and wife, Dale, of Gretna; four brothers, Bob Lilly, Vivian Earl Lilly, John Lilly and Jack Lilly; three sisters, Imogene Grimmette, Mary Carol Humphries and Judy McCoy; four grandchildren, Mark Swart Jr. and Fiancée, Tamara Cobbs and her daughter, Jada, Allen Swart, Jessica Lilly and by his namesake, William Lilly.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 26, 2007, at First Baptist Church of Gretna, by the Rev. Glenn Graves, the Rev. Neville Shelton and the Rev. Dr. Lynn Marstin. Burial will follow in Carl O. Moran Memorial Garden. The family will receive friends from 6 to 8 p.m. today at First Baptist Church of Gretna and other times will be at the residence.

The family suggests memorials be made to the First Baptist Church of Gretna Building Fund, P.O. Box 339, Gretna, VA 24557 or to the American Cancer Society.