



## Gratten Webb

April 4, 1927 - September 1, 2012

Mr. Gratten Oliver Webb, 85, of Raven, Virginia, left this life in Abingdon, VA on Saturday, September 1st, 2012 from complications of diabetes. He was the thirteenth of seventeen children of the late Reece Henderson and Effie Griffith Webb. He is survived by the love of his life, Jacqueline Boyd Webb whom he had been married to for 63 years, his daughters, Betsy Williams and husband Tom of Christiansburg, VA and Dr. Debbie Wallace and husband Tim of Doran, VA, his "favorite grandson" Wesley Wallace and wife Elizabeth Mitchell Wallace of Baton Rouge, LA, his "favorite granddaughter" Jillian McCoy and husband Jesse of Bluefield, VA and his "favorite step-granddaughter" Leslie Williams of Bluefield, VA. He is also survived by two sisters, Alice Owens and husband Grady of Swords Creek, Virginia, Peggy Wells of Dublin, Virginia, one brother Tom Webb of Roanoke, Virginia and many, many family members who loved him dearly, especially his nieces and nephews, his church family and many friends throughout the community. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one son, Gratten Oliver Webb, Jr., three sisters, Mrs. Georgia Christian, Mrs. Beulah Rose and Mrs. Ruby Boyd and four brothers, Mr. Shannon Webb, Mr. Buford Webb, Mr. Avery "Jack" Webb and Mr. Jim Webb. Grat was inducted into the United States Army at the end of World War II and served from July 31, 1945 until December 27, 1946 as an infantryman in the 1322nd Labor Supervision Company as a truck driver stationed in Hamburg, Germany. He also assisted in the emigration of war brides to the United States. During his working years, he owned and operated

Jiffy Rug Service in Raven, he also ran the Doran car Wash, Gratten worked in several jobs and retired from Seaboard, Pittston Coal Company in April of 1989. He was also a member of the United Mine Workers of America, Local # 1760. Upon his retirement, he turned all his energies into volunteerism for his community. He was often referred to as the unofficial mayor of Raven/Doran, VA. He served on the building committee of Clearview United Methodist Church at Doran, VA which opened its doors in January of 1970. It was his nomination of "Clearview" which was chosen as the name of the church. He received a lifetime membership into the Clearview United Methodist Women and wore his pin faithfully. After the devastation of Hurricane Hugo in 1989, Gratten went with a mission team from Richlands United Methodist Church to Stephens, SC for a week. While there, they worked in unbearable heat to roof homes that had been destroyed. Gratten spearheaded a campaign to renovate the old Davis Chapel Church on Kents Ridge Road in the early 1990's and singlehandedly oversaw this renovation as well as raising approximately \$5000.00 in funds. On May 30, 1993, there was a Davis Chapel Centennial Celebration to rededicate the church. Many former pastors and parishioners attended. He obtained the site from the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church for the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 61 where they met for many years. Gratten continued to work for the benefit of the scouts for years. Gratt worked tirelessly for Raven Elementary School and was the head chef for all the class picnics. He raised money and oversaw the building of the track around the school, the backstops of the baseball fields, the picnic shed and the school sign. In 1993, Gratt worked with the Wesleyan Church and a mission team from the Blacksburg/Christiansburg area. They traveled to Hermosa, South Dakota where they participated in a two week mission building and renovating a school for Native American children. Also, in 1992-1993, Gratten saw the need for personal mail delivery to the elderly residents in the Doran Bottom area. After working with the United States Postal Service and assisting them in a needs survey of the area, a mail route was established and the first mail was delivered in November 1993. In 1995,

Grat traveled with friends to Harriman, TN to participate in a blitz build of a Habitat House. In the late summer of that year, he participated in the Volunteer Labor Project in Pocahontas, VA – a program designed to help United Methodist Churches in Southwest Virginia remodel or build their church facilities with volunteer labor. He also traveled to Pearisburg, VA to work on a Habitat House in a historic church. When Habitat for Humanity was established in Tazewell County, Grat was a charter member of the board. He worked on at least nine of the houses that have been built in the county. Grat was a charter member and lifetime member of the Casey-Short Veterans of Foreign War Post #9640, a charter and lifetime member of the Richlands Kiwanis Club where he served as president several times. In 1997, he and Jackie were honored for over 2500 hours of volunteerism with the Kiwanis Club. He was a charter and lifetime member of Woodman of the World, Lodge 404, where he received the Distinguished Citizen Award in 1996. In 1996, he was awarded the Citizen of the Year from the Richlands Area Chamber of Commerce. Grat oversaw the maintenance of the Hankins Cemetery in Richlands for many years and was the “trashman” for the Tri-County Health Clinic and a charter member and served on the Board of Directors at the Good Samaritan Food from its inception until his death. His most current project, for which he showed much enthusiasm, was the restoration of the old Raven Theatre for a Coal Miner’s Museum in Raven. A celebration of life for Grat Webb will be held at Hurst Scott Funeral Home in Richlands, Virginia at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 5th., 2012 with the Reverends James Brooks, Tom Witten and Paul Griffith officiating. Entombment will follow at the Greenhills Memory Gardens Mausoleum in Claypool Hill, Virginia. Military honors will be performed by the Casey-Short Veterans of Foreign War Post #9640. Nephews and nieces will serve as pallbearers. Honorary pallbearers will be the Men of Clearview United Methodist Church. Visitation will be on Tuesday evening from 6 – 9 p.m at the Hurst-Scott Funeral Home in Richlands, Virginia. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Clearview

United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 642, Doran, VA 24612 or the Good Samaritan Food Pantry, 106 Veteran's Drive, Richlands, VA 24641. Hurst-Scott Funeral Home in Richlands, Virginia is in charge of arrangements and those wishing to express sympathy online may do so at [www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com](http://www.hurstscottfuneralhomes.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Gratten Webb*

January 14, 2023 at 04:24 PM



“ *Gratten Webb*

January 14, 2023 at 02:26 PM



“ *Mrs. Webb, Debbie and Betsy, I was so sorry to hear about Mr. Webb, I am praying for you all and thinking about you today. He was such a fine man and will be missed very much. His obituary, a living tribute to someone who loved his family and community. I am proud to say that I knew Gratt Webb.  
With love and prayers,  
Barb*

**Barbara DeBord** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *So sorry to hear of Mr Webbs passing. I pray God will keep each in his tender loving arms, giving each the strength to continue on.*

**Norma Jewell Richardson** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *My deepest sympathy for your loss. I am heartbroken for you and your family. May God bless and give you comfort. I am so sorry.*

**Joyce & Mike Randall** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Grats passing. He will be truly missed by everyone who knew him. He always had a story to tell and had time to talk. I will keep all of you in my prayers.

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**Debbie Stinson** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

HW

“ I am writing this on behalf of my Dad Harry Thomas Webb sending peace and healing to you and your family Jackie on the days to come.  
Last Thursday while I was visiting Dad at the nursing home even though he is bedridden and lives in the past a lot of the time he told me he was going to get in his van and go to Uncle Grats house that he wanted to go home and see his brother. I just said that sounds good Dad it's been a long time since you went home. He is still loved by my Dad.

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**Harry Thomas Webb** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NM

“ I have known Grat all my life, truly he was the mayor of raven and doran, my kids talked about him cooking at raven school for them, i have cut open many bags of peanuts and poured them in a bottle of diet coke for Grat at the raven supermarket, he will be missed, God Bless You Jackie and the Family, RIP..

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**nell maynard** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Jackie, Debbie, Betsy, Wesley and Jillian, and all of the rest of the family,

*We know Gratten will be so missed by not only you but by so many people in a lot of places. He truly was a community man doing so much that a lot of people didn't know about. He will be missed at Clearview from ringing the bell to reminding everyone about his birthday (months before the date). I'll miss my good morning greeting at church as well as his visit to the polls to vote. His input on the Raven Theater restoration will be missed as well. I know he's already working on a project in heaven.*

*May God's loving arms enfold each of you and comfort and guide you through this sad time. And may your faith in the Lord be your rock to keep you going in the days ahead.*

*Our love and prayers are with you!*

*Jane Ellen & "Rocky" and Pat and Family*

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**Jane Ellen Horton** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ Please accept our deepest condolences on the sudden loss of your loved one. Gratten was always loved and admired by all of us. His good nature and sense of humor will be forever missed at our annual family reunions. When my days are up, I'll appreciate joining all those who have passed before me to one of Gratten's delicious hot dogs.

*Love With Sympathy,*

*Charles (Chuck) and Linda Whitt*

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**Charles and Linda Whitt** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

NW

“ Jackie and family, I was so sorry to learn of Gratten's passing. He was such a joyful person and an absolute delight to be around. I am out of town and will be unable to attend the service, but please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.5L

Nancy Wilson - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ HE TRULY WAS A GREAT MAN HE WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR ANY ONE HE WOULD HAVE GIVEN THE SHIRT OFF HIS BACK TO ANYONE IN NEED I WILL TRULY MISS HIM  
LOVE YOU  
UNCLE GRAT

Deanna Davis Harman - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ I was honored to know Grat and like everyone else, thought he was simply wonderful! His community service was legendary. My special prayers are sent to former students Wesley and Jillian. To all the family, may God give you peace and comfort.

Anna Damron - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ ToJackie , Debbie, Tim and family. So sorry to lose the 'Mayor', and supporter of the food pantry....We used to say "It must be lunch time, here's Grat"....He was so busy with so many things he barely had time for lunch, and we were glad to see him. He livened up the place !  
He will be really missed !!!

lou grimm - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ GRAT YOU WILL BE MISSED BY LOTS AND LOTS OF FRIENDS  
FAMILY U HAVE MY CONDOLENCES

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**CHRISTINE GROSS** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ All of us at Raven Drug Company will truly miss Grat. We always  
enjoyed talking to him and hearing him tell stories of time gone by.  
Goodbye our friend, rest in peace.

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**Betty Reedy** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Grat was a very special man.I will miss our little talks .Mrs Webb  
you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Mark & Beth Johnson** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AY

“ In loving memory of my wonderful funny and loveable Uncle.  
You will be dearly missed by all.  
Thoughts and prayers are with your family.  
The days ahead is going to be hard may God be with you all.

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**Arvada Webb Yates** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Jackie and Family,

*So sorry to hear about Gratten. I heard he was in the hospital and received a pace maker recently and required dialysis. He will surely be missed by so many friends and of course his family. I had no idea he volunteered for so many causes. What a great legacy to all the family and those who knew and loved him.*

*So sorry.*

*David*

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**David Bales** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Jackie & family,

*We are so sorry to hear about Grat. He was such a fine man & we were so privileged to have known him these many years. We are sorry that we won't be able to be there for you. We are iout of town & won't be home until Thur. night. You have our prayers& deepest sympathy. He was so special to Jerry because of the care & confidence he had in Jerry by giving him a job & trusting him with his car those many years ago. He spoke of that often. It really meant a lot to him. The reunions won't be the same without him.*

*Love you all.*

*Judy & Jerry*

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**Jerry & Judy Hess** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ *Grat will be greatly missed. He was like a grandfather to me and I have very fond memories of him as a young child. As I grew older, he continued to hug me and show me that he truly cared about me. He was a one-of-a-kind man who knew everybody in Richlands...and their brother...and their cousin...*

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**Stephanie Dye** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ *Jackie so sorry for your loss he was a good friend to all my family.*

*Betty*

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**Betty Wilson Hull** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ *I was so sorry to hear about Grat's passing. He was always like a second dad to me and I will never forget the times we had with the Jiffy Rug Service. My thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time. May God bless you with comfort and strength. My love to you all!*

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**Debbie Damron** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *Grat was one of the most remarkable persons this family had ever met. We will all miss him. Gladys-- Tommy--- Betty--Danny--- Jeffrey*

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**Danny R. Horton** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ JACKIE AND FAMILY,  
MAY GOD BE WITH YOU AND COMFORT YOU AS YOU GO  
THROUGH THIS LOSS. MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE  
FOR YOU.

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**SHIRLEY BALL SMITH** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Mrs. Webb, Debbie, and Betsy:  
I was very saddened to hear of Mr. Webb's passing. He was a  
wonderful husband and father. I have the fondest memories of when  
we lived across from your family in Raven. He treated our family  
with compassion and grace and I will never forget him. May God  
bring your family comfort during this difficult time. Debbie Brown  
Snapp

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**Debbie Brown Snapp** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Jackie, I am so sorry to hear of Grat's passing.....he was a joy  
to be around. Mother thought so much of you both.  
You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.  
God Bless

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**Jane Lankford-Jeffries** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ Dear Jackie & family,  
My thoughts & prayers are with you at this sad time. Gratten was a  
wonderful man and I have great memories of him . He had such a  
good sense of humor. I always enjoyed reading the many articles  
about him in The Richlands Press. God bless all of you.  
Sincerely,  
Bernice Shouse Brown

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**Andrew G.Grose** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CA

“ Jackie

*I was saddened to hear of the passing of of Gratt. He will be missed by all of us at kfc in Doran.Especially me. I have enjoyed many years of having the pleasure of knowing and talking to him when he would come to the store. I always made time to go up and talk with him and hope that I made him feel welcome. He will always be remembered at kfc. Gratt never met a stranger and has been a role model for all of us. God has recieved a very honorable man and I know you and your family are very proud of him. You all are in my thoughts and prayers and may GOD comfort you and give you strength to go on and understand why it was his time to shine in HEAVEN. God bless you.*

*Your friend  
Manager of Kfc  
Claudette Arms/Charlotte to Gratt*

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**claudette arms** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ *We will (all) miss him.*

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**Clancey Deel** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ *Granny & family I'm so sorry about papaw all of you are in my thoughts and prayers. I love you so much Granny! You and Pawpaw both mean so much to me and I thank God for putting you in my life! Please let me know if you need anything... I'll be coming by to see you Granny as soon as I get home!*

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**Katy Blankenship** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

HC

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. Grat was a friend to many and he will be missed by all who knew him. God Bless You!  
Jerry Vencill

Helen Vencill Custalow - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BJ

“ Jackie, We were so saddened to hear the news about Grat. Many fond memories of a fine man. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you. God Bless, Bill Ray and Naomi.

Bill Ray and Naomi Joyce - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Jackie,  
Dave and I were saddened to hear that Gratt had passed away. You will be in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Gratt will be missed by all who knew him. May God grant you peace,  
Dave and Diann

Dave & Diann Wilson - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ So sorry to hear about the passing of your husband and father. I have many fond memories of Grat he was always available to help for any community service. He will be greatly missed.

Linda Bumgarner - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ My thoughts are with you and your family at this time. I work with Betsy and she is a joy to know. I'll be praying for you all.

Traci Roberts - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ I knew Grat when I served Belfast-Midway circuit in the 1990s. He was a great neighbor and supporter of the kingdom. He will be remembered.

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**Brad Scott** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Jackie and Family, it is such a shock to learn of your loss. Last saw and talked with Grat at Jerry Casey's funeral. He convinced me he was in good health and was going to live to be 100. He was a good Christain man that will be sevierly missed. He was a good friend. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the family.

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**Joel and Gayle Reedy** - September 01, 2012 at 12:00 AM