

WIDELY KNOWN MINISTER DIES

Rev. W. L. Bradley's Rites
Held At Oak Grove
Church Tuesday

Funeral services for the Rev. William L. Bradley, 85, retired Baptist minister of the Oak Grove community, who died Sunday, were held on Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Oak Grove Baptist church. The Rev. G. E. Schruggs, pastor, officiated, assisted by the Rev. T. F. Deltz, of Beta, the Rev. Norman E. Holden, of West's Mill, and the Rev. Forest Blankenship, of Sylva. Interment followed in the church cemetery.

The pallbearers, all grandsons, included Floyd Bradley, Willard McCoy, Ralph McCoy, Joe Bradley, Thad McCoy, Ellis McCoy, Dick Woodard and Carl McCoy. Flowerbearers were granddaughters and nieces.

Mr. Bradley, widely known throughout Macon and adjoining counties for his ministerial work covering a period of more than 50 years, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Maude Potts in the Oak Grove community on Sunday afternoon at 2:45 o'clock, following a very short illness. He had been in failing health for several months.

Mr. Bradley, who moved to the Oak Grove community with his parents from Ocena Luffy at the age of six years, has lived on his farm since. He was born on August 1, 1860. In early life he joined the Cowee Baptist church and later moved his membership to the Oak Grove Baptist church, where he served as a deacon in the church and pastor on numerous occasions.

During his 50-odd years of ministerial work in Macon and adjoining counties, Mr. Bradley probably baptized and took more members into the church than any minister in the county. He also organized a number of the Baptist churches in the rural districts of the county and for many years served as pastor of churches in Swain county.

He served as moderator of the Macon County Baptist Association for a number of years.

On March 12, 1884, he was married to Miss Niele Ann Shuler, who died in 1938. To this union were born eight children, of which six survive: Avery M. Bradley, Kirkland, Wash.; Hillard Bradley, Franklin, Route 3; Charlie Bradley, of Franklin; Mrs. Jennie Shillinger, Soda Springs, Idaho; Mrs. Margaret Ann Woodard, Franklin, Route 3, and Mrs. Maude Potts, Franklin, Route 3; 37 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Mrs. T. B. Shepherd, Canton, and Mrs. J. B. Duvall, Franklin, Route 3.

Potts funeral directors were in charge of arrangements.