

The Rev. Joe McClain, 77, of Wiley, died Thursday, Dec. 15, 2005, at his home.

He was born Jan. 18, 1928, in Rabun County to Gay and Ida Williams McClain. He was as a minister of the gospel since 1976, having pastored Chechero Baptist Church, Black Rock Baptist Church and North Clayton Baptist Church in Rabun County and Rocky Fork Baptist Church in South Carolina. He also served as interim pastor at Black Mountain, N.C. He preached in several revivals in other churches and ministered to many people throughout the area. He was a member of the Black Rock Baptist Church. He married Ruby Taylor on Aug. 23, 1947.

Survivors include: his wife, of Wiley; a son and daughter-in-law, Matt and Rene' McClain of Rabun Gap; four daughters and sons-in-law, Linda and Lucky Dills of Tiger, Lorene and Billy Ledford of Carnesville, Dianne and the Rev. Madison McCrackin of Clayton and Karen and Marvin Talley of Wiley; two brothers, Olin McClain of Seattle and Kenneth McClain of Rabun Gap; two sisters, Catherine Hildebrand of Clarkesville and Winnie Sue York of Clayton; 12 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Saturday at Black Rock Baptist Church with the Revs. Clyde Webb, Matt Schuler and Newton Phillips officiating. Burial followed in the McClain family cemetery in Wiley.

Hunter Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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