Bennie William Rainwater Sr.

SALISBURY - Mr. Bennie William "B.W." Rainwater Sr., 85, a resident of the Lutheran Home at Trinity Oaks, Salisbury, and formerly of Debbie Street, Kannapolis, died Tuesday, July 28, 2009, at the care facility. Funeral services were conducted at 11 a.m. Thursday at Lady's Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Jim Grigg officiated and Doris Kerr served as eulogist. Interment followed at Carolina Memorial Park. The family received friends prior to the service from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. Thursday at Lady's Funeral Home. Born March 23, 1924 in Richmond County, he was the son of the late Bennie William Rainwater, Sr. and Thelma Morris Rainwater Poteat. Mr. Rainwater was a retired floor covering contractor. He was a member of Franklin Heights Baptist Church where he was a former deacon and worked with the senior citizens for 12 years. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Howard Rainwater and Fred Rainwater; and his first wife, Ida Wiggins Rainwater. Survivors include his wife, Virginia Witmore Hill Rainwater; a son, Bennie William Rainwater, Jr. and wife Suzanne of Landis; one daughter, Barbara R. Lentz and husband Tom of China Grove; two stepdaughters, Brenda Hill Rodgers of Georgetown, S.C., Cynthia Hill Burnett of Charlotte; a stepson, William Ralph Hill of Fort Mill, S.C.; three grandchildren, Christine Quiby and husband David of Graham, Larry Lentz and wife Kim of China Grove, Marla Thompson and husband Ronnie of Rockwell; two step-grandchildren, Marc Campbell and Brian Campbell, and six additional step-grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and 11step-great-grandchildren. Memorials may be sent to Franklin Heights Baptist Church, 526 Wright Avenue, Kannapolis, NC 28083. Lady's Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements. Condolence may be sent to www.ladysfuneralhome.com.

Published in Concord & Kannapolis Independent Tribune on July 30, 2009