

## PRAYER LIST

LILLIE ALFORD, Ethel Clark's sis-in-law  
 LINDA BULLOCK, medical issues/tests  
 CHERYL BARRON, Stan Raley's sister  
 TRAVIS CREASY, Duncan & Reynolds friend  
 CHRIS EMOND, Madison family friend - cancer  
 ALANA FAIR, medical test 12/9/2019  
 JUNE FRANKS, passing of husband Al  
 718 Glendale DR, Kosciusko MS 39090  
 JAMES GORDON, Bridget Smith's dad  
 THERMAN HODGE, cancer treatment  
 JACK HUNTLEY, Callens friend  
 BILLY JOHN, recent health issues  
 BETTY JOHNSON, Anderson South; hip rehab  
 JORDAN KEMBLE, Warrens' friend, brain tumor  
 WALTER KING, Lamar's dad  
 JACK MEARS  
 ANA OBANDO, Rocio Salas Jenson's mother  
 GENE & CHARLENE RALEY, Stan's parents  
 STAN RALEY  
 GRADY & HELEN RICHARDSON, Angela  
 Duncan's parents, health issues  
 AL ST. CLAIR  
 THELMA TALBERT, Shirley Raley's mom  
 RUTH TAYLOR, nursing facility resident  
 Room 102 at Brookdale/Meridian  
 4555 35<sup>th</sup> AVE, Meridian, MS 39305  
 BARBARA TERRAL, Jennifer Guy's mom  
 BRENDA THOMAS  
 MIKE & JIMMIE TIMBES, Duncan friends, health  
 PERRY TUBBY, Brandie Madison's dad  
 ROB WARREN SISTERS, Laura Hughes (Lyme Disease); & Michelle (compressed vertebrae)  
 ED WALTERS, husband of close friend of  
 Cindy Harper, liver cancer  
 ANNIE WEBB, Cindy Harper's great-granddaughter – pre- & post-birth issues  
 VELMA "DUCK" YATES  
 MEMBERS of our ARMED SERVICESCHURCH  
 MISSION WORK WORLDWIDE

## ANNIVERSARY & BIRTHDAY

December 22 : Dwight & Sandra Callens  
 December 27 : Kathy St. Clair

### Men's Weekly Breakfast

will meet this Friday for breakfast at

**iHop**

To confirm location or for more info,  
 contact Tom Fair or Stan Raley

### Bible Scramble

Unscramble the letters in each  
 word to discover the passage.

TRNIHEE YRPA I ROF  
 TSHEE ONLEA, UTB ROF  
 TMHE SOLA WIHHC SLLHA  
 VLIEEB NO EM UTROHHG  
 TRIHE WROD; TTHA YTHE  
 LLA YMA EB ENO; SA  
 UTOH, TRHFEA, TRA NI  
 EM, NDA I NI EEHT, TTHA  
 YTHE SOLA YMA EB ENO  
 NI SU: TTHA EHT WROLD  
 YMA VLIEEB TTHA UTOH  
 TSHA TSNE EM.

John 17:20-21

## NEVER GROW OLD

A friend who knows how much I love history suggested that I go with him to see a documentary entitled, "They Shall Not Grow Old." It is composed of original film footage from the war that has been restored and edited for modern audiences. It follows the troops from England in their training, combat and eventual return from war. The narration basically consists of the reading of journals, archives and other materials of the original participants. The movie was released in 2018, the centennial anniversary of the end of World War I, but was re-released for a special viewing in 2019.

As I was watching, I was thinking about the title and how the men's lives were essentially frozen in time. One way this was true is the fact that I was seeing the young men (referred to in the movie as, "kids, six-teen and seventeen years old) marching across the screen one hundred-plus years after they actually marched across the fields. The second, and perhaps most obvious way they did not grow old was that many of them were killed at that young age. Scene after scene of macabre images flashed across the screen, bringing home the horror of war.

At the end of the movie, during a segment to show how it was made, director Peter Jackson mentioned a group of soldiers that were shown in special detail. He then went on to explain that, at the time of the filming, many of the men were essentially thirty minutes away from their deaths.

As I had anticipated seeing the movie, and as I watched the movie, my thoughts drifted to a hymn I grew up singing, and a story that still stirs my soul. The story involves Tom Holland, a well-known gospel preacher and a talented song-leader. As he grew older and participated in "gospel singings," he would select or be asked to lead the song, "Never Grow Old." He would ask the congregation to sing the song enthusiastically, but with special emphasis on the word, "never" – as in:

*"Never grow old, never grow old!*

*In a land where we'll never grow old!*

*Never grow old, never grow old!*

*In a land where we'll never grow old!"*

Participating in such a rendition of that was powerful, and obviously meaningful to me. In my mind, I can still see and hear brother Holland lead that song.

I think now of the reality behind that hymn. Heaven awaits us. The eternal God will be there—there will be no mourning, crying or pain (Revelation 21:4); there will be night there (Revelation 22:5).

And, we will never grow old!