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r, so say I, "Do you not know that a prince

—GEORGE S. LIGHTNER

S. SNEAD

God speaks and is heard by his fellowmen."

ce Jackson Snead, born March 29, 1901, in
Charles Snead attended Sunday School at
rents, brothers and sisters. His father was
lay preacher serving six pastoral charges in
Conference. His saintly mother died in his
he family stood together, father leading as
and they all sang the songs of the Lord,
reaching in Romney, West Virginia.
where he worked with Uncle Tom Snead in
and O Railroad, which was his life employ-

rought him to Granbery Church. For 23
wife, Miss Blanche Jordan (Pattie), attend-
ried November 26, 1926.

the Walter Lambuth Bible Class and for
ie of the largest men's classes in Virginia.
answered the call to serve the Paint Bank
upply. He seemed almost a prodigy as he
rches for almost 12 years, while working
ly. Shoaf's Chapel was re-built to become
rend Benjamin M. Persinger, a native son.
nce and then at Emory and Duke in vaca-
l. He became an Accepted Supply Pastor
onference.

n (four churches) in Rockbridge County,
and Pattie built their retirement home to
le.

Is took him to Bath County (1968-70),
efore, and to Rockbridge Charge (1971)

for people, his witty, humorous sayings,
ing captured the hearts of the people.
re always gave God the credit, thanking

also, a husband and wife inseparable.
five sons, five daughters, half-brothers
home, "It was filled with the joy of the

his funeral was held at Granbery Church
District Superintendent, and the Rever-

—JOHN WYNN MYERS

RAYMOND EUGENE MUSSER

"True greatness often comes in modest attire, only to be discovered in after years."

Son of William Glendore and Emma Whitt Musser, Raymond was a native of Roanoke, born October 30, 1903. He was a graduate of Jefferson High (1921), Roanoke College (1925), and Candler, Emory University (1928). He was motivated by his grandfather, who lived in his boyhood home, "to learn and to be a good student." An enthusiastic participant in the youth program at Belmont Church, he was influenced by a teacher, W. E. Oliver, and the pastor, the Reverend Joseph H. Balthis, Sr.

Licensed to preach in 1923, Raymond served Glen Wilton Charge while a student at Roanoke College. There he was immersed in English Literature, Latin and Greek, translating the Gospel of Mark. Plato and Kant opened his mind to a comprehension of Christian Ethics.

At Emory, while working in St. Paul's Church in southeast Atlanta, he met Miss Louise McDaniel, a student at Agnes Scott College, who shared his academic and religious ideals. They were married on June 10, 1930, after Raymond was established in his first appointment in Virginia, Newport-Mount Olivet, in Giles County.

He describes his first decade of ministry as challenging, but financially difficult in depression years. Necessity directed him from Christian Education to the parish ministry, where he served Shenandoah, Page County (1931-36), Moorefield, West Virginia (1936-40), and Milton, West Virginia (1940-42).

His second decade began with an Army Chaplaincy (1942-45), serving with General George Patton in North Africa, Italy and Germany. Returning to Virginia, some of the most constructive work of his life was in the creation of Woodlawn (1946-51) and Grace (1951-53), both in Roanoke.

His third decade took him to Central, Salem (1953-57), where he relocated and built a completely new structure, and West End, Portsmouth (1957-62), where he built a new sanctuary.

His fourth decade was at Oak Grove, Norfolk (1962-64), where another new congregation, Great Bridge, was created; Bay Lake (1964-66), where a new sanctaury was erected and a parsonage purchased; and Andrew Chapel, Vienna (1966-68). Following retirement in June, 1968, the Mussers served Goodwin's Chapel, Roanoke (1968-70), Christ Church, Covington (1971), and during the winter months, Marlow, near Foley, Alabama (1972-78).

This is the life of a remarkable man, of a faithful ministry far above average. Raymond brought to his ministry a versatility not common to most ministers. He said of himself, "I had no outstanding talent, but I had a half-dozen skills that enabled me to help the church in different areas." Raymond loved books, he loved to sing and tell jokes, he loved people. He was a thinker, a writer, a teacher; a man of indomitable courage and "stickability," an indefatigable worker.

Louise was ever at his side with pluck and genius, a part of his every success. From their devoted and happy life, there came two children, Mary Lou (Mrs. Laurence D. Brown) and Jay (Lt. Col. John G. Musser); and three foster children, Dr. John H. Riew, Danilo Ivancevic, and Mrs. Peter Irigaray (Eleanor). All are outstanding people.

Ray faced his last years with acceptance and tranquility. He said, "For 60 years I have tried to show people how a Christian lives; now I'll show the younger generation how one dies." Death came on February 5, 1980, and Charles Ballentine wrote in the *Roanoke Times*, "One of God's truly great ambassadors to the people of Virginia has been recalled by his Sovereign."

His memorial service was held at South Roanoke Church, 2:00 P. M., February 8, 1980 (following an 11:00 A. M. interment in Fairview Cemetery), conducted by the Reverend Harvey W. Ashby, pastor, the Reverend James L. Duley, District Superintendent; the Reverend R. Moorman Parker, and the Reverend James A. Griffin, Jr.

—JOHN WYNN MYERS