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Louisiana Conference.

In 1975, Helen, born and bred in the city, adapted to country life as they entered semi-retirement. They moved to a farm in south Louisiana to care for Richard's aged father. This task she also tackled with energy. In these years Helen could never be found without a piece of needlework in her lap, hands working thread into gifts and objects of beauty. And those hands continued to bring music to nearby churches for many years.

Beginning in 1946, the Waltons had three children. Richard, Anna and ten years later, Christie. Helen parented with a loving touch and the watchful eye of a mother hen. She encouraged their individual talents. She praised and rewarded their accomplishments. Then pointed with pride to the productive, successful adults they became. Helen had five grandchildren. In later years, her birthday each summer became cause for a family reunion of the children scattered from Oregon to south Texas. Over a mountain of boiled crabs, her family gathered to celebrate another year of this tiny wonder.

Helen died January 23, 1997 in Nederland, TX where she and her beloved husband had come to live in 1995.

Christie Walton

NATHANIEL P. WILLIAMS

November 10, 1911 - December 21, 1996

Nathaniel P. Williams was born November 10, 1911 and passed on to his eternal reward December 21, 1996.

"Nat", as he was affectionately called by his many friends, was born in Napoleonville, Louisiana. His parents were the late Haley Williams and Theresa Nelson Williams. His wife was the late Allie Mae Williams.

He was ordained an Elder in 1955 and served for over 45 years. He pastored Hartzel, Peck, Wesley and Grace Churches in the New Orleans district. Nat was the driving force in the rebuilding of Hartzel during hurricane Betsy.

He was considered one of the more eloquent preachers in our district.

He served on the Lafon Nursing Home Board with great distinction. He was one of the prime movers in the re-opening of the Lafon Nursing Home. He also served on the Board of Ordained Ministry of the Louisiana Conference after merger. Mat was one who practiced what he preached, many times he spoke of "Giving something back". He gave something back by donating his entire estate to the Lafon Nursing Home.

None of us can forget how he called us together along with his lawyer to announce his intentions. He gave of his best to the Master. He now hears the words he looked forward to hearing "Servant of God, Well Done".

Andrew J. Douglas