

## Marion County and Related Obituaries

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### **James William VanCleave, 65**

James William VanCleave, 65, Lebanon, died at 1:10 p.m., May 19, 1996, at the Louisville V.A. Hospital, Louisville.

VanCleave was born Aug. 22, 1930 in Lexington. He was a member of the A.M.E. Zion Church in Lebanon, a former employee of General Electric Appliance Park in Louisville and a United States Air Force Veteran. He was preceded in death by his father, Joseph Albert VanCleave, on May 10, 1978, and a son, Michael VanCleave.

Survivors include: his mother, Mary Lou VanCleave of Lebanon; three daughters, Deborah Bolden and Sharon V. Cotton, both of Decatur, Ga., and Edna Marie Calhoun of Lebanon; one son, Darryl VanCleave of Louisville; four aunts, Minnie Black of Lebanon, Lillie Barham of Louisville, and Odessa Owens and Nancy Graves, both of Indianapolis, Ind.; four uncles, Ivory and Albert Lee VanCleave, both of Lebanon, and Howard and John VanCleave, both of Indianapolis, Ind.; and 10 grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at 1 p.m. May 23 at Bosley Funeral Home with burial in Lebanon National Cemetery. Rev. Charles A. Sweeney, pastor of the Lebanon A.M.E. Zion Church, officiated.

Pallbearers were Ivory VanCleave, George Owen Jr., Robert Bell, Tilford Buchanon, Thomas Spalding and George Simpson.

Bosley Funeral Home, Lebanon, was in charge of the arrangements.

*(The Lebanon Enterprise)*

### **Former MCHS athlete dies at 18**

A 1995 Marion County High graduate, who had earned a football scholarship to Union College in Barbourville but chose not to go, died Saturday at his residence in Lebanon.

Luther Ray VanCleave, 18, of Brookhaven Trailer Court, died around 9 a.m., according to Marion County Deputy Coroner Dick Moraja, who pronounced him dead.

Moraja said an autopsy was performed Sunday in Louisville, but the cause of death has not been determined. Moraja said the family members told him that VanCleave had a history of seizures, but until autopsy results come back, the cause of death won't be known.

"I had an opportunity to work with Luther for 15 weeks in his senior year, and there was no finer kid," said Mike Griffiths, who became head football coach at Marion County High during VanCleave's senior season.

"He was a super kid and a hard worker. He had a lot of talent, and he was a very smart player.

"It's so very unfortunate, sad, that a young man, just starting his life, dies this way."

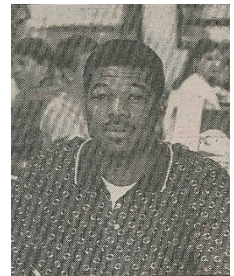
Luther's father, John VanCleave, said his son "was a quiet person. He never talked too much, but he had a lot of friends."

In the senior football special section, Luther VanCleave was listed as a 6-4, 190 pound tight end.

His father said he loved playing basketball, too. He was a first-round draft pick for the Marion County Intramural Basketball League.

He won a physical fitness award in high school and enjoyed a wood-working class.

He was also a member of the Knight track team.



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### Obituary

Luther Ray VanCleave, 18, Brookhaven Trailer Court, Lebanon, died at approximately 9 a.m. Feb., 10, 1996, at his residence.

Born March 9, 1977 at Taylor County Hospital, VanCleave was a 1995 graduate of Marion County High School.

He was survived by: his parents, John and Ruby Mae VanCleave of Lebanon; his paternal grandmother, Mae VanCleave of Lebanon; two half-sisters, Betty Ann Taylor of Indianapolis, Ind. and Lennie Mitchell of Campbellsville; one half-brother, James Taylor of Lebanon; and several aunts, uncles, cousins and other relatives.

Funeral services will be conducted at 1 p.m., today, Feb. 14 at Campbell-DeWitt Funeral Home with burial in Lebanon National Cemetery. Pastor C. William Parker Sr. will officiate.

Pallbearers will be Richard Mattingly, Andre Staple, Stanley Johnson, Daniel Wayne Taylor, Tyron Zeshawn Taylor, James, James Lewis, Kevin and Richard VanCleave.

Campbell-DeWitt Funeral Home, Lebanon, is in charge of the arrangements.

*(The Lebanon Enterprise)*

### Jack 'J.D.' VanDyke, 77

Jack "J.D." VanDyke, 77, Louisville, died Nov. 11, 1995.

A native of Taylor County, VanDyke was born July 14, 1918. He was a retired truck driver and an Air Force World War II Veteran.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Henry Morton and Ethel Gribbins VanDyke.

Survivors include: his wife, Thelma Mattingly VanDyke; one son, Joseph Douglas VanDyke of Louisville; six daughters, Billie Lanham of Lebanon, Terry Lynn VanDyke of Marysville, Ind., and Mary Deborah Wright, Judy Kays Ashley and Tamara Jean Morris, all of Louisville, and Sarah Elizabeth Goss of Jeffersonville, Ind.; 11 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m., Nov. 14, at Ratterman and Son Funeral Home, Louisville, with burial in St. Augustine Church Cemetery.

Ratterman and Son Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

*(The Lebanon Enterprise)*

### Herman Joseph 'Jake' Vaughn, 85

Herman Joseph "Jake" Vaughn, 85, Raywick, died at 11:22 a.m., Oct. 12, 1999, at Federal Hill Manor Nursing Home, Bardstown.

Born June 6, 1914 in Marion County, Vaughn was a farmer and a former Marion County Highway Department employee and a World War II Army veteran.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William Joseph and Maggie Lewis Vaughn; a brother, William Lawrence Vaughn; three sisters, Nora Lee James, Marie Gill and Sister Anna Joseph Vaughn.

Survivors include: a sister-in-law, Florine Vaughn of Finley; 12 nieces and four nephews and several great nieces and great nephews.

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Funeral services were held Oct. 15 at St. Joe Catholic Church, with burial in Lebanon National Cemetery. Father Ernie Schumacher officiated.

Active pallbearers were Johnny, Mark, J.E. and Larry Vaughn, Larry Caldwell and Leon Payne.

Bosley Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

*(The Lebanon Enterprise)*

### **James Charles Thomas Vaughn Jr., 67**

James Charles Thomas Vaughn Jr., 67, Cleveland, Ohio, died Feb. 11, 1996 after a long fight with cancer.

Vaughn, born Jan. 24, 1929, in Lebanon, was a test driver for General Motor Corporation until his retirement. He was a Catholic and active worker with the food bank and food distribution in his area. He was preceded in death by a son, Robert Vaughn.

Survivors include: his wife, Dora Lee Rhodes Vaughn; four daughters, Paula, Dorothea, Charlene and Annie; four sons, Charles, James, David and Joe; one son-in-law, Gregory Nicholson; one daughter-in-law, Renee Vaughn; 19 grandchildren; one sister, Ann Brown of Lebanon; six nieces, one nephew, six brothers-in-law, and three sisters-in-law.

Funeral services were conducted at 10 a.m., Feb. 20, 1996, at St. Hyacinth Catholic Church in Cleveland, Ohio. Rev. John Deka officiated.

H.M. Martin Funeral Home, Cleveland, Ohio, was in charge of the arrangements.

*(The Lebanon Enterprise)*



### **Dies at Merrimac**

Thomas Vaughn, 51 years old, died at his home at Merrimac at eleven o'clock Sunday morning. Death followed an illness of only a few days of pneumonia.

Mr. Vaughn was born at Bradfordsville June 28, 1855, a son of Thomas and Mary Vaughn. He was married in 1910 to Miss Mary Grooms, daughter of Lonza Grooms, of near Mannsville, and they moved to Merrimac, where he purchased the Joe Prewitt farm and where they had since lived. He was a member of the Christian Church at Merrimac with which he united in 1912.

Surviving are his wife; two sons, Carl and Hansford Vaughn; his mother; three sisters, Miss Annie Vaughn and Mrs. George Hancock, of Bradfordsville, and Mrs. Mack Coppage, of Wadsworth, Ohio; and two brothers, Sam and James Vaughn, of Bradfordsville.

Funeral services were held at two o'clock Monday afternoon at the Merrimac Christian Church by the Rev. Howell and burial was in the Merrimac Cemetery.

*(1906)*

### **Lucretia Veatch, 82**

Lucretia Veatch, 82, Lebanon, died at 3 p.m., Oct. 31, 1996, at Columbia Spring View Hospital, Lebanon.

Born Feb. 23, 1914 in Marion County, she was a retired dental assistant and a member of the Lebanon United Methodist Church. She was preceded in death by her parents, James Ervin and Celesta Glazebrook Veatch, and a sister, Geneva Veatch Erion.

Two sisters, Drusilla Veatch Thompson of Lebanon, and Eunice Veatch Vessells of Louisville, survived.

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Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m., Nov. 2, at Bosley Funeral Home with burial in Ryder Cemetery. Rev. Roger Dill and Rev. Bob Bouser officiated.

Pallbearers were Charles Campbell, Michael Ferrell, John Ferrell, Michael Jarboe, Joey Leake and Dr. William P. Duley.

Bosley Funeral Home, Lebanon, was in charge of the arrangements.

*(The Lebanon Enterprise)*

### **Man Kills Estranged Wife and Ends Own Life Here – Attributed to Marital Rift**

#### **Robert Vernon, 33, Uses .38 Pistol in Double Tragedy at Jackson Lane Home**

Receiving an unsatisfactory response to his pleas for a settlement of the domestic differences which had caused their separation three weeks previously, Robert Lee Vernon, 33, shot to death his 20-year-old wife, Mrs. Cora Wayne Vernon, and then turned the gun on himself last Friday morning shortly after 9:00 o'clock. The double tragedy took place at the home of her brother, Henry Wayne on Jackson's Lane, where Mrs. Vernon had been living since the couple's estrangement.

Mrs. Wayne, who witnessed the shooting, told officers that she and Mrs. Vernon had just arrived home from a trip to the W.P.A. Headquarters where they received commodities, when Vernon came to the house. She said that he asked his wife to return home with him and that she told him she would let him know in the afternoon. She asked that he leave her alone until she had made up her mind. According to Mrs. Wayne, he then drew a .38-calibre revolver from his pocket and fired a shot at close range into her left breast near her heart.

#### **Mrs. Vernon Lives Short Time**

She slumped over a table on which sacks of food from the W.P.A. office were still setting, and then fell to the floor. Vernon, standing in the doorway from which he had done the shooting, made threats against his wife's father, Ben Wayne, and her brother, Roy Wayne, but suddenly turned the weapon on himself. He placed the pistol against his heart and fired, the charge bringing instant death, and his body falling out the door into the yard. Police found the gun by his side.

Mrs. Vernon lived for nearly fifteen minutes after she had been shot but was dead when an ambulance and the Coroner arrived. She was said to have been an expectant mother.

Police who recovered the revolver said that two shells were still in the chamber and that only two had been fired. They learned afterward that Vernon had bought the cartridges the previous afternoon from a local hardware store, indicating that he had planned the murder and suicide in advance if his wife refused to patch up their marital troubles.

#### **Vernon Native of Parksville**

Vernon was born and reared in Parksville but moved to this county with his parents, John and Cecelia Gill Vernon, about thirteen years ago. The couple were married the first part of last December, and until their separation had been making their home with his parents on the Fairgrounds Road, less than half a mile from the Wayne home where the tragedy occurred. He is said to have called at the Wayne residence frequently since their marital rift in an effort to bring about a reconciliation. Threats against her relatives at the time of the shooting were attributed to his alleged contention that they were advising against her returning to him.

Mrs. Vernon had on occasion assisted various housewives of the city with chores about their homes and was said to have been an industrious, deserving young woman. Mr. Vernon did some farming but also was a general utility man, accepting odd jobs when they were available.

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### **Both Buried Sunday Afternoon**

A daughter of Ben and Elizabeth Bunch Wayne, Mrs. Vernon was born here and had spent practically all of her life in this community. Other than her parents and her brothers, Henry and Roy, she is survived by two other brothers and three sisters. They are: Arthur and Buck Wayne and Mrs. Josie Hayden, and Mrs. John Allen and Miss Claudia Mabel Wayne, all of Lebanon. Also surviving is an infant child. A brother, William Wayne, preceded her in death.

Following the slaying, her body was removed to the Don V. Drye Funeral Home and Friday evening was taken to the residence of her parents, where funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon by the Rev. Jacob C. Darnell, pastor of the Christian Church, of which she was a member. Interment was in Ryder Cemetery.

Surviving Mr. Vernon, in addition to his parents, are two sisters, Mrs. M.T. Stamper of Cloverport and Mrs. J.C. Young of Bardstown, and two brothers, Fred Vernon of Junction City and W.M. Vernon of Columbus, Ohio.

A member of the Baptist Church of Dr. T.J. Porter, pastor of the church here, officiated at the funeral services which were conducted from the home of his parents Sunday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock. Burial followed in Ryder Cemetery.

*(31 Mar 1939)*

### **Aline Marie Vittitow, 64**

Aline Marie Vittitow, 64, New Haven, died Dec. 23, 1998, at her residence.

A native of Marion County, she was a retired registered nurse and a member of St. Catherine Catholic Church and St. Catherine Altar Society.

She was preceded in death by: her father, Charles E. Mattingly; a brother, Charles Thomas Mattingly; and a daughter, Marsha Jane Vittitow.

Survivors include: her husband, Harry S. "Slick" Vittitow; a daughter, Annette Miles of New Haven; two sons, Marion Keith Vittitow of New Haven and Harry S. Vittitow Jr. of Bardstown; her mother, Marie Aline Mattingly of Nerinx; seven sisters, Deloris Blady of Louisville, Borgia Phillips of Scotsdale, Pa., Marjorie Ballard of Loretto, Monica Ballard and Evelyn Fenwick, both of Bardstown, Diane Devine of Willisburg, and Elaine Reynolds of Louisville; two brothers, James E. and Joseph David Mattingly, both of Lebanon; and seven grandchildren.

Funeral Mass was at 11 a.m., Dec. 28, at St. Catherine Catholic Church with burial in the church cemetery, New Haven. Father Tom Hommrich, Father Lawrence Lindle and Father Irvin Mouser officiated.

Pallbearers were Dennis and Kevin Fenwick, Robbie and Trey Vittitow, Jerry Hurst and Russell Miles.

Parish prayers were at 1 p.m., Dec. 27 and Altar Society Rosary was at 4 p.m., at Joseph L. Greenwell Funeral Home, New Haven, which was in charge of the arrangements.

Contributions may be made to Hospice of Nelson County, 111 No. 3rd St., Bardstown, KY 40004; or Kosair Charities, 231 E. Chestnut St., Louisville, KY 40202.

*(The Lebanon Enterprise)*

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### **Hattie Geraldine Votaw, 83**

Hattie Geraldine Votaw, 83, Louisville, formerly of Lebanon, died Oct. 14, 1995, at Audubon Regional Medical Center in Louisville.

Born June 22, 1912 in Cisco, Ill., Votaw was a member of Stewart's Creek Baptist Church. She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Mary Bell Moore Tudder, and her husband, Dudley C. Votaw, who died Nov. 17, 1974.

Survivors include: four sons, Norman Hughes of Shelbyville, Carroll Votaw of Tazewell, Tenn., David Votaw of Loretto and Phillip Votaw of Louisville; two daughters, Peggy Wright of Lebanon and Jeanette Willett of Louisville; one brother, L.B. "Shorty" Tudder of Lebanon; two sisters, Lucy Fehler and June Craig, both of Louisville; 14 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m., Oct. 18 at Bosley Funeral Home with burial in Ryder Cemetery. Rev. DeWayne South officiated.

Pallbearers were Terry Hughes, Leonard Masters, Dean and James Willett, Dudley Votaw III, Kenny Votaw and John Willett.

Bosley Funeral Home, Lebanon, was in charge of the arrangements.

*(The Lebanon Enterprise)*