

# This Is Your Story



Rev. Marvin R. Heflin

Had Dr. and Mrs. Wilson Heflin any conception of the heights their nine living children were to soar in prominence, it would only be natural for them to experience a tremendous surge of pride. For not just one of them was successful, but all of them were stand-outs in some great cause, whether it was medicine, politics, or the ministry.

Take, for instance, their tenth child, who was later to become one of the most beloved Methodist Ministers in the North Alabama Conference. He was born May 10, 1887 in Louisiana, Alabama and was to be called Marvin R. His mother, who had given birth to eleven children by the time she had reached forty five, 2 daughters of whom died in infancy, was the former Lavie Phillips, of Randolph County. His father, Dr. Wilson Heflin, was born in Fayette County, Ga. and moved to Alabama when he was a strapping youth. He was a rising young doctor when he met and married Lavie Phillips in December, 1859.

Marvin R. Heflin, who was later to be fondly known here as Bro. Heflin, was only six years old when his comparatively young mother died. Wyatt, the eldest of the Heflin Children, was attending Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Penn. when news of his mother's death came. Dr. Wilson Heflin, although grief-stricken at his wife's death, was determined at this point to assume the responsibility of rearing eight children.

When Marvin R. Heflin was 14 years old, his father decided to set up practice in Roanoke, Ala. Dr. Heflin practiced medicine in Randolph County for 60 years. Other children who grew into manhood and womanhood and found their place in prominence were, Harrington, Walter, John, Howell, Thomas, Robert and one daughter Lavie.

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1945 . . . an eventful year. Rev. Heflin and his wife came to Pell City that year, and endeared themselves to the people in this community and St. Clair County so much, that they are still with us. And that is the way we want it to stay. From 1945 to 1949, Bro. Heflin served as pastor of the local Methodist Church.

Due to the deep love and appreciation for Rev. and Mrs. Marvin Heflin, friends of all denominations in this area erected a home as a love gift to a man who had and still means so much to this community. Although Bro. Heflin retired from the Ministry in 1949, he is never idle, is always helping people, listening to their tales of woe, visiting the sick, and praying. Since his retirement he has been in constant demand for talks at banquets, civic gatherings, and various churches.

Only three of the nine children of the late Dr. and Mrs. Wilson Heflin are living. They are; Dr. Wyatt Heflin, Rev. Marvin R. Heflin, and Mrs. Lavie Heflin. Deceased are; Rev. Walter Wilson Heflin, Judge John T. Heflin, Dr. Howell Heflin, Judge Harrington Heflin, Robert Lee Heflin, Ex-Sen.

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Of all the nine children of the late Dr. and Mrs. Wilson Heflin, Marvin R. is the most beloved to the people in St. Clair County. He answered Gods call to preach when a very young man. He studied for the ministry in some of the greatest colleges the North and South have to offer. He attended the University of Alabama, Birmingham Southern College, University of Chicago, Vanderbilt, and Harvard. He was licensed to preach in 1901.

Rev. Heflin met and Married Louise Strudwick, of Demopolis, Ala. in 1912. They met in Tuscaloosa at the time Miss Strudwick was teaching school.

Sept. 19, 1913 . . . Rev. and Mrs. Marvin Heflin announced the birth of their first child, a son whom they named Wilson L. It was not until July 19, 1921, that the second son joined the Heflin Home. His name was to be Howell.

Wilson, the eldest son, received his PHD Degree in English from Vanderbilt College in September 1943. He has been a member of the faculty at United States Naval Academy for the past eight years. He married the former Mary Katherine Rochester, of Birmingham, and they are parents of two daughters. Mary Katherine, aged 9, and Ann, aged 6.

Howell, the younger son, completed law school at the University of Alabama and Birmingham Southern. He served two years in active duty during world War II and participated in three major campaigns. At the present time he is practicing law in Tuscumbia and is in charge of a Federal Housing project. He married the former Elizabeth Ann Charmichael, of Tuscumbia. They are parents of one son, Howell Jr., four months old.

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DR. J. H. NEWMAN

## Girls' college gives nod to UA official

FARMVILLE, Va., May 22—(P)—Dr. James Heflin Newman, executive vice president of the University of Alabama, was named president of Longwood College Saturday.

Newman's appointment becomes effective Sept. 1. It was announced by Douglas A. Robertson, rector of the college's board of visitors.

Dr. Newman is 57. He is a native of LaFayette, Ala.

He succeeds President Francis G. Lankford, who has been head of the state women's college here since 1955. Dr. Lankford resigned to return to the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, where he will serve as a member of the faculty in the department of education.

DR. LANKFORD held this position prior to coming to Longwood 10 years ago.

In announcing the selection of Dr. Newman, Robertson said

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the educator is a veteran in the field of education and a proven administrator.

"In Dr. Newman, the board of visitors has a man of much college experience who has a great understanding of problems confronting higher education today," Robertson said.

Dr. Newman is a former dean of students at the University of Virginia.

The newly appointed Longwood president is married to the former Dixie Ann Jones of Pell City, Ala. They have two children — James Blair, 17, and Ann Dickson, 20, a student at Randolph-Macon Woman's Col-

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**REV. MARVIN HEFLIN  
... 89 Years Old Tuesday**

REV. MARVIN HEFLIN, well known and beloved Pell City resident and retired Methodist Minister, observed his 89th birthday, Tuesday, May 10th.

The eleventh and only living child of the late Dr. Wilson L. Heflin and Mrs. LaVicie Heflin, he was born in 1877 at Louina in Randolph County.

He has been a Methodist for 75 years, was licensed a Methodist Minister in 1901 and was ordained an Elder in the Methodist Church in 1905. He has been a member of the North Alabama Conference and Georgia Conference for approximately 48 years and a retired supply minister in St. Clair County for 3 years.

**BRO. HEFLIN**

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He attended Birmingham Southern College and the University of Alabama. He did his theological work at Vanderbilt University and later attended Harvard University, where he did special work.

Rev. Heflin is married to the former Miss Louise Strudwick of Demopolis, Ala.

TUESDAY was spent quietly at home, but a family gathering is scheduled for June, when the Heflin's oldest son, Dr. Wilson L. Heflin and his family of Annapolis, Maryland visit Alabama. Dr. Heflin has taught for the past 19 years in the Academy in Annapolis, his position being a Math Professor. Howell T. Heflin, who is President of the Alabama Bar Association, will also be present with his family. In addition to having an active law practice in Tuscumbia, Howell Heflin, has taken an active part in North Alabama politics for the past several years.