Alumni receive honors at awards dinner

Furman University
Dorothy Williams Jameson ’48, January 5, Easley, S.C. She taught in elementary schools for 35 years, predominantly in the Pickens County (S.C.) School District. She was a member of the Volunteer Auxiliary at Palmetto Health in Easley.

Harry Llewellyn Raley ’48, January 4, Clinton, Miss. After he graduated from Southwestern Baptist Seminary in 1951, he and his wife served churches in North and South Carolina before being appointed missionaries to Taiwan by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. They worked in Taiwan from 1954 to 1991, with Harry serving at various times as treasurer, business manager, bookstore manager and chair of the Taiwan Baptist Mission. In 1989 the government of Taiwan presented him with the “Good Man, Good Deeds” award for his service, an honor rarely given to foreign residents. After retirement the Raleys continued to serve as ministers to Chinese populations both in the States and abroad. Harry also volunteered as prayer ministry coordinator for the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Helen Bryson Taylor ’48, January 13, Richmond, Va. She was a teacher in five states and especially enjoyed teaching courses in the Bible as literature and in American history at Auburn (Ala.) High School, where the yearbook was dedicated to her numerous times. While teaching history she created and presented, in full period costume, portrayals of various American first ladies.

Jean Carskaden Weaver ’48, December 11, Morgantown, W.Va. She was active in the Service League of Morgantown, serving as historian during the nation’s bicentennial celebration in 1976, and was a member of the Campus Club at the University of West Virginia, where her husband taught.

Lewis Vincent Wood ’48, January 14, Snellville, Ga. In 1942 he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He served as a radar navigator on a C-47 during World War II and as a radar officer during the Korean Conflict. After his military service he worked for Prudential Mortgage and Loan in Greenville, Charlotte and Atlanta, retiring in 1985.

Honorees, from left: Dan Joyner’s son Danny, daughter Beth Crigler, wife Katherine, daughter Lynn Freeman; back from left: Joyner’s son-in-law David Crigler, Rodney Johnson, Lillian Brock Flemming, Frank Blackwell.

ALUMNI RECEIVE HONORS AT AWARDS DINNER

FOUR ALUMNI — FRANK BLACKWELL ’90, Lillian Brock Flemming ’71, Rodney Johnson ’03 and the late C. Dan Joyner ’59 — took home major honors at the Alumni Awards Dinner April 19.

Joyner, who died in early 2012, received the Distinguished Alumni Award. Founder of Prudential C. Dan Joyner Co., one of the Upstate’s most successful real estate firms, he was a community and civic leader. At Furman he served as a trustee and as president of the Alumni Association, and he was known as “Furman’s Biggest Fan” because of his unwavering support for Paladin athletics. The C. Dan Joyner Family Athletic Scholarship is awarded each year, and the porch at the Sh Center for Sustainability is named for him and his wife, Katherine Poole Joyner ’60. Joyner previously received the Alumni Service Award and was elected to the university’s Athletic Hall of Fame. His family was on hand to accept the award.

Flemming earned the Gordon L. Blackwell Alumni Service Award. A former Furman trustee and a recipient of the university’s Richard Furman Baptist Heritage Award, she was one of the first African-American women to attend Furman. A longtime community leader, she has been a member of Greenville City Council since 1981 and currently serves as vice mayor pro tempore. She is a past president of the Greenville County Education Association and of the Municipal Association of South Carolina.

Johnson, the Outstanding Young Alumni Award winner, is founder and principal of Greenville’s Lead Academy Charter School, which opened in 2010. At Furman he captained the football team and worked with Bridges to a Brighter Future, which helps high school students who have limited financial resources reach their potential. He taught for several years in Atlanta before establishing Lead Academy. Greenville Business Magazine has named him to its list of the city’s “Best and Brightest 35 and Under.”

Blackwell received the Wayne and Ruby Reid Award, which goes to alumni who make major contributions to the career development of Furman students. As director of sales for ScanSource, Inc., in Greenville, he has hired a number of Furman graduates, provided career advice and direction to students, and recommended others for positions within the company. He is a past member of the Alumni Board and is vice president of the Paladin Club.