

WILLIAM WOODWARD ANDERSON CELEBRATES 90th BIRTHDAY

William Woodward ("Bill") Anderson, the surviving son of Absalom and Ruby (Ward) Anderson, of Iglehart near Annapolis, and of Crownsville, Maryland, celebrated his **Ninetieth** birthday last October 14, 2001, at a special party held in his honor at his Presbyterian Church near his farm at Nokesville, Virginia.

He is a surviving great grandson of the late Isaac Cord Anderson, Sr., and Lucy Caroline (Gaither) Anderson, of Marriottsville and Crownsville, Maryland.

Retired Contracting Officer

Bill is a retired U. S. Government Contracting Officer with the Veterans Administration. He was born on the 150 acre family farm at Crownsville, Maryland, on October 14, 1911. He was preceded in death by his siblings, Samuel Isaac Anderson and Richard Thomas Anderson, both of Anne Arundel County, Elizabeth Anderson Merkle, of Ohio, and Alice Anderson Mace, of Baltimore County, Maryland. Bill's wife, the late Virginia Barnes Anderson, is also deceased. Bill and Virginia had no children.

On October 14, 1989, Bill and Virginia celebrated 50 years of marriage. She passed away during September, 1991.

Bill attended a one-room schoolhouse near Annapolis from the first to the sixth grades and then graduated from the Old Annapolis High School when it was located on Green Street. While growing up, he worked on the family farm and, while in high school, at the then new Sherwood Forest Golf Course, where he caddied.

Graduated in 1938

After high school he moved to Washington, D.C., to work and live. He worked for the Fuller Construction Co. and helped build the American Pharmaceutical Association building on Constitution Avenue. After this building was completed, he was employed as its building manager from January, 1934, until October, 1942. While working there, he attended Ben Franklin University, graduating in June, 1938, with a B.S. degree in commerce. On his birthday, October 14, 1939, he and Virginia were married.

In October, 1942, when his superior at the American Pharmaceutical Association became a Naval officer, this superior wanted Bill to work for him in the Navy, so Bill enlisted, becoming a Pharmacist's Mate in the Navy Hospital Corps. Bill's assignment and work place, naturally, was just across the street in the temporary buildings on Constitution Avenue of the Navy Department. Today this area includes Constitution Gardens and the site of the Vietnam War Memorial. Bill walked home for lunch every day he was in the Navy.

Subsequent Government Career

Bill was discharged from the Navy on November 13, 1945, and the next day he began his career at the Veterans Administration as a grade 6. On March 28, 1946, he was promoted to Acting Chief of the Surgical Instruments Unit, Procurement Division. On September 8, 1946, he was made Chief of that Unit as a grade 7. Later he was transferred to the Drugs, Medicine and Chemicals Unit as both Acting and permanent Chief.

In 1958, Bill was made Chief of the Service Contracts Section as a grade 13, and he retired on July 4, 1964.

In his spare time, Bill enjoyed deer and bear hunting in and around Mathis, West Virginia. He

also bought and sold large farms. In 1950 he purchased his home farm (268 acres) in Nokesville, Virginia. Bill loves to hunt, fish, and work in his garden, from which he gives away much of the produce to his neighbors and friends.

(Shown with Bill Anderson is his great grandniece on his wife's, Virginia's, side of the family: Debbie Lynn.)