

## Mattie Moss Clark, 69, gospel singer, dies in Michigan

Knight-Ridder News Service

DETROIT — Mattie Moss Clark, a gospel music singer who directed choirs, wrote songs that became classics and turned her five daughters into a famed gospel group, died after a long illness.

She was 69 and lived in Detroit. She died Thursday at Providence Hospital, in Southfield, Mich.

"She was a legend, a musical legend," the Rev. Jim Holley, pastor of the Little Rock Baptist Church, said yesterday.

"A lot of singers sing the life, but they don't live it. Mattie Moss not only sang the life, but she lived the life, and that's what made her music have so much effect on people."

Clark's family gave the gospel music world three of its most important acts: Clark herself; her brother and his family, Bill Moss and the Celestials; and Clark's daughters, the Clark Sisters — Jackie, Denise, Elbernita (called Twinkie), Dorinda and Karen.

She was the national minister of music for the Churches of God in Christ and directed many choirs, the most famous of which was the Churches of God in Christ Southwest Michigan State Choir.

## The Rev. John E. Moran, retired priest in diocese

The Rev. John E. Moran, a retired Diocese of Pittsburgh priest, died Thursday after he suffered a heart attack while driving his car in Squirrel Hill. He was 66 and lived at St. John Vlanney Manor, Crafton.

Father Moran served at St. Therese Church, Munhall, from 1975 to 1980; St. Peter Church, North Side, from 1985 to 1986; and St. Ann Church, Bulger, Washington County, from 1986 until his retirement in June.

He was ordained into the Order of the Holy Ghost Fathers in 1954 and was a graduate of Holy Ghost College and St. Mary Seminary, both in Connecticut, and received a master's degree in education from the University of Southwestern Louisiana. He also did graduate study at Arizona State University.

Surviving are two sisters, Mary Ellen Collins of Forest Hills and Theresa M. of Monroeville.

Visitation will be 7 to 9 p.m. today, and 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. tomorrow at John A. Freyvogel Sons Inc., 4900 Centre Ave., Shadyside.

A Mass will be celebrated at Noon

Monday in St. Paul Cathedral, Oakland. Burial will be in Calvary Cemetery.

## George John Gonda, 75, former punter for Steelers

George John Gonda, a native of Fayette County and the former mayor of Woodville, Miss., died Monday of cancer at Field Memorial Community Hospital near Woodville, where he had lived since the early 1950s. He was 75.

Born in Grindstone, Mr. Gonda was elected to serve three terms as mayor from 1973 to 1985 in Woodville, a town with a population of about 1,000 residents.

He played on the varsity football team at Duquesne University from 1939 to 1941 as an offensive and defensive back and the punter. After graduation, he was an offensive and defensive back for the Pittsburgh Steelers in 1942.

After serving in the military during World War II, he returned to teach and coach at public schools in Richmond, Va., before moving to Woodville, where he also taught and coached.

Surviving are his wife, Maria D'Aquila Gonda; two sons, Gregory of Memphis, Tenn., and Tim of Baton Rouge, La.; a sister, Mary Seno of Camarillo, Calif., and two brothers, John of Reno, Nev., and Frank of Phoenix.

## Thomas 'Trigger' Maioli, retired Collier police chief

Thomas "Trigger" Maioli, retired police chief in Collier, died yesterday of a heart attack at Shadyside Hospital. He was 74.

Mr. Maioli retired as the township's police chief in 1976 after heading the department for 26 years.

A World War II Air Force veteran in England, he was a past president of both the Pennsylvania and Western Pennsylvania chiefs of police associations and a member of the Fraternal Order of Police, the Bridgeville Owls Club and the Bridgeville American Legion.

Surviving are two daughters, Linda Tome and Nancy Gualazzi, both of Bridgeville; two sons, Thomas Jr. of Greensburg and John H. of Deerfield Beach, Fla.; a sister, Joan Diamond, and a brother, John, both of West Palm Beach, Fla., and 11 grandchildren.

Visitation will be 10 a.m. to noon, 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. today and tomorrow at S.B. Fryer Funeral Home, 729 Washington Ave., Bridgeville.

A Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Monday at St. Barbara Church, Collier.

## ELSEWHERE

Forrest "Bud" Sagendorf, who drew the Popeye comic strip for more than three decades after its creator died, Thursday in Sarasota, Fla.

Leonard Feather, 80, a jazz critic, composer, musician and author of the "Encyclopedia of Jazz," Thursday of pneumonia in Los Angeles.