

[By Carlyle Windley]

[10/28/2002]

Bartlett Braxton Jones was born January 22, 1895. He was the eldest son of Dennis McCles and Ida Sholder Jones of Elizabeth City, where he grew up.

(His father was a native of Tyrell County. In the late 1800's, ~~his father~~ and a lifelong friend Isaac Meekins, moved from Tyrell County to Elizabeth City. Dr. Jones was a merchant, Mr. Meekins (later Judge Meekins) a lawyer. They later built ~~houses~~ side by side at 312 and 314 West Main Street which are pictured on page 54 of "The Guide to Historic Architecture of Eastern North Carolina" by C. Bishop and M. Southern.)

Braxton (B.B. or Brad to many of his friends but Braxton to family) attended Trinity College and the Duke Law School. While in law school he was the Captain of the Duke football team.

He was an ensign in the US Navy and then principal of the Kinston public schools for several years prior to entering law school. Upon graduation he practiced law in Kinston and later joined the law firm of Judge John Dawson in Kinston.

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He married Helen Bryan Chamberlain of Keniston in 1942.

During President Roosevelt's first Administration, he was persuaded to join the Lands Division of the U.S. Department of Justice <sup>in Washington DC</sup> where he served until the 1950's. Early in his career there, he oversaw the acquisition of lands for most of the military bases located in Eastern North Carolina.

On reaching retirement age in 1960, he was asked by the <sup>then</sup> Attorney General to remain in service. This he did until 1973/74 (?).

In 1956/57 he was elected Assistant Secretary General of the Society of the Cincinnati, a post which he conscientiously served and thoroughly enjoyed until his wife's failing health necessitated his resignation.

While in Washington, he was fortunate to maintain friendships with numerous people from his youth and college days including Sam Ervin, William Umstead, Lindsay Warren, Fred Morrison, Charlie Murphy, Kenneth Royal and others... unusual in that so many of his contemporaries (all Democrats) should have served in Washington at the

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Jones

same time.

Braston died in Kinston, March 28, 1976 at 81 years of age and was buried in his family's plot in the Hollywood Cemetery in Elizabeth City NC.

In that Braston nor his brothers sired male children, his immediate family line ends with the death of his only remaining sibling, Ida Jones Windley of Santiago, N.C. Her son, Carlyle Windley, ~~was~~ is his only nephew.

It is also thought that there are no other male survivors from his father's brothers. If so, the Bartlett Jones' of Tyrrell County end with the death of his remaining sister. She was 96 in July of 2002.

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