

'Helped Raise The Hathaway Boys' . . .

# Marshall Horton Has Unique Place In Community

By HELEN MORRISS  
STAR Staff

A friendship that grew into a lifelong relationship began when Marshall Horton started playing baseball with the Hathaway boys.

He became "one of the family" when he was only 14 and will be 80 on July 27. "Hort" as he is affectionately known by his many friends, says he still loves baseball — "it's the only sport I really like."

The late Ed E. Hathaway took Hort in and for over 65 years "they took care of me" the genial Horton stated. He has worked in all the family's business undertakings.

At first he delivered groceries, driving a horse and wagon, then he went to the Funeral Home with the late Roy Hathaway to drive a truck and put up tents.

And for 30 years he has been a familiar face around Barnes Boring and says he likes the hardware store best of all.

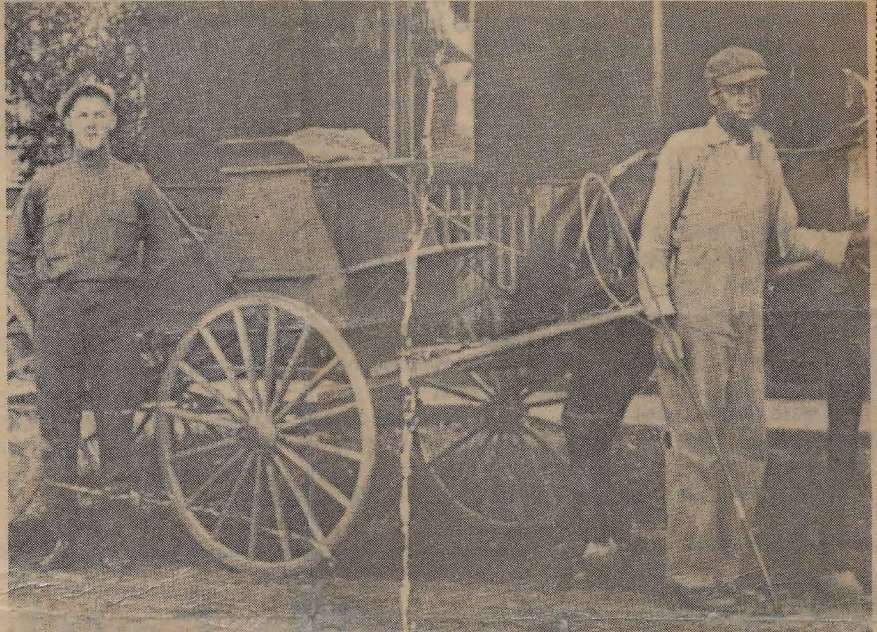
Serving with the Cavalry Cavalry in Georgia during World War I was a good choice for him, since he had always loved horses and had a fine saddle horse before going into service.

He was chef at a local cafe for a time. In recalling former days, he said he used to run a trout line near the Coal Chute and set nets in Doe River for horney heads which he described as "good eatin."

Elizabethton has changed a lot during his lifetime and he recalled a brick yard on Elk Ave. — just across from the present store building which was built after the turn of the century.

He helped dig the foundation for the old Hathaway homeplace on Maple St. and recalls the old iron fence was moved from Highland Cemetery.

Without hesitation he said the biggest day in the history of Elizabethton was



"HORT" as he appeared in earlier days with horse and wagon. He has worked in all the businesses owned by Hathaway family, first delivering groceries, then at the Funeral Home and now at Barnes-Boring Hardware. He is one of Elizabethton's best known citizens.

"Hoover Day" in 1928, when the presidential candidate spoke here.

Although he has traveled quite a bit he was quick to say there is no place like Carter County where you find "the best people in the world."

With a note of nostalgia, he recalled old friends who are now gone — Buck Edens, Pete Hendrickson, Allen Smith, Harry Burgie, Cale Ellis, Benton Edens and of course the Hathaway "boys he helped to raise."

He is married to the former Laura Stover and to this marriage was born six children, five of whom are still living: Betty of Cleveland, Tenn.; Louise of Chattanooga, Charles of Johnson City, Marshall Horton, Jr. and Clarence of Elizabethton. There are also five grandchildren.

Probably the best indication of the esteem in



MARSHALL HORTON is pictured with a harness at Barnes-Boring Hardware where he has been a "fixture" for about 30 years. He went to work for the Hathaway family when he was fourteen and has a host of friends in the community. (STAR Photo by Morriss)

which he is held is the number of white funerals at which he has served as

pullbearer — proving that in real friendship there is no racial barrier.