Ancil R. Anderson, 79, vocational instructor
By George Smith
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Ancil R. Anderson missed the Kansas farm where he was born and often talked of going back some day.

He was the fifth of 12 children — he had four sisters and seven brothers — born to James Henry and Mary Anderson who farmed in Weir, Kan. They grew wheat and corn — and there was even a coal mine on the farm where Ancil Anderson sometimes toiled.

He attended public school in Weir and then went off for more schooling, never to return to farming.

On Wednesday, the retired vocational teacher died at a Fort Worth hospital at age 79.

A wake will be from 6 to 8 tonight at Angelic-Webber Funeral Chapel.

Funeral will be at 11 a.m. tomorrow at Mount Gilead Missionary Church. Burial will be in Cedar Hill Memorial Park.

Mr. Anderson first attended Kansas Vocational School in Topeka, which is no longer in existence, and received a bachelor of science degree in industrial arts from Kansas State Teachers College, now Pittsburg State University, in 1936.

He began teaching industrial arts at Western University, a small school no longer in existence, near Kansas City, Kan.

After two years of teaching, he and Edna Cox, whom he had met in Kansas City, were married June 9, 1938. He taught another two years at Western University and then in 1940 came to Fort Worth and taught shop at I. M. Terrell High School. He also did graduate work at Prairie View A&M and taught as a substitute at Polytechnic High School.

He taught auto mechanics and other subjects at McDonald College of Industrial Arts in Fort Worth to returned veterans until 1949 and then joined the National Youth Administration in Azle and taught shop at night school.

Mr. Anderson later was an instructor at the Amarillo Air Force Base and at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls.

He was an instructor with the Job Corps in Seattle for a short time in 1967, but returned to Fort Worth to teach auto mechanics, small machines and welding in evening classes at the Dunbar Community School before retiring in 1977.

His church work occupied a lot of his time. At Mount Gilead Missionary Baptist, he was a deacon, a choir member and a former president of the senior choir. He had also had been chairman of the Men's Day Program, had been church clerk and superintendent of young people.

On June 9, he and his wife celebrated their 50th anniversary.
Survivors: Wife, Edna C. Anderson of Fort Worth; and four brothers, Dr. C.R Anderson of Kansas City, Mo., Lawrence Anderson of Nashua, N.H., Samuel Anderson of Pacoima, Calif., and Andrew Anderson of Chelmsford, Mass.

[photo]
Ancil R. Anderson, Shown in photograph made in 1978
Obituaries

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