


Circumstances surrounding the death of MINNIE L. CHERRY
occurring Sunday, January 20, 1980, at New Sweet Home Church,
2170 Capitol Avenue, East Palo Alto, California.

Minnie Cherry appeared to be in perfect health when she was in church. At approximately 10:00 P.M. she slumped over -- having collapsed and lost balance from standing. The members tried to hold her up but she was in a state of complete collapse -- falling to the floor. Seeing that Minnie was in a semiconscious condition, Mrs. Eva Jones (a nursing assistant) and Mrs. Margie Juniel (a certified respiratory therapist) was there to help. They immediately began CPR and checked her pulse which was very faint. The CPR did inflate her lungs but Minnie could not breathe on her own. Noting her serious condition, they immediately summoned for help. Mrs. Annie Bell Smith phoned for the Paramedics-Medivac. It was taking so long for the Paramedics to arrive, Mr. Curtis Jordan phoned the Fire Station two blocks away. After they never arrived (the Fire department) Mr. Harold Willis went to the Fire Station to insure that they had received the phone call. Upon entering the fire station, Mr. Willis noticed that the firemen were engaged in a card game and asked if they had received the call from Mr. Jordan at the church. They had received the call. Mr. Willis then returned to his car and sat there until the fire department left the station. The Paramedics still hadn't arrived.

Finally, after waiting about 40 minutes in total for help the firemen arrived and shortly after the Paramedics. The paramedics were in contact with their base hospital (Sequoia Hospital in Redwood City) and began to supply oxygen and CPR for approximately 45 minutes there at the church.

Please note: NOT ONE POLICEMAN EVER CAME TO THE CHURCH
AND THE LENGTH OF TIME IT TOOK THE FIRE
DEPARTMENT AND THE PARAMEDICS TO GET TO
THE CHURCH. 

Submitted by: Elder Albert C. Macklin, Pastor
New Sweet Home Church Of God In Christ 325-1467

Date: January 28, 1980

ACM:ljw