



**Ceremony  
Officially Naming  
U.S. 76/378  
Between Columbia  
And Wateree River  
as the  
Barnie Jordan Jr.  
Memorial Highway**

**11 a.m.  
Friday, October 14, 1983**

## PROGRAM

**Presiding** ..... Dr. William E. Berne, honorary chairman  
for life, South Carolina State Highways  
and Public Transportation Commission

**Invocation** ..... The Rev. James C. Dickert, White Rock,  
retired Lutheran minister

**Introductions** ..... Dr. Berne

**Brief remarks** ..... Silas N. Pearman, chief commissioner emeritus,  
South Carolina Highway Department

Paul W. Cobb, chief commissioner, South  
Carolina Department of Highways and Public  
Transportation

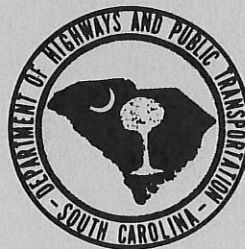
**Principal remarks** ..... Senator Hyman Rubin, District No. 7, Office  
No. 3, Chester, Fairfield, Richland counties

**Reading of resolution** ..... Walter B. Brown

**Response** ..... John Jordan

**Unveiling of marker** ..... Mrs. Bernie Jordan Jr.

**Prayer of dedication and  
benediction** ..... Mr. Dickert



## **BARNIE JORDAN JR.**

Mr. Jordan was a leading general contractor in this state for 35 years. Long before that he and his brothers operated a successful hauling business that participated in the expansion of Fort Jackson and the development of other World War II facilities and helped to build Santee-Cooper.

Besides his 1,000 miles of highway work in this state alone, the Jordan firms carried out numerous major earthmoving projects throughout the South.

He was born in 1909 at Johnston, in Edgefield County. He attended the University of South Carolina for one year and then went to work in Lexington County for W.F. Beau Company, the forerunner of Southern Roadbuilders, for two years. He left Beau and worked for Wilmo Paving Co. of Middletown, Ohio, on a concrete paving project in Hampton County and for the next several years on its projects throughout the Ohio Valley states.

In 1936, he returned to South Carolina, bought two dump trucks and sub-contracted two hauling jobs for J.B. Brittain Co. on the highway from Holly Hill to Goose Creek. He and his brothers continued to do work for Brittain for three years, in the meanwhile helping to clear the Santee-Cooper basin and to perform major earthmoving there.

In 1939, Jordan Brothers was formed and more dump trucks were acquired. The defense effort was gearing up and Fort Jackson was being expanded from inactive status. C.G. Fuller Company had the contract to build and asphalt the roads within the fort, and Jordan was the hauling subcontractor.

In 1941, the firm had a part in construction of Walterboro Army Air Corps base, the base at Valdosta, Ga., the seaplane base at Manteo, N.C., Camp Butner in North Carolina, and Wright-Patterson base in Ohio.

At war's end, Jordan and his brothers formed Cherokee, Inc., and became full-fledged general contractors. Their first state highway work was the road from Frogmore to Hunting Island. They became specialists in farm-to-market work in the late 1940's and 1950's, often building as many as 50 miles in a year. Bigger projects followed over a period of three decades.

Mr. Jordan continued active in the firms, Cherokee, Inc., and L-J, Inc., until his death in 1981.







# Memorial highway named after road builder

Twenty miles of Sumter Highway, U.S. 76-378, between Columbia and the Wateree River, has officially been named the **Barnie Jordan Jr. Memorial Highway**.

The late Jordan, a leading general contractor in South Carolina, built about 1,000 miles of roads, streets and highways in the state.

At a ceremony last Friday, Mrs. Edith Jordan, Jordan's wife, unveiled a granite marker at a site beside U.S. 76 nine miles east of the Veterans Administration Hospital, near Secondary 1117, which passes in front of the Jordan home. The ceremony was co-sponsored by the S.C. Department of

Highways and Public Transportation and the Richland County legislative delegation.

In a resolution adopted by the General Assembly, lawmakers approved naming the road after Jordan, who was recognized as a road builder and for his service on the school board of Richland District Five, the board of trustees of Columbia Hospital and the board of the South Carolina Public Service Authority.

Born in 1909 in Johnston, in Edgefield County, Johnson attended the University of South Carolina for one year and then, because of hard times, went to work for two years in

Lexington County for W.F. Beau Co., which later became Southern Road-builders.

He left to work for Wilmo Paving Co. of Middletown, Ohio, on paving work in Hampton County and on jobs throughout the Ohio Valley states over the next several years.

In 1936 he returned to South Carolina, bought two dump trucks and subcontracted two hauling jobs for J.B. Brittain Co. on the highway from Holly Hill to Goose Creek. For three years, he and his brother continued to do work for Brittain, but were also doing some work on the Santee-Cooper basin.

Jordan Brothers was formed in 1939 and more dump trucks were acquired. At that time, Fort Jackson was being expanded and the Jordans subcontracted the hauling for the road work.

Other defense and war work followed for the company in places throughout the South. At the end of World War II, Jordan and his brothers formed Cherokee Inc. and became general contractors.

Their first state highway job was the road from Frogmore to Hunting Island.