Memorials 2009

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MEMORIALS

LYN STEPHEN BROWN

Lyn Stephen Brown was born in Seattle, WA, on December 29, 1952, the first of the four sons of Lester Warren Brown and Charlotte (MacLeod) Brown. The family moved to Kirkland, WA, where Lyn attended school. Lyn was saved at the age of seven during a vacation Bible school at First Baptist Church of Bellevue, WA.

Lyn attended Western Baptist College in Salem, OR, receiving his B.S. degree in 1975. Later that year, Lyn and Kathryn Reiter were married on December 16, at West Brae Bible Church in Berkeley, CA. For the next ten years Lyn worked in church ministry and completed two additional degrees. He was assistant pastor at Galilee Baptist Church in Seattle, WA, for two years and then served as pastor at Juanita Baptist in Kirkland, WA, for eight years. Lyn’s M.Div. was earned at Northwest Baptist Seminary in Tacoma, WA, in 1981, followed by a Ph.D. from California Graduate School of Theology in Glendale, CA, in 1983. This was followed by an M.Libr. from the University of Washington in 1985.

In 1986 Lyn and Kathryn moved to Pensacola, FL, where Lyn was librarian at Pensacola Christian College. From 1987–92 Lyn was head librarian at Washington Bible College and Capital Bible Seminary in Lanham, MD, and served as library director at Philadelphia College of Bible from 1992–98 in Langhorne, PA. Lyn’s final assignment was library director at Bethel Seminary of the East in Dresher, PA from 1998–2008. Lyn’s wife, Kathy, was one of his library assistants.

Lyn was a member of five national and regional library associations, and had been a member of the Evangelical Theological Society for eight years. Lyn travelled worldwide in China, Japan, New Zealand, Egypt, Kuwait, Israel, Italy, and Germany. He collected HO trains, and, of course, many books. Lyn loved to read. He was a Lt. Col. in the US Army Reserves’ 353rd Civil Affairs Command and served two tours of duty in Iraq from 2003–2004 and 2006–2007. Lyn and Kathy were active members of Grace Point Church, Newtown, PA.

Lyn passed into the presence of Christ on November 29, 2008 from his home in Newtown, PA, at the age of 55, from a heart attack. He lived 55 years and 11 months. He is laid to rest in the Veterans Cemetery in Bucks County, PA.

Lyn is survived by his wife Kathryn of Newtown, PA; son Christopher with his wife Sarah of Dayton, OH; daughter Deanna with her husband, Michael Munson of Shoreview, MN; parents Lester and Charlotte Brown of Kirkland, WA; brothers Lonny and Lewis, both of Kirkland, WA; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Paul and Lou Reiter of Beckley, WV; and brother-in-law
and sister-in-law, John and Laura Hannah with their children Julianne, Kim and David of Dunedin, New Zealand. Lyn's brother, Larry, preceded him in death.

LUTHER RUSSELL BUSH III

Luther Russell Bush III was born to L. R. Bush II and his wife Francis on Christmas Day, 1944, in Alexandria, Louisiana. His grandfather was a dentist and so was his father until age 66 when he became a pastor. The family moved to El Paso, TX for several years before settling down in Columbia, MS. At age 11, Russ was led to Christ by his Sunday School teacher, Joe Lawrence. After high school in Columbia, Russ headed to Mississippi College in Clinton. There he met Cynthia Ellen McGraw while he studied English and edited the college newspaper. Cindy was news editor. Russ and Cindy were married on June 2, 1968, at First Baptist Church of Louisville, MS. Two years later, Russ finished his M.Div. at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, TX, where he also began his Ph.D. studies. Russ served as professor of philosophy of religion at SWBTS from 1973 to 1989. He finished his doctorate in 1976, saw Moody Press publish his book, Baptists and the Bible, co-authored with Tom Nettles, in 1980, and studied at Cambridge University during a sabbatical in 1981–82. Dr. Bush also authored A Handbook for Christian Philosophy (Zondervan, 1981) and The Advancement of the Church (Broadman, 2003).

During a second sabbatical in Washington, DC (1988–89), Russ served as interim pastor at Capitol Hill Metropolitan Baptist Church. In March, 1989, Russ was asked to assume the position of Academic Vice-president and Dean of the Faculty at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC, a position he held until retiring in 2006 due to ill health. Russ helped oversee the transition of SEBTS back onto solid fundamental theological footing.

Russ led tours to Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, Greece, and Italy. He also taught in Russia, China, India, Kenya, Tanzania, Brazil, Uruguay, Honduras, Jordan, and Thailand. Russ held an advanced ham operator's license, loved photography, wrote poems and hymns, and expressed a demonstrative love for the children of the faculty families he shepherded.

Russ was a member of the American Academy of Religion. He served as president of the Evangelical Philosophical Society in 1989 and as president of the Evangelical Theological Society in 1994. He was a member of ETS for 32 years. A Southern Baptist, Russ served an interim pastorate in Wichita Falls, TX, and was assistant minister of adults at First Baptist Church of Dallas, TX, under W. A. Criswell.

Russ was married to Cindy for 39 years, and they had two children, Joshua and Bethany. Russ met his Savior in person when he passed into glory from his home in Wake Forest on January 22, 2008 after a two year battle with cancer. He lived 63 years and 28 days. His funeral was conducted in Binkley Chapel on the campus of SEBTS, and he was laid to rest in the Seminary Cemetery in Wake Forest. Left to mourn are his wife, Cindy, of Wake Forest; son Joshua Russell Bush, and his wife Sarah, of Charlotte, NC; daughter Bethany Charis Jarvah and her husband Sean of Wake Forest; parents Russell and Francis Bush of Columbia, MS; sister Carolyn Young and her husband Curtis of Columbia, MS; brother John Bush of Brandon, MS; nieces Lee Wood of Arkansas and Alana Bush of Jackson, MS; and nephew Russell Young of Tupelo, MS.

MARIANO DI GANCI

Mariano Di Gangi was born on July 25, 1923 in Brooklyn, NY, to Joseph and Rose (Piacenti) Di Gangi. Mariano was later joined by a brother, John.

Mariano received his B.A. degree from Brooklyn College in 1943, followed by a B.Th. from Westminster Theological Seminary in Chestnut Hill, PA, in 1946, and a B.D. from Presbyterian College in Montreal in 1949. He was granted the D.D. from Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary in 1965.

Mariano pastored the Beckwith Memorial Italian Presbyterian Church in Montreal for about five years. He then pastored St. Enoch's Presbyterian Church in Hamilton from 1951–61. The church grew from about 150 to over 1100 members. Dr. Di Gangi pastored the Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia, PA, from 1961–67. He succeeded Dr. Burnhouse and was followed by Dr. Boice. Mariano served on the Board of Administration of the National Association of Evangelicals from 1965–67 and was president of the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada (1969–71). He also pastored Knox Presbyterian Church in Toronto for four years. He served for 20 years as Executive Director of InterServe, a missionary agency, and taught pastoral studies at Tyndale Seminary in Toronto, retiring as Professor Emeritus. Mariano was an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church in Canada for 62 years.

Mariano authored works on Jonah (West Pub. Co., 1963) and Joel (Baker, 1970), wrote Apologetics without Apologetics (Sunday School Times, 1964); The Spirit of Christ (Baker, 1975); Word for All Seasons: Preaching through the Christian Year (Baker, 1980); Twelve Prophetic Voices: Major Messages from the Minor Prophets (Victor, 1989); and A Golden Treasury of Puritan Devotion: Selections from the Writings of Thirteen Puritan Divines (P & R Publishing, 1999). He was a member of the Evangelical Theological Society for 35 years and helped with arrangements the several times that the Society met in Canada. He was an artist and loved music, especially the works of Bach, Handel, and Vivaldi. He was an excellent preacher, evangelist, missionary, and radio broadcaster.

Mariano was married to Jo (Ninette) Maquignaz in 1946. They had three children, John, Marian, and Peter. Mariano passed from this life at the Stillwater Retirement Residence on March 18, 2008 at Ottawa, Canada at the age of 84 years, 7 months, and 22 days. Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Ninette (“Jo”); son, John Di Gangi with his wife Vicki of Ottawa; daughter, Marian and her husband Jack Archibald of Ottawa;
son, Peter Di Gangi with his wife Sheila of Ottawa; seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Mariano’s son-in-law, Jack Archibald, lead pastor at St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church in Ottawa, conducted the funeral.

ROBERT LAIRD HARRIS

Robert Laird Harris was born on March 10, 1911 in Brownsburg, PA, to Walter W. and Pearl (Graves) Harris. Laird was the fifth of eight children, but two died in infancy. At the time of Laird’s birth, his father was pastoring the Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church (1906–23) in New Hope, PA. Laird trusted in Christ at an early age. The family moved to Erie, PA, when Laird was thirteen for just one year, then moved to St. Georges, DE. Laird was just fifteen years old when he enrolled at the University of Delaware. He received his B.S. in 1931.

In 1932, while Laird Harris was in an M.S. program in chemical engineering at Washington University in St. Louis, MO, he attended Memorial Presbyterian Church. There he was called to the gospel ministry when he heard a sermon on 1 Cor 9:16, “Woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!” He then earned the Th.B. and Th.M. from Westminster Theological Seminary in Chestnut Hill, PA, in 1935 and 1937, an M.A. from the University of Pennsylvania in 1941, and his Ph.D. from The Dropsie College in Philadelphia, PA, in 1947.

R. Laird Harris was married to Elizabeth Kruger Nelson on September 11, 1937 at the Presbyterian Church in Snow Hill, MD. To this union three children were born, Grace, Allegra, and Robert. After 43 years of marriage Elizabeth went to be with the Lord in 1980. Laird was then married to Anne P. Kraus in Faith Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, DE, on August 1, 1981. In his retirement Laird and Anne lived in Wilmington, DE, until moving to Quarryville, PA in 2001.

When Laird Harris helped to found the Evangelical Theological Society in 1949, he was Professor of Biblical Exegesis at Faith Theological Seminary in Wilmington, DE, and a member of the Bible Presbyterian Church. He served in that capacity from 1937 until 1956 when he became a founding faculty member of Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, MO. He served as professor and chair of the Old Testament Department from 1956–81, and served as Dean of the seminary from 1964–71. He retired as professor emeritus. In 1982 Laird Harris was elected Moderator for the Tenth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America after concluding a merger of three conservative Presbyterian denominations.

Some of Laird Harris’s writings include Introductory Hebrew Grammar (Berdmans, 1950), The Inspiration and Canonicity of the Bible (Zondervan, 1957), Man—God’s Eternal Creation (Moody, 1971), The Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament, 2 vols., with Gleason Archer and Bruce Waltke (Moody, 1980), “Leviticus” in The Expositor’s Bible Commentary (Zondervan), and Exploring the Basics of the Bible (Crossway, 2002). Dr. Harris penned numerous articles for the Bulletin of the Evangelical Theological Society and for the Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society. He was vice-president of the Evangelical Theological Society in 1960 and president in 1961, and a charter member for 59 years. He served on the ETS editorial committee from 1949–58; chair of the Midwest Section in 1958; Secretary of the Society from 1949–54; and on the Executive Committee from 1961–65.

Dr. Harris lectured in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, India, Germany, the Netherlands, and Brazil. He was a translator of the Book of Leviticus for the New International Version that appeared in 1973 and served as chairman of the niv editorial board from 1970–74.

R. Laird Harris passed peacefully into the arms of Jesus from his residence at the Quarryville Presbyterian Retirement Community in Quarryville, PA, on April 25, 2008. He was laid to rest beside his first wife, Elizabeth, and his parents, in the Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church Cemetery in New Hope, PA. Laird lived 97 years and 46 days.

Left to mourn are his wife Anne of Quarryville, PA; daughter Grace with her husband Richard Sears of Berea, KY; daughter Allegra with her husband, Peter Smick, with their daughter Johanna of Beverly, MA; son Robert Harris, a widower and his four children: Vincent Harris with his wife Rebecca; Charles Harris with his wife Linda and their son, Thomas; Olivia with her husband Paul Van Veen; and Kate Harris, all of whom live in the Netherlands; grandson Robert Sears with his wife Goshia and their children Carlton and Anya Grace of Klamath Falls, OR; grandson Alden Leonard Sears of Lexington, KY; granddaughter Amanda (Smick) with her husband, John Tan, and their son, Oliver of Los Angeles, CA; grandson Martin Smick with his wife, Elizabeth, of Providence, RI; and granddaughter Danielle (Smick) with her husband, Lee Sherman, of New York City, NY.

ZANE CLARK HODGES

Zane Clark Hodges was born June 15, 1932 in Washington, DC to Zebulon C. and Virginia Hodges. Zebulon worked for the Defense Department. Zane’s parents were Baptists when Zane was young, then they became Plymouth Brethren. Zane grew up in Chambersburg, PA, and came to trust Christ for his eternal salvation around the age of ten. Zane had an older brother, David, a statistician, who died in 1981.

Zane received his B.A. at Wheaton College in 1954, majoring in Greek. His Th.M. came in 1958 from Dallas Theological Seminary. His thesis dealt with the Greek text of the Book of Revelation. Zane worked in the Dallas Theological Seminary library for one year, then taught New Testament Literature and Exegesis at his alma mater from 1959–86, and served as chair of the New Testament Department during his latter years at the seminary. Zane led a youth club for Hispanic children while in seminary, and taught and served the Lord at Victor Street Bible Chapel, a Plymouth Brethren assembly in Dallas, for 45 years. He was also the president of Kerugma, Inc. in Mesquite, TX. He collected original comics and was an avid science fiction reader, but his field of study was New Testament Textual Criticism.

Some of Zane’s published works included: The Hungry Inherit (Moody, 1972), The Gospel under Siege: A Study of Faith and Works (Redención Viva,
Paul Sheldon Long

Paul Sheldon Long was the eldest of four children born to Carroll and Edith (Suendermann) Long. Paul was born in Greenville, SC, on August 31, 1954. Paul was led to Christ at age seven by the pastor of Eastland Baptist Church. Paul attended Bob Jones Academy, then Bob Jones University in Greenville, SC, where he obtained his B.A. in Bible with a minor in German in 1976 and his M.A. in pastoral studies in 1978. It was in the German Club at BJU that he met Karen Severson from Lynnwood, CA. They were married in the chapel at Bob Jones University on May 27, 1976.

Paul served as a youth pastor at Thousand Oaks Baptist Church in Thousand Oaks, CA, from 1978–82, also frequently leading worship while Karen played the piano. He was an associate pastor for eight years at Simi Valley Christian Church in Simi Valley, CA, and began teaching at Indian Hills Academy. Paul was a co-founding teacher in 1987 at Grace Brethren High School in Simi Valley where he counseled, taught and coached for twenty years. Paul served his final year as an English teacher at Oaks Christian School in Westlake Village, CA.

Paul was an excellent teacher, much loved by his students. He loved reading and sports, having played baseball when younger, and having coached baseball, basketball, football, and cross country. Paul obtained his M.Ed. degree from the Ventura, CA campus of Azusa Pacific University in 1991, and also his CPCC at UCLA in 2001. Paul served on a short-term mission to Romania and travelled across the United States many times to visit family in South Carolina.

Paul was killed as he, Karen, and their son, Devin, were returning to California from the funeral of Paul’s mother in Greenville, SC. They were almost home before the Metrolink train they were riding collided head on with a Union Pacific freight train in Chatsworth, CA, killing 25 persons, including Paul. Paul died on September 13, 2001 at County- USC Medical Center in Los Angeles. He lived 54 years and 13 days. Paul joined the Evangelical Theological Society in 2002.

Left to mourn Paul’s passing are his wife, Karen, and son Devin of Moorpark, CA; brother Carl Long with his wife, Lark, and their children, Mallory and Cooper, of Wellford, SC; sister Gail with her husband, Chuck Nicholas, and their children Christopher and Benjamin, of Greenville, SC; sister Jane and her husband, Steve Hewitt, and their children, Lori and Travis, of Wyoming, DE; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Gene and Erling Severson of Mira Loma, CA; and brother-in-law Karl Severson of Rowland Heights, CA.

VICTOR MONROE MATTHEWS

Victor Monroe Matthews was the youngest of four children, and the only son, born to Victor Monroe Matthews and his wife Ethel (Taylor). Victor was born on February 6, 1921 in Montesano, WA, 25 miles west of Olympia. Victor’s father was a carpenter, raised a few cattle, and moved the family to Satsop, WA, on a ten-acre plot.

Victor was saved in a children’s tent meeting around age seven. He met his future wife, Bonnie Lee Reeme, while in Elma High School. While on a date they went to a special meeting at church, and Victor was called to preach that night at age 18. The couple married September 9, 1941 in their non-denominational church in Elma, WA. Victor graduated from Simpson Bible Institute (3 year program), in Seattle, WA, in 1942, then pastored Immanuel Chapel in Seattle for seven years before moving to Grand Rapids, MI. Victor received his A.B. degree from Calvin College in Grand Rapids, and also his B.D. from Grand Rapids Baptist Theological Seminary, both in 1953. His Th.M. degree from Calvin Seminary was completed in 1957, followed by his Th.D. from Lutheran Theological Seminary in 1961. That year he had a sabbatical from teaching and traveled by train to the Lutheran seminary in Maywood, IL, every Sunday evening, returning to Grand Rapids on Friday until his doctorate was finished.

Victor spent his entire teaching career at Grand Rapids Baptist Theological Seminary, beginning in 1949, and going fulltime from 1954 to 1989. He joined the Evangelical Theological Society in 1955 and was a member for 53 years. Some of his published works include: Neo-Evangelicalism: An Evaluation through Its Literature (Regular Baptist Press), Confessions to a Counselor (Zondervan, 1969), Personal Success: The Promise of God (Diadem, 1970), and Plant My Feet on Higher Ground (EBC, 1970). Victor and Bonnie spent three weeks in Israel, and Victor taught a course in Liberia, West
JOHN KENNETH MICKELS

John Kenneth Mickelsen was the eldest of three children born to G. Howard and Maud (Donnelly) Mickelsen. Born in Ellicottville, NY, on January 27, 1925, John grew up and attended school in the Buffalo and North Tonawanda, NY area. John’s father was a Presbyterian minister. During World War II, John served in the U.S. Navy from July, 1943 through May, 1946, but was able to achieve his B.S.E.E. degree in electrical engineering from Union College in Schenectady, NY, in 1946. Upon leaving the Navy, John was married to Ruth Esther Ogden in her hometown of Schenectady, NY, on June 7, 1946. John became a believer in Christ through Billy Graham’s Los Angeles, CA crusade. He then attended Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA, from 1949–52, but received his B.D. degree from Knox College in Toronto, ON, Canada. His was a four-year B.D. When John joined the Evangelical Theological Society in 1954 as the 280th member, he was a Presbyterian Clergyman with the Presbyterian Church in Canada, pastoring in Carragana, SK, the same church his father had pastored from 1917–21. Then John pastored the Presbyterian Church in Melfort, SK, before taking the Presbyterian Church in Canoga, NY, from about 1958–60. Later he filled a pulpit in Fair Haven, NY, for over two years.

From 1960–68 John worked in the defense industry as an electrical engineer for General Electric at Liverpool, NY. During that time, John’s wife, Ruth suffered severe depression, and later Parkinson’s disease. John was always a faithful caregiver. In 1985 the family moved to E. Syracuse, NY, and then John retired in 1986. He was very involved in Trinity Fellowship Church. Ruth, John’s wife of 58 years, preceded him in death in 2004. John moved to assisted care living in Canandaigua, NY, in 2007, and passed into glory from there on January 10, 2008. John is buried in the Oakwood Cemetery in Syracuse, NY. He lived 82 years, 11 months, and 14 days.

John was an avid reader with 8,000–10,000 books in his personal library. He loved reading C. S. Lewis, the Narnia Series, and about Intelligent Design and Creation. He donated 2,125 books to Davis College in Johnson City, NY. He also enjoyed computers and programming. John was a member of ETIS for 54 years and loved the meetings and the journal.

Left to remember John are his son Timothy with his wife, Dorothy, of Farmington, NY; son Mark with his wife, Joyce, and their children Chad and Joseph of New Port Ritchie, FL; son David with his wife, Angelique, of Syracuse, NY; sisters Alice van Greethysen and Valerie Mickelsen; granddaughter Joy Rebeca with her husband, Simit Oliver, and their children Bethany, Nathaniel, and Michael of Brooklyn, NY; grandson Jonathan Adam Mickelsen of Canandaigua, NY; nephew John Greethysen with his wife, Ruth Esther, and their children Bryan and Heather of Rochester, NY; brother-in-law Keith Ogden with his wife, Barbara, of Woodstock, NY; sister-in-law Carolyn (Ogden) Maxwell with her husband, Arthur, of Florida.

JOHN HOWARD ORME

John Howard Orme was born on October 7, 1937 in Pittsburgh, PA, to Glenn Howard and Dorothy (Smith) Orme. He was reared in Pittsburgh then saved after high school at a Percy Crawford camp meeting at Pinebrook, PA. He had never heard the gospel before that time. He spent a brief time in the U.S. Air Force reserves, attaining flying status, but was headed for ministry. John attended Philadelphia College of Bible, and there fell in love with Janet Truax of Wilmington, DE, in early 1958. They were married on August 6, 1960 in Wilmington. John received his B.S. from PCB in 1961, followed by his Th.M. and Th.D. degrees from Dallas Theological Seminary in 1965 and 1975 respectively. John was a member of the Evangelical Theological Society for 35 years, from 1973–2008.

John and Janet served in Costa Rica and Guatemala with the Central America Mission, now CAM International, from 1965–79. John was a professor of theology at the Central American Theological Seminary in Guatemala City, plus did personal evangelism, home Bible studies, and short term Bible institute ministries with rural pastors. Returning to the United States in 1979, John became Professor and Department Chair of Cross Cultural Studies at William Tyndale College in Farmington Hills, MI (1979–84), and part time pastor to singles at Highland Park Baptist Church of Detroit, MI (1979–84), then full time associate pastor at Highland Park (1984–90).

In 1990, John became Executive Director of the Interdenominational Foreign Mission Association (IFMA), a position he held for sixteen years. He travelled extensively to forty-five countries, including over seven visits to many of these lands. John enjoyed running and exercising, gardening, music, and trying ethnic foods. He loved to entertain with Janet in their home, and always had a dog. He and Janet were active at Grace Bible Church.

John died on February 24, 2008 at Central Du Page Hospital in Winfield, IL, following an extensive triple by-pass and heart valve replacement surgery. John’s funeral was at the College Church, Wheaton, with burial at Wheaton Cemetery. John lived 70 years, 4 months, and 17 days. Left to mourn his passing are his wife, Janet, of Wheaton, IL; daughter Lisa Anne and her husband, Ron Froeschke, with their children Ahigail, Rachel, Ethan, and Hannah of New York; daughter Laura Lynn and her husband, Ron Froeschke, with their children Adam, Nathan, and Emma of Carpentersville, IL.
JOURNAL OF THE EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

JOHN WILLIAM ROBBINS

John William Robbins was born on October 21, 1948 to Seamon L. and Edith Mary (Smith) Robbins in Honesdale, PA. He grew up on a farm, graduated from Honesdale High School, and then received his A.B. degree in 1969 from Grove City College in Grove City, PA. This was followed by an M.A. (1970), and a Ph.D. (1973), from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD. John’s field of study was political philosophy. He joined the Evangelical Theological Society in 1981.

John was married to Linda Kaye Stephens in about 1972. They had three daughters, Juley, Laura, and Merci. John was a research assistant to Congressman Earl Landgrebe (1973–75), an economist at The Heritage Foundation (1975–76), an editor for Western Islands Publishing Company, National Director for TRIM, legislative assistant, then chief of staff to Congressman Ron Paul (1976–77, 79–85), an economist for the Committee for Monetary Education (1985–89), an economist for the Institute for Policy Innovation (1990–91), editor of The Freeman (1992–94), then Professor of Political Philosophy at College of the Southwest (1994–96), and President of The Trinity Foundation (1977–2008). John lived in Jefferson, MD, for a number of years before moving to Hobbs, NM. Since 1998, John lived in Unicoi, TN. John died at home in Unicoi on August 14, 2008 after a battle with cancer. He lived 59 years, 9 months, and 24 days. John was a member of the Reformation Church in Unicoi.

Left to mourn are his wife Linda with their daughter Merci of Unicoi; daughter Juley Lynn and her husband, Jason John Grady, with their children Zachary, Conner, Anna, and Chase who live near Atlanta, GA; daughter Laura Kaye with her husband, Thomas William Juodaitis, with their children Grace and Luke of Unicoi; sister Judith Ann (Robbins) and her husband, Roderick Perkins, of New York; brother James Otis Robbins of Wisconsin; brother Paul Lavern Robbins of Tennessee; niece Marla with her husband, Stewart Bevin, of New Hampshire; and nephews Jonathans Stephens, Jeffrey Robbins, and Stephen Robbins.

COLLINS DAVID WEEBER

Collins David Weeber was born on September 21, 1929 in Grand Rapids, MI, to George and Theresa Weeber. Collins’s father was a Dutch Reformed pastor. Collins received his B.A. in 1953 from Hope College in Holland, MI. He then enrolled at Western Theological Seminary, also in Holland, MI, and one year later was married to Shirley Kimball at the First Reformed Church of Holland, MI, on August 31, 1954. Collins and Shirley met in Sunday School. Shirley became a Registered Nurse. Collins received his B.D. degree (now the M.Div.), at Western in 1956.

Collins served pastorates in four states beginning at Eastmont Reformed Church in Grand Rapids, MI, for seven years, then six more years at Palm Springs Community Reformed Church in Palm Springs, FL. It was in Palm Springs that Collins learned sailing. Moving to California, Collins pastored New Hope Reformed Church in Canoga Park for ten years. While on the West Coast, Collins earned his Ph.D. in 1976 at California Graduate School of Theology in Glendale, CA.

His next assignment was in Fort Lauderdale, FL, as Executive Pastor at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church (PCA), under Dr. D. James Kennedy, for nine years. Collins also was senior pastor of Old Cutler Presbyterian Church in Miami, FL, for five years. That was when his 35-foot Catalina boat was destroyed by Hurricane Andrew (1992). He replaced it with a 30-foot Catalina. Collins was also an interim pastor at Trinity Church, Windward, Kailua, HI, for six months. Collins loved sailing and electronics. He travelled through Switzerland, Hawaii, the Bahamas, and the Panama Canal.

Collins was more recently Dean of Students at Knox Theological Seminary in Fort Lauderdale, FL, then for the past five years Director of the Doctor of Ministry program at Knox.

Collins had been a member of the Evangelical Theological Society since 1999. Collins died after a battle with cancer on February 16, 2008, in Fort Lauderdale, FL. Collins lived 78 years, 4 months, and 26 days. Collins’s memorial service was at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church.

Left to mourn his passing are his wife, Shirley, and daughter Nancy Weeber-Markle of Fort Lauderdale; and grandchildren David (in the Coast Guard), Katie, and Collins Thomas, all of Melbourne, FL; sister Lillian with her husband, Jim Warner, of Palm Coast, FL; sister Barbara of Grand Rapids, MI; and other relatives.

JAMES A. BORLAND
SECRETARY-TREASURER, ETS