



Rev. Wallace Carrington Swilley Jr.

August 17, 2019

Wallace Swilley entered this world in a little community south of Valdosta Georgia called Swilley Hill on March 17, 1931. He was the first child of Reverend Wallace Swilley Sr. and Katie Swilley. They raised their son according to the Word of God, so Wallace was always in church. He started working at 10 years old delivering ice and during World War II at 12 he was a foreman at Sears and Roebuck in Savannah Georgia. He grew up being the youth pastor of his Dad's church as well as the worship leader. As a matter of fact, he did anything else his parents needed him to do including building cement blocks to sell in the front of his church. He graduated from Jessup High in 1949. It was there he won first place in the state for the school play he was in.

In September of 1949, he married Helen Ernestine Paulk in Greenville, South Carolina. It was there he started attending Furman university in the morning, working in a factory in the afternoon, and renovating a small church they grew to 200 members late into the night. Weekends Wallace and Ernestine would travel around South Carolina evangelizing by Greyhound bus. Then in 1950, they began to pastor in Conestee, South Carolina. There they took on a small church and built it into a thriving work. In 1951, they moved to Lenoir North Carolina where they ministered in a great church as associate pastors. Also in 1951, they moved to Rocky Mount North Carolina and built a powerful new church. In 1952 they move to Athens, Tennessee to take on a church and once again built it into a successful work.

It was there they got the call from the Church of God denomination to become the State Sunday School and Youth Director to some of the greatest churches in America. But in 1966, Wallace and Ernestine Swilley truly found their calling; they started New Life For The Family Ministries. This move of God lasted for 50 years as it reached around the world restoring marriages and families in an unprecedented way. It was during this time the Swilley family ministered around the world through music, spreading the word through television and radio. This outreach touched the Armed Forces Service Centers worldwide.

Wallace and Ernestine retired in 2006 but continued to mentor ministers around the world.

In 2013, they received the prestigious “Couple of the year Award” from the Church of God denomination. Wallace was a pioneer. He had a reputation as a peacemaker, a phenomenal communicator, and a model of what a husband and father should be. Wallace Carrington Swilley Jr. will greatly be missed but we know he’s in a far better place praying for us. Wallace Swilley’s legacy will live on forever in what was most precious to him — his wife, his family, and his faith.

Funeral services will be held on Sunday, August 25th, 3:00 PM at Davis-Struempf Chapel with Bishop Wallace Duane Swilley officiating. Interment will occur on Monday, 3:00 PM, at Paulk Tomberlin Family Cemetery in Baxley, GA. The family will receive friends on Saturday from 5:00 to 8:00 PM at Davis-Struempf Funeral Home.

Events

AUG **Visitation** 05:00PM - 08:00PM

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Davis-Struempf Funeral Home

1975 East-West Connector, Austell, GA, US, 30106

AUG **Funeral Services** 03:00PM

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Davis-Struempf Chapel

1975 East-West Conn, Austell, GA, US, 30106

AUG **Graveside Service** 03:00PM

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Paulk Tomberlin Family Cemetery

Baxley, GA, US

Comments



“ Love and Prayers to The Swilley family.
Judy Peck Nelson (Sharon, Judy & Linda Peck)

JUDY - August 25, 2019 at 09:29 PM



“ Missing and loving my brother-in-law Wallace. What a wonderful man & prayer warrior.
Praying for Ernestine, Duane & Mark!

Jodi swilley - September 16, 2019 at 09:19 PM



“ Bishop Jim Earl Swilley and Ken Marshall purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for
the family of Rev. Wallace Carrington Swilley Jr..



Bishop Jim Earl Swilley and Ken Marshall - August 24, 2019 at 01:04 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Rev. Wallace Carrington Swilley Jr..



August 22, 2019 at 07:56 PM



“ Dan, Janet, Nathan, Noah, Watson and family purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Rev. Wallace Carrington Swilley Jr..



Dan, Janet, Nathan, Noah, Watson and family - August 22, 2019 at 02:18 PM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. Wallace Carrington Swilley Jr..



August 21, 2019 at 07:18 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rev. Wallace Carrington Swilley Jr..



August 21, 2019 at 06:58 PM



“ Wallace Swilley, what a wonderful man! What a wonderful family. The LeFevres always loved the Swilleys.
Meurice LeFevre

Meurice LeFevre - August 19, 2019 at 06:29 PM



“ Lots of memories from services and revivals they conducted where I pastored. Condolences to the family.

Paul Jones - August 19, 2019 at 03:26 PM



“ Wallace and Ernestine blessed me and thousands with their inspiring singing and preaching. They were at the 99th percentile in their total message. He is certainly in Heaven's Hall of Fame; we shared together at the COG banquet for retired ministers just a few years ago; will always treasure our friendship

terrell and eveline mcbrayer - August 19, 2019 at 10:55 AM



“ John and I loved this precious couple and their ministry!

sandy Payton - August 19, 2019 at 02:01 PM



“ Jo Lahmon lit a candle in memory of Rev. Wallace Carrington Swilley Jr.



Jo Lahmon - August 19, 2019 at 10:00 AM



“ Elizabeth lit a candle in memory of Rev. Wallace Carrington Swilley Jr.



Elizabeth - August 19, 2019 at 01:25 AM



“ Cynthia Dobbins lit a candle in memory of Rev. Wallace Carrington Swilley Jr.



Cynthia Dobbins - August 18, 2019 at 03:43 PM



“ Ricky, Cissy and Keke Fox purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Rev. Wallace Carrington Swilley Jr..



Richard Fox - August 18, 2019 at 07:29 AM



“ My memories of Rev. Wallace & Ernestine Swilley go way back to their wonderful visits and ministry at our church (Gospel Harvester Tabernacle) on Euclid Ave. They always sang first as a family with both sons; then Duane and Mark both did a trumpet duet or Duane would do a trumpet solo, while Mark played the drums. What talent and anointing! Pastor Wallace was a great anointed preacher whose focus was keeping families and marriages together. Sister Ernestine was a talented and anointed pianist.

I was privileged to get to know this family, personally over the years and loved them dearly. They were fun to know as family; in addition to their spiritual side. Sister Ernestine could make you laugh a lot, while still getting her spiritual points across!

My love and condolences to the Swilley family right now. I'm so sorry for their loss. I will continue to pray for every member of the family. Pastor Wallace will be greatly missed, however we have peace in knowing where he rests now: In Jesus' arms! What a great place to be! "He fought a good fight, he finished his course, He has kept the faith. Henceforth, there is laid up for him a crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give him at that day; ... to all that love His (Jesus') appearing. " (2Tim 4:7-8)

Phyllis S. Crotts - August 17, 2019 at 11:35 PM