



Pastor Ken W. Parsons

January 26, 1942 - September 14, 2014

Pastor Kenneth W. (Ken) Parsons, 72, of Bluffton, died Sunday, September 14, 2014 at Ossian Health and Rehabilitation. He was born January 26, 1942 in Ypsilanti, Michigan to Marshall B. and Virginia (Green) Parsons. His mother survives.

He married Irene (Burch) Parsons on August 19, 1961. She survives.

Ken was a graduate of Lincoln Consolidated High School in Ypsilanti, Michigan. He graduated cum laude from Malone University in Canton, Ohio. He also attended Spring Arbor University in Spring Arbor, Michigan.

Ken was a pastor for 39 years, pastoring churches in Ohio and Virginia under the Evangelical Friends Church, Eastern Region, and in Ohio and Indiana under Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends, and in Urbana, Indiana under the United Methodist Church.

Ken retired in 2004 and he and his wife, Irene, moved to Bluffton. They attended the First Church of the Nazarene where Ken was involved in the choir, the Men's Breakfast Prayer Group, Children's Prayer Partners, and in various other ways. In recent years, he and his wife have attended the First Church of Christ.

Ken always loved music and played the violin and sang in quartets, choirs, as a soloist, and in duets with his wife. He was a dedicated pastor and served faithfully in that role. In his spare time, Ken also enjoyed fishing, golfing, gardening, watching sports, and reading.

Other survivors include two sons, Tim Parsons of Muncie, Keith (Carrie)

Parsons of Nashville, Tennessee, and two daughters, Carol (Duane) Miller of Fort Wayne, and Connie Parsons of Bluffton. Also surviving are four grandchildren, Nick Hunter, Katie Parsons, Hadley Miller, and Tad Miller, four great-grandsons, and one step great-granddaughter, one brother, Douglas Parsons, and two sisters, Dr. Wanda Reygaert and Diane Bugg.

He was preceded in death by his father, a brother, Marshall Parsons Jr., a sister, Jinnie Parsons, and a son-in-law, Pete Hunter.

A celebration of his life will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, September 19, 2014 at the First Church of Christ, with Rev. Larry Sheets and Pastor Larry Sprinkle officiating. Visitation will be from 2 to 5 and from 6 to 8 on Thursday at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home. Burial will be at the Elm Grove Cemetery in Bluffton.

Memorial contributions may be made to Gideon's International or Evangelical Friends Missions. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the Parsons family at www.thomarich.com.

Cemetery Details

Elm Grove Cemetery

3500 East State Road 124
Bluffton, IN

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 18. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Visitation

SEP 18. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Service

SEP 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Church of Christ
909 W Spring St
Bluffton, IN

Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Pastor Ken W. Parsons*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - September 18, 2014 at 05:42 PM



“ *Pastor Ken W. Parsons*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Irene and family, I am so saddened to hear of the passing of Ken. You are in my thoughts and prayers. The Burch and Ehinger families have been intertwined for many years so the loss of Ken is like the loss of a family member. God will grant you the peace of His presence as you face the future. I love you. - Judy Ehinger*

Judy A. Ehinger - September 18, 2014 at 01:29 PM

RH

“ *First met Ken in Deerfield, Ohio, in 1979, and followed him as pastor there. My first Sunday I greeted an elderly woman at the door after the service. She promptly informed me, "You'll never be a Ken Parsons!"*

Ken has always been a model of Kindness, gentleness and quiet faithfulness. His absence makes me long all the more for heaven and reunion with such friends I've been privileged to know.

Praying for you, Irene.

*Randy Heckert
Malone University
Canton, Ohio*

Randy Heckert - September 17, 2014 at 03:49 PM

KW

“ *I worked alongside Ken for 6 years in Upland. Great man of God. Gave us unlimited support of what we tried to do in ministry for the youth and young adults at the Friends Church. Sorry to lose him but satisfied that he has received his heavenly reward. Kenny, enjoy your place in the choir! See ya there someday.*

Kevin Whitmore - September 16, 2014 at 09:19 PM

TO

“ Irene~

Eric, the girls, and I have such wonderful memories of the times we spent with you and Ken while he was Pastor and I was Youth Leader at The Urbana Yoke Parish. From our yearly bowling contests, to our haunted woods and games, to the wonderful Christmas parties you had in the parsonage for us. All great times!! Ken was a quiet spoken, Godly man, with a great laugh and smile!! You and your entire family have our deepest sympathies at this time.

*Prayers and Cares~
Eric and Tami Overman
Abi and Megan*

Tami Overman - September 16, 2014 at 04:38 PM

JW

“ Irene,

*Pastor Ken was such a kind, gentle man and always willing to come when called and just listen to problems. Never claimed to have all the answers, but he knew where the answers could be found. He loved the Lord and would quietly explain the Lord's grace. Keeping you in our prayers.
Jerry and Janet Warnock*

Janet Warnock - September 16, 2014 at 08:38 AM



EB

“ My memories are of our college days together at Malone University. Irene and I were roommates. When she and Ken were married I was so honored when she asked me to be her maid-of-honor. Now our annual Christmas greeting is the way we stay in contact. I am so sorry that Ken's life was only the Biblical three score and ten plus two , but what a kind and gentle man he was. My sympathy is with his family. Sincerely, Ellen Beal

Ellen Beal - September 15, 2014 at 08:02 PM



“ Nick and family, I am deeply saddened to hear of your loss and want to let you that I am here and I am grieving with you. Just know their is no more pain, but our Father is rejoicing that an angle has joined him in our final home. If you need anything please don't hesitate to contact me. I love you all. Robert Rains and family.

Robert Rains - September 15, 2014 at 05:13 PM