



Rev. Paul A. Dennis

September 18, 1935 - January 28, 2021

Rev. Paul A. Dennis, 85, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, passed from this life on Thursday, January 28, 2021. He was born September 18, 1935 in Pike Township, Perry County, Ohio to Mary Elizabeth (Whitehead) and Dorsey Virgil Dennis.

Rev. Dennis graduated from McLuney High School in 1954. He was inducted into the McLuney Hall of Fame for Outstanding Achievements in 2012.

After High School, he enlisted into the United States Air Force, proudly serving his country from 1954-1958.

Paul met and married Shirley Mellinger in 1960. To this union was born one daughter, Paula.

Rev. Dennis was an ordained minister of The United Pentecostal Church, International, and served in numerous capacities over the course of his life. His first pastorate was Antioch Apostolic Church, Toledo, Ohio from 1973-1976.

In 1976, he and his wife received their Foreign Missionary Appointment to the country of Japan. They attended language school as a family and ministered throughout the country, living in Kyoto and Sapporo.

In 1979, The Dennis family made a transition from mainland Japan to the island of Okinawa where the First United Pentecostal Church was established for the American Military personnel stationed there.

Over the course of 31 years involved in Missions, Rev. Dennis served as Asia Military District Coordinator and Asia Regional Director. The Dennis's travelled extensively across the continent of Asia ministering and making friends.

Rev. Dennis retired in 2007, but stayed active in various ministry opportunities across the

United States, serving on the Life Tabernacle Board of Directors and Ministry Staff, Tulsa, OK. He also authored two books, Order My Steps and A Promise and A Plan.

During retirement he enjoyed being with family, was always faithful to the House of God, kept in contact with many friends and colleagues, enjoyed garage sales and reveled in supplying his great-granddaughters with an endless supply of jelly beans.

He is survived by his wife, Shirley of Tulsa, OK. Daughter, Paula Townsley and her husband, Rev. Keith Townsley of Jenks, OK. Grandson, John-Paul Barak Townsley and his wife, Robyne, of Heidelberg, Germany. Great-granddaughters, Olivia Townsley & Mikah Townsley. Sister, Jean Hill, of Raleigh, NC. Sister, Audrey Iles and her husband, Tim Iles, of Reynoldsburg, Ohio. Many nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family members.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Rev. Donald L. Dennis.

Paul was eagerly awaiting the arrival of a third great-grandchild – a boy, who will be his namesake: Josiah Paul Townsley.

Due to gravity of the circumstances and the result the pandemic has brought into our lives, current conditions have necessitated measures prohibiting a customary farewell. Funeral services will be held in Floral Haven's Rose Chapel with limited seating at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 with interment immediately following. For those that wish to watch the service via a live-stream feed, instructions are posted at the bottom of this obituary.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that a donation be considered to The Paul Dennis Memorial Fund – benefiting UPCI Global Missions – Asia Region. There are two donation options: Mail-in: UPCI, 36 Research Park CT., Weldon Spring, MO 63304 - Reference: Asia Region -2000.2501. Digitally: Text GlobalMissions to 414-44 and follow the prompts thereafter.

LIVE STREAM FEED INFORMATION:

***Services will be live streamed starting at 10:55 AM on 2/3/2021. To view the service live, please click on the following link: <http://webcast.funeralvue.com/events/viewer/46876>

***Masks are required if you plan to attend the service in person.

Cemetery

Floral Haven Memorial Gardens

6500 S 129th E Ave
Broken Arrow, OK, 74012

Events

FEB 3 **Funeral Service** 11:00AM

Floral Haven Rose Chapel
6500 S. 129th E. Ave., Broken Arrow, OK, US,
74012

Comments



“ A great and valiant soldier has now retired. So many thoughts, so many memories, so many things to be said as we think about this greatly loved man of God. Our hearts and prayers reach to you Sister Dennis. Our condolences to all the family. Love Bob & Mitchie.

Bob Glisson - March 03 at 11:00 AM



“ We are forever grateful for the time my family and I first met Paul A. Dennis and family. Many great memories. Our condolences to all his family and children. May God grant you strength through it all.

Richard Herrera - February 04 at 12:10 AM



“ Many thoughts and prayers headed to you all in the days to come. I can only imagine the pain you are feeling. There was so much comfort in that hug from Uncle Paul. I'll always cherish the wisdom he shared and his cuteness with his jokes. Hugs to you all. Heidi

Heidi Harper - February 03 at 04:44 PM



“ My deepest condolences to Sis Dennis and their family. Pastor and sister Dennis became mom and dad as we were brand new babies in the Lord, while we were stationed in Okinawa, their Love and support for us established our Faith in God and what the Church is supposed to be. Bro. Dennis was fun, fatherly, anointed...the list can go on and on. He would always ask if we had enough money, and even when I would say yes, he would slip a bill in my hand... I hope he knew how much he meant to me and Alfredo, our time in Okinawa continues to be Magical and very special because of our Missionary Heroes ...we love you Bro Dennis! Till we meet again.

Reina Lopez - February 03 at 02:36 PM



“ My life has been enriched in knowing Paul & Shirley Dennis as fellow missionaries with the UPCI. Their dedicated ministry in 19 countries over a span of 31 years will indeed continue to produce a harvest of souls. Paul will indeed be missed in future gatherings of the veteran missionaries. My prayers continue for his lovely wife.
Darline Royer

Darline Royer - February 03 at 01:11 PM



“ I'm so very sorry&sending my love to you all. Paul and Shirley both have always been very special to me,I love y'all very much.

LaDawn Stabler - February 03 at 11:32 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rev. Paul A. Dennis.



February 03 at 08:25 AM



“ Sapporo Pentecostal Church Pastor yamaki purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Rev. Paul A. Dennis.



Sapporo Pentecostal Church Pastor yamaki - February 02 at 09:29 AM



“ Brother Jack and Michiko Coolbaugh, Thailand purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Rev. Paul A. Dennis.



Brother Jack and Michiko Coolbaugh, Thailand - February 02 at 09:18 AM



“ Sister Michiko Coolbaugh and I were blessed to be Thailand missionaries during the period Brother Dennis was responsible for missionary activities in Asia. As Sister Coolbaugh is Japanese she was especially blessed because of the ministry the Dennis' had in Japan and their many experiences we learned about were helpful to us in our own ministry. We were saddened when they retired from Missions because we would not easily see our friends again, and our hearts go out for Sister Dennis and all of Brother Dennis' family members during this time of parting in this life. But we are comforted in that we have promise of meeting again if we stay faithful to the Lord. Our prayer is that the Comforter, the Lord of Peace, be especially close to each of you at this time.

Brother Jack and Sister Michiko Coolbaugh, Thailand

Jack Coolbaugh - February 02 at 09:04 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rev. Paul A. Dennis.



February 02 at 08:49 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. Paul A. Dennis.



February 01 at 11:33 PM



“ James & Beth Whitehead: Paul Dennis was our dear cousin and friend. We were perhaps closer and communicated more the last few years than any previous time. I refuse to speak of him totally in the past tense since he is more alive now than ever before. We love this family dearly and will always admire his strong, consistent, devoted wife. More than once they have ministered to us in time of crisis with words straight from the Lord. How much we enjoyed the good and fun times when they stayed in our home. We are already missing those visits and texts and phone calls. Paul lived fully everyday of his life and will surely hear his Savior Say , "Well Done".

James H. Whitehead - February 01 at 05:45 PM



“ From Izaya and Namie Fujibayashi from Japan purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Rev. Paul A. Dennis.



From Izaya and Namie Fujibayashi from Japan - January 31 at 09:28 PM



“ Uncle Paul....with deep sadness I leave you this message....you were like a father to me after dad passed you stepped in.....I appreciate all the talks we had and all that you've done for me... one thing you always told me was remember you're a Dennis respect the name represent it well you came from a wonderful heritage... I will always do just that...thank you for all the souls you have ministered too and the many souls that were saved because of your calling and vision of going on the mission field.... so sorry this virus has interrupted you being with us longer but I guess God knows best and he sees you've done his work.....you've been a true warrior....now just wait for those words well done though good and faithful servant... I love you very much...and will forever hold you in my memories and close to my heart...I won't say goodbye...I'll just say rest in peace until we meet again....much love...Dony Dennis

Dony Dennis - January 30 at 10:00 PM



“ I loved when Bro. Paul and Sis. Shirley would visit the First UPC started by his brother in Zanesville. Bro. Paul had a gift for teaching. He will be cherished in our memories forever.

Sandra Bagley - January 30 at 08:05 PM



“ Pastor Dennis was more than a Pastor. He was a father/grandfather to all of us who were so far from home. He guided us with such compassion and love through our spiritual journey while on Okinawa. If it weren't for him, my family may not be where they are today. I have a son who is a Pastor of a daughter work and it is because of the sacrifice of Pastor and Sister Dennis that he has such a love and desire to share the Gospel. I know there are many stories of the legacy that has been passed down through the Dennis' ministry. My heartfelt prayers for peace and comfort to Sis Dennis, Keith and Paula Townsley and Barak and his family.

I leave this memory because it is humorous and is such a example of Pastor Dennis' humor. My daughter was born while we were stationed in Okinawa. Having two sons, I desperately wanted a daughter. One day Pastor Dennis told me he had a name picked out for my baby - Paul. I asked what if it isn't a boy? He told me that he knew it was a boy. I moped for days after this conversation. Finally, after my daughter was born I shared with Sis Dennis that I had been upset because surely if my Pastor had said I was having another son it must be true. She told be that he would've been so upset to know how that conversation had affected me. It became a favorite story for me to share.

Pastor Dennis will be so greatly missed, but the lives he touched will continue to be a testimony of his sacrifices.

Kathi Krueger - January 30 at 07:04 PM



“ I remember working with Bro and Sis Dennis on their book Order My Steps. I sat with them for hours as he talked and she graciously served. His sense of humor and the stories he told still make me smile. What a man! What a lady! What a team! Knowing them enriched my life. How rich his family has been and continues to be because of the legacy he has left. Love and prayers. Barbara Westberg

Barbara Westberg - January 30 at 06:44 PM