



Rev. Dr. John Caleb Morris, III

December 6, 1935 - July 20, 2013

A Life Celebration for Reverend/ Dr. John Caleb Morris, III, age 77, of Tyler, Texas is scheduled for 3pm, Saturday, July 27th at Grace Community Church, Old Jacksonville Highway in Tyler, with Pastor Doug Clark and John Prestridge officiating.

Dr. Morris, a Tyler area minister of Jesus, ran his race well and was welcomed into the arms of his Lord and Savior Saturday, July 20th. He was born December 6, 1935 in Sweetwater, Texas to the late J.C. and Jeanette Morris. He was raised in Sweetwater and went on to receive his Masters of Theology from Asbury Theological Seminary, his Masters of Religious Education from Southwestern Theological Seminary, and his Doctorate of Ministry in Biblical Counseling from Luther Rice Theological Seminary.

Dad married Mary Helen Tanquary on May 31, 1959 in Mt. Carmel, Illinois. Mary Helen survives, as do four children, John Paul Morris, DVM and wife Debbie of Tyler, Texas, Candace Bourke and husband Patrick of Furlong, Pennsylvania, Suzanne Swift and husband John David of Sour Lake, Texas and Patricia Henderson and husband Eddie of Arlington, Texas. Gramps was dearly loved by his surviving grandchildren Amber Morris, Summer Morris Collins, Storey Morris, Cambri Morris, Savannah Bourke, Lauren Swift, Harrison Swift, Michelle Henderson Anders and Dan Henderson, as well as his brother, Stanley Morris and his wife Phyllis. He was preceded in death by both parents and his infant daughter, Ramona Rene Morris.

After completing seminary in Asbury, Kentucky, John moved to Fort Worth,

Texas in 1960 to serve as the pastor of Evangelical Methodist Church. He came to Tyler, Texas in 1964 where he served as the founding pastor of Grace Community Church. During his 23 years of service at Grace Community, he ministered as a pastor and an elder and was the first Headmaster and Principal of Grace Community School. John remained at Grace Community until his retirement in 1987 and then began Pastoral Counseling Ministries in Tyler, Texas.

John loved people and was well known for his welcoming handshake, his friendly smile and his thought provoking questions! He was a theologian and lover of God's Word and found great joy in diagraming Scripture in order to see deeper into the heart of our Heavenly Father. He also found joy in the Tuesday morning Men's Bible Study group that he hosted for the past 25 plus years. Dad was uniquely able to accept and love others where they were. He spoke truth from a heart of love, without judgment, and was able to "agree to disagree" when necessary! He loved gardening and landscaping and he deeply loved his family. He was a frequent attendee at art shows, swim meets, gymnastic events, dance recitals, pep rallies, piano recitals, and musical performances, as well as softball, football and soccer games. He was very proud of his grand kids!

The family will receive friends at Stewart Family Funeral Home Friday, July 26th from 5-7pm and would like to extend the deepest appreciation to Dr. Arielle Lee, Dr. Heidi McKellar, Ms. Clarine Cooper and the amazing staff at Hospice of East Texas.

If desired, memorials in honor of Dr. Morris may be made to Grace Community Church in Tyler, Texas or Hospice of East Texas Foundation.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **26.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Celebration of Life

JUL **27.** 3:00 PM (CT)

Grace Community Church
3215 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75701

Tribute Wall

SB

“ John Morris saved my life and my sanity. He gave me the jumpstart to the Christian life that I so desperately needed back in 1982-1983. He was a wonderful, kind, and caring Christian pastor and counselor. I will forever be grateful for him. I have just finished a book in which he inspired me to write and for which he carries as least three chapters. The name of the book is *The Promised Land: How Doing Your Homework In Your Wilderness Leads to Healthy Lasting Relationships*. The book will be dedicated to John. He will be greatly missed.

Susan Brock
Jacksonville, Texas

Susan Brock - January 08, 2014 at 09:28 AM

LS

“ Lisa Fox (Ben's sister) purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Rev. Dr. John Caleb Morris, III.



Lisa Fox (Ben's sister) - July 27, 2013 at 10:21 AM



“ A True Role Model, Great Mentor and more than just a friend, John was a Covenant Friend. Thank You Brother John for an everlasting influence you will leave on me! - See more at: <http://www.legacy.com/guestbooks/tylerpaper/guestbook.aspx?n=rev-dr-john-morris&pid=166024656&view=2&entry=74869368&referrer=1#sthash.CjXqZ31H.dpuf>

Jamie Oakman - July 25, 2013 at 09:46 PM

CB

*Hey Jamie,
I don't know if you will get this, but I was looking over some of the comments from the memorial. I appreciate what you wrote. How true it is. And what an inspirational man he was to us & to so many. I hope you guys are still carrying the torch with the Bible study group. I pray for you guys often. Dad loved you all so much. Thank you all for your love to him. May god Bless each of you & your families.*

Candace Morris Bourke - September 09, 2013 at 06:37 AM

TO

“ *The Oakmans purchased the Divine Light for the family of Rev. Dr. John Caleb Morris, III.*



The Oakmans - July 25, 2013 at 09:30 PM

LA

“ *Mary Helen and family,
My deepest sympathy during this time. My mother "went home" from Hospice Place on June 30 after a brief illness. I miss her greatly, but am assured that she is with our Father as is your dear one. My you be comforted and have peace.
God bless,
LaDonna Allen*

LaDonna Allen - July 25, 2013 at 01:12 PM

GV

“ I just heard that Gramps finally went home. I'm really glad that I knew him and I still have one of the diagrams that he gave me years ago! Anyone who met him knew that he loved the Lord and that he loved people, too! I'll always remember him for the the deep religious conversations we had, how open he was to me, and even how we could just sit and watch football on a Sunday afternoon while J.P. "napped" on the couch!

I'm so sorry for your family's loss. Even though I know you'll see him again, it can be tough. However, there is absolutely no question that Gramps fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith!

Greg Viken - July 24, 2013 at 07:04 PM

DB

“ John was one of the great influences in my life; my second earthly father. John Paul, Candace and Suzanne were my family in love. He is with his heavenly fath and whole again - Praise the Lord -
Darla Carter Berry

Darla Carter Berry - July 24, 2013 at 04:28 PM

CB

Darla,

Thank you for your kind words and for joining out family. We will always love you.

Candace Morris Bourke - September 09, 2013 at 06:45 AM

JT

“ I am so sorry for your loss, Dr. Morris and family. Much love and prayers to you all. Jill (Kerr) Toft

Jill (Kerr) Toft - July 24, 2013 at 09:38 AM

VE

“ *Jehovah God promises a wonderful future when all those in the memorial tombs will be resurrected to life on earth. John 5:28, 29; Psalms 83:18*

VE - July 22, 2013 at 09:46 PM

JA

WE are so sorry to hear of this great loss, but Praise Jesus, John is dancing with King Jesus, along with his mom & dad, my Grandparents, Iris and Julius Bruner; and my parents, Jay and Alice Bruner. There's a party going on!!! You will be in our continued prayers. We hope to see you on Saturday. With deepest sympathy ~ Julie Bruner Avary

Juie Bruner Avary - July 23, 2013 at 06:40 PM

CB

Amen Julie, oh yes! We'll be there soon enough to join in. Love you lady, & your whole family .

Candace Morris Bourke - September 09, 2013 at 06:48 AM