

MEMORIALS

JOHN HENNING BERGESON

John Henning Bergeson was born on May 10, 1919 in Ashland, WI to Henning John Bergeson and Lydia (Johnson) Bergeson, the oldest of three sons. He attended a one room school house through the eighth grade, and then went to live with relatives in Ashland because there was no local high school. John made an early childhood commitment to Christ, but at age fifteen at a Boys' Camp that commitment became real and also served as his call to the ministry.

John received his B.A. degree in 1943 from the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks, and his B.D. the following year from Bethel Theological Seminary in St. Paul, MN. John later was granted a Doctor of Divinity from Western Conservative Baptist Seminary in Portland, OR.

On June 10, 1944, John married Gladys Victoria Peterson in Elim Baptist Church of Chicago. They met at Bethel. Three sons and two daughters were born to this union. John served in the ministry for the Baptist General Conference for sixty years, from 1939–1999. He pastored in Gothenburg, NE for three years and at the Opstead Baptist Church in Opstead, MN for nine years. John started churches in the Denver, CO area and throughout Minnesota while living in St. Paul. He also did church planting in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Alaska, British Columbia, and Manitoba for thirty years as District Executive Minister. The Bergesons spent five years church planting in San Diego, CA and were connected with Bethel Seminary West.

John traveled extensively through Britain, Scandinavia, Austria, Germany, the Middle East, Japan, Taiwan, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Brazil. His final retirement was from being pastor to seniors at Edgewood Baptist Church in Seattle, WA at the age of 86. John and Lydia then settled into a retirement apartment in Roseville, MN in 2005.

John was a member of the Evangelical Theological Society for 19 years. John passed into the presence of Christ on January 19, 2009 from Roseville, MN at the age of 89 years, 8 months, and 9 days. He is buried in Ogema, WI.

Left to mourn his passing are his wife, Gladys of Roseville, MN; son John J. Bergeson and his wife Diane of Lino Lakes, MN with their daughter Heather and son Donald; daughter Jane Ellen with her husband Robert Erickson, retired in Arizona; daughter Ruth and her husband Vernon Lunzer of Arden Hills, MN; son Peter Lowell Bergeson and his wife Gail of Mauston, WI, with their daughters Emily, Kristin, and Lydia; son Daniel Roger Bergeson and his wife Sandi of Shoreline, WA; Grandsons Lance Erickson and Reese Erickson with his wife Jodeen, all of Montana; Grandson Keith Lunzer and his wife Kerstin of Roseville, MN, with their children Benjamin, Kelsey, and Julian David; Grandson Kevin Lunzer and his wife

Erin of St. Paul, MN, with their children Charles, Malorie, Sydney, and Chloe; Grandson Andrew Lunzer of St. Paul, MN; granddaughter Ashley and her husband Jake Davidson, missionaries in Germany; and great-grandchildren Amanda, Ethan, and Lisa Erickson.

HAROLD WALTER HOEHNER

Harold Walter Hoehner was born on January 12, 1935 in Sangerfield, NY, but was reared in Deansboro. His parents, Walter and Mary (Siegel) Hoehner, were Swiss dairy farmers and were not church people. Harold had two younger sisters, Trudy and Helen. Harold graduated from high school in Waterville, NY. He came to know Christ as his Savior on April 1, 1953, at the age of 18 when a traveling evangelist and an African-American trio came through the area.

Harold attended Barrington College in Barrington, RI where he met Virginia Bryan and dated her for the first time on her graduation day. Harold later received his B.A. from Barrington in 1958, and he and Gini were married on June 7, 1958 at the Cornerstone Church in Providence, RI. Several months later Harold began seminary at Dallas Theological Seminary in Dallas, TX. He received his Th.M. and his Th.D. degrees in Bible in 1962 and 1965. He then took a Ph.D. from Cambridge University in England in 1968, majoring in New Testament.

Harold taught at Dallas Theological Seminary for almost 42 years. He chaired the Department of New Testament Literature and Exegesis from 1977 to 2001, and was director of the Ph.D. program for 27 years. Harold was Distinguished Professor of New Testament. He wrote *Herod Antipas* (Cambridge University Press, 1972); *Chronological Aspects of the Life of Christ* (Zondervan, 1978); *Christian Faith and Historical Understanding* (Zondervan, 1984); *Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary* (Baker, 2002); and *Ephesians* in the Cornerstone Biblical Commentary (Tyndale, 2008). Harold also penned many excellent articles and book reviews, primarily in *Bibliotheca Sacra* and in *JETS*.

Harold traveled and spoke extensively in the United States when his children were very small and then again when they were older. His foreign travels took him to Great Britain, Switzerland, Germany, Hungary, Czech Republic, Russia, Ukraine, Turkey, Kazakhstan, Israel, Egypt, South Africa, Indonesia, Australia, and Canada. He served on the board of Jews for Jesus and was a member of the Society of Biblical Literature, the Institute for Biblical Research, and *Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas*. Harold was a member of the Evangelical Theological Society since July 9, 1969.

Harold will be remembered for loving his family, his students, and everyone else. He was outgoing, social, and a joker. He was very handy with tools and was a helper to anyone in need. He once built his own television. He was handy with cars, plumbing, and so much more. He was an advocate for the Apple MacIntosh. He promoted it, used it, and taught it. He was a researcher and even used those skills when buying. He loved to tell Aggie jokes.

Harold and Gini celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary together with their entire family for a week in upstate New York in the Hudson River Valley just seven months before Harold's death. Harold died at home in Dallas, TX after a morning run on February 12, 2009. A memorial service was held at the Scofield Memorial Church. Left to mourn his passing are his wife Gini of Dallas, TX; son Stephen Hoehner and his wife Stacy with children Audrey and Austin of Aliso Viejo, CA; daughter Susan and her husband Darin McFarland with their children Alexander, Christopher, Abbey, Nicholas, and David of Reading, MA; son David Hoehner and his wife Caren with their children Caleb, Joseph, Christina, and Sarah of Vienna, VA; daughter Deborah Hoehner of Moscow, Russia; sister Trudy and her husband Lee Goff of Colorado Springs, CO and their children Karen, Renee, and Philip; sister Helen Monisera of Sparrowbush, NY and her children Andrea and Eric, the latter of Houston, TX; and many relatives in Switzerland.

RONALD VARNELL MITCHELL

Ronald Varnell Mitchell was born on May 22, 1946 in St. Louis, MO, the son of R. P. and JoAn Mitchell. Ron was saved at the age of ten and surrendered to the gospel ministry about eight years later. His formal education included an A.A. degree from Central Baptist College in Conway, AR, and a B.S.E. (science and education) from the University of Central Arkansas at Conway, AR in 1973. This was followed by his M.Div. from Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis, TN in 1981, and then his Ph.D. in church history from the same institution in 1995. Ron became a member of the Evangelical Theological Society in 1996.

Ron married Donna "Micki" Greenway a year after his call to the ministry. They were married on June 19, 1965 in Coloma, MI. One daughter, Vicki, was born to this union. After a 26-year marriage, Micki passed away in 1991 with melanoma cancer. Micki asked her sister, Esther, to take care of Ron. Esther and her son Lance had been abandoned for 18 years and she was not interested in marriage. Nevertheless, Esther helped Ron in various ways, and after a while Ron began to date and court Esther. Ron and Esther were married on May 26, 1994, and enjoyed 15 years of marriage before Ron's passing.

Ron pastored churches for 20 years. These included Sulphur Springs Church at Quitman, AR; Letona Missionary Baptist Church at Letona, AR; Twentieth Street Baptist Church in Batesville, AR; Oak Grove Baptist Church in North Little Rock, AR; Central Baptist Church at Texarkana, AR; Parkwood Church in Pasadena, TX; Cedarwood in Memphis, TN, where he also served as a state missionary and founder of that church; and Needs Creek Baptist Church in Greenbrier, AR. Ron wrote a history of the Needs Creek Baptist Church, a biography of his parents, and a biography of Micki and Esther's mother.

After retiring from pastoring, Ron served another 20 years as professor of theology and church history at Central Baptist College in Conway, AR,

where he influenced many with his teaching and counseling. Ron was concerned about preserving the history of Central Baptist College and had begun to collect the archives of the school. In 2008, the school's archives were officially named the Dr. Ronald V. Mitchell Archives and are housed in the Old Main Spire.

Ron had been a member of the Evangelical Theological Society for 13 years. After a lengthy battle with cancer, Ron passed into glory on May 5, 2009 at the age of 62 years, 11 months, and 13 days. His funeral was held in the Burgess Auditorium in the Cooper Complex at Central Baptist College. He was buried in the Needs Creek Cemetery at the Needs Creek Baptist Church in Greenbrier, AR.

Left to mourn Ron's passing are his wife Esther Kershner-Mitchell of Conway, AR, whom he fondly called "Baby Doll"; daughter Vicki with her husband, Ron Lowery, and their four children, Emily, Jacob, Abigail, and Alaina, all of Batesville, AR; step-son Lance Kershner and his adopted daughter, Samantha, in Guatemala where Lance teaches in an international school; sister Arlyn and her husband, Eugene Gambill, of Greenbrier, AR; sister Karen and her husband, Tom Mitchell, of Little Rock, AR; brother Jurl Mitchell and his wife, Mary Ann, of Greenbrier, AR; and many nieces and nephews.

JOHANNES DIRK TANGELDER

Johannes Dirk Tangelder was born in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, on April 16, 1936 to Bernard and Aaltje Tangelder. He attended grade school and high school in the Netherlands, and then immigrated to Canada with his family at age 18. They settled in Holland Marsh, ON, and later moved to Oshawa. At a Baptist church in Oshawa, Johan, who had been reared in a Christian home, found a personal relationship with Christ and committed his soul to Christ's keeping.

When Johannes was 22, he was called to the ministry and began serving in the Christian Reformed Church. He received his B.Th. degree from Central Baptist Seminary in Toronto, Ontario in 1962, and then completed his work for the Dr. Th. at the Free University of Amsterdam in 1964. He also studied for three semesters at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, MI in preparation for ministry in the Christian Reformed Church.

Johannes met Helen Louise Feasby in 1964 while she was a nurse in Uxbridge, ON. They were married in the Uxbridge Baptist Church on May 29, 1965. To this union were born two sons and two daughters. From 1967 to 1970, Johannes served God at the Vernon Christian Reformed Church in Vernon, BC, where he was also ordained. The Riverside Christian Reformed Church of Wellandport, ON was his next charge from 1970 to 1977.

The Tangelders then served as missionaries to the Philippines for two years. Johannes served as administrator and professor at a Bible College. They had to leave the Philippines for health reasons. Back in Ontario, Johannes then pastored the East Christian Reformed Church of Strathroy

from 1979 until 1989. Johannes and Helen served the Christian Reformed Church of Williamsburg, ON for an additional three years until ill health forced Johannes to retire from active ministry in 1993. However, he continued his influence through his writings in church publications, including *Christian Renewal*, *Reformed Perspective*, *The Outlook*, and *The Christian Herald*, the latter a periodical in Sri Lanka. Johan performed these duties until May, 2009. His great love was to study the Word, to read widely in history, whether political, national or church history, and to work with the ideas and issues in these disciplines. Johan loved to travel. He returned many times to The Netherlands and visited Israel. Johan had been a member of the Evangelical Theological Society since 1981.

Johannes went to meet his Lord on July 23, 2009 due to congestive heart and renal failure at the London Ontario Hospital. His funeral was conducted at East Christian Reformed Church in Strathroy, and he is buried in the Strathroy Cemetery. He lived 73 years, 3 months, and 7 days.

Left to mourn his passing are his wife, Helen; daughter Alice Ann and her husband Tony Vandergeest; son Bernard Tangelder and his wife Sharon; son Johan Tangelder and his wife Carol; daughter Mary Tangelder; and three sisters, Connie, Enid, and Ann. His ten grandchildren include Christian, Brendan, Caleb, Rachel, Laura, Anna, Luke, Ethan, Cayla, and Julia.

JAMES A. BORLAND

SECRETARY-TREASURER, ETS, 1992–2009