



Rev. John David Long

September 8, 1941 - February 13, 2017

Rev. John David Long, 75, faithful servant of Jesus Christ, loving husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend, was called to his eternal home on Feb. 13, 2017 at a local hospital with his family by his side.

Rev. Long was born on September 8, 1941, the 7th of 9 children born to the late Albert Jason Long and the late Aver Robinson Long.

Visitation: 7 to 9 p.m. Friday at Faith Tabernacle, 1101 Audra Lane, Denton, TX, where funeral services will be conducted on Saturday at 12 Noon. Burial will follow at Roselawn Cemetery in Denton.

Survivors: wife of fifty-two years; Helen George Long; children, Kendal Long Fowler and her husband Scott, Jeffrey Long and his spouse Claudia, Angela Long Gregg and her spouse Brent; grandchildren; Jansen Long, Christian Long, Paige Fowler, Regan Fowler, Caleb Fowler, Boston Gregg, Brooklyn Gregg; sisters, Eloise Stanley, Ollie Mae Halliday and Jeanice Phillips.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by brothers, A.J., Robert, Ray, Olan and Thomas.

Rev. Long got saved when he was 16 years old. Shortly after at Gilberttown Campmeeting in his Alabama hometown, he was praying on the sawdust floor

in the old tabernacle and received the Holy Ghost. At that same moment, he sensed the Spirit of God hover over him and speak to him saying, "Son, will you preach my Word?" He replied out loud, "Yes, Lord! Yes, Lord, I will!" Within a few days, he felt the Lord impress on him to start praying two hours a day! During this time he worked in the Mosley Grocery Store cutting meat. After work, he would go to Toxey Church and pray those two hours daily. He did this faithfully for a couple of years until he received his first invitation to go preach for Pastor Earl Ritchey at Moss Point, Mississippi at age 18. From there, he was invited to preach in Oklahoma and the rest is history! He always said his first calling was to be an evangelist.

Bro. John David loved praying and continued praying at least an hour daily the remainder of his life. He was devoted to studying his Bible and preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Bro. Long was ordained through The Holy Church of God in Savannah, GA and he held legendary revivals like the one in Clara, MS, where he preached nightly for 5 weeks with so many accepting Christ and being filled with the Holy Ghost. It is told that 89 people were saved and 119 were filled with the Holy Ghost during that one revival. A few years later, he teamed up with his future brother-in-law, Joe George and they traveled together preaching revivals. They had up to 5 week, remarkable revivals in places where 50+ people were saved.

John David met his wife, Helen, a Texas girl, during this time. They quickly fell in love and he married her one week after he proposed! They got married on Sept. 25, 1965 at Faith Tabernacle in Denton, TX where Bro. Herbert Johnson pastored. Bro. Ben Shaw officiated their wedding. Their honeymoon was mostly spent traveling to and preaching a revival in Lexington, KY for Bro. Saul & Sue Baker. They continued evangelizing until they pioneered their first church, Trinity Pentecostal Church in Denton, TX on Bernard Street in 1971. Bro. Long also pastored and built Victory Tabernacle in Watauga, TX during the late 1990's. In between, they pastored churches in Texas, Alabama,

Kentucky, Mississippi and Oklahoma as they were raising their children. He was serving as pastor of Florence Holiness Church in Keller, TX when he was relocated to Heaven.

During semi-retirement years, Bro. Long traveled frequently to Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and Oklahoma to preach revivals. Bro. Long also served on two missionary boards and did missionary work primarily in Panama among the native Kuna and Choco Indians as well as in Mexico for about 25+ years. He loved ministry and people. He was a member of two missionary boards.

Sis. Gail Meyers Holiness Full Gospel Missions and Bro. Don Rich's River of Life Missions Board. He served with pleasure.

He excitedly completed the required correspondence college credits and exams to earn a Diploma in Bible Teachers and Ministers and a Bachelor of Bible Theology from International Bible Institute & Seminary in 1986.

In his later years, he mentored and pastored people even from his rocking chair. He loved his iPhone and put it to constant use to encourage others. Rev. Long was an encourager!

He always looked for the good in situations. Even while being in the hospital these last 55 days, he'd look at his family, smile big and say with delight in his voice, "Aren't we having a good time?" He truly had joy, peace and contentment while being surrounded by his wife and children. His life "declared the works of the Lord". He witnessed to others even during his last days in the hospital.

He is now dancing on streets of gold and worshipping his Savior, who he has

served faithfully these 58 years of ministry. He lived his life to hear these words: "Well done, though good and faithful servant."

Tribute Wall

DR

“ So sorry that I have just heard but I wanted to share that as a little girl in Savannah GA/Richmond Hill GA I really enjoyed bro David and sis Helens ministry and I remember that sawdust floor in Gilbert town Alabama my maiden name was Crapse. I am sure he is in great company but all the saints that have gone before he will see but the one that will be most important for him will be Jesus may God comfort you and we are sending our prayers

Dora Crapse Roe - February 18, 2017 at 08:02 PM

DS

“ Bro. John David Long was the founding pastor of Victory Tabernacle Holiness Church, Watauga, TX, in 1993. He worked faithfully, tirelessly, and selflessly in building this church; he was loved and appreciated for his prayerful guidance in establishing this church. He was a wonderful pastor and friend to all, and will be greatly missed.

VTHC Board and Church Family

Deryl Sapp - February 18, 2017 at 10:55 AM

TG

“ So very sorry for your loss. I know how much you all loved him. I am praying for peace and comfort for your family.

*Much love,
Terri Van Gorp*

Teri Gorp - February 17, 2017 at 07:47 PM

DS

“ *Dear Helen and Family,
We are so sorry to hear of the passing of John David. We are praying for you all during this difficult time. We are so thankful for John David's life. We had some good times together. We love y'all.*

Don and Barbara Long and Family

Don Long, Sr. - February 17, 2017 at 07:19 PM

RB

“ *Our hearts are saddened to lose such a good man and friend!!
We have many precious memories..which we will hold dear..forever!
Praying for Comfort and Strength during these coming days..weeks and months!!
We love the Long family!*

Rev & Mrs Terry Bowling

Rev & Mrs Terry Bowling - February 17, 2017 at 07:12 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Rev. John David Long.*



February 17, 2017 at 05:41 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Rev. John David Long.*



February 17, 2017 at 11:42 AM



“ *Robert Sheffield lit a candle in memory of Rev. John David Long*



Robert Sheffield - February 17, 2017 at 10:13 AM



*Sis. Helen and family,
Your are in our thoughts and prayers at this time. Bro. John David was truly a soldier of the cross. He will be sadly missed by many.
Rev. Robert Sheffield Family*

Rev. Robert Sheffield - February 17, 2017 at 10:15 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time. Bro John David truly had a heart for lost souls. The Hankins Family*

The Hankins Family - February 17, 2017 at 09:52 AM



“ *I have a love in my heart for this true man of God. I will always remember these words everytime he saw me. "Brother how are things going with you?" He truly cared about others and there concerns. I will truly miss him, but we are going to meet again.*

Emerson Gregg - February 17, 2017 at 04:24 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Rev. John David Long.*



February 16, 2017 at 04:09 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. John David Long.*



February 16, 2017 at 12:49 PM



“ *Sister Helen and Family;*

I was saddened by the news of Bro John David's passing. I have known him since he first began his ministry and preached at the Holy Church of God, 115 W 49th street, Savannah, Ga in the sixties. He was a true friend since we first met. I am sorry I cannot attend the services, but will remember you in our prayers. Sincerely Wayne Gunter

Wayne Gunter - February 16, 2017 at 12:32 PM

BJ

“ SO SORRY TO HEAR OF BRO. JOHN DAVID WE WERE CLASS MATES IN EARLY SCHOOL YEARS . HE WAS ALWAYS SO KIND AND SHOWED LOVE TO ALL WHO KNOW HIM . MAY GOD BLESS HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS



BETTY JOHNSON JACOBS - February 16, 2017 at 05:42 AM

LM

*Family and Loved ones of Bro. David:
Knowing him and his family has been a pleasure and blessing to us through the years. He will be greatly missed. Jerry and Laura McElroy all the Jubil-Heirs.*

Laura McElroy - February 18, 2017 at 01:27 AM

Joy
Owens

“ *I was so happy he was the mission board for Sis. Gayle Myers a good friend of my Missionary parents Revs. Leroy and Gladys Cossey. Bro. Long, you told me you took care. Of Sis. Myers even when sick and until death. You were FAITHFUL. CONGRATULATIONS! you have made it! GLORY! Tell my parents hello from Joy. See you and them shortly.*

Joy Owens - February 16, 2017 at 01:56 AM

WB

“ *I am sorry to hear this i got to meet him and wife when they came to house of prayer in gainesville his is a cousin of the late rg logan me and john bird are praying for the family bro long always encouraged me and john all the time he came*

Wendy bird - February 15, 2017 at 11:14 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. John David Long.* ”



February 15, 2017 at 08:18 PM

“ My heart is broken for the loss of such a great man of God-our world needs so many more likened unto bro John David Long and his beloved wife Helen. I met them as a new convert in Texas. I was undergoing spiritual sanctification within and without. I recall a great Holy Ghost revival at their church in Denton. I was on fire, just received the Holy Ghost, and Karen Utter told me about the meeting! I had to go! Wow talk about Holy Ghost Fire-and a move of God--I soaked it all up more than one night! They called me up to sing and I sang: I HAVE HOPE! Bro John David would say: wow I think Sis Linda got that Holy Ghost anointing singing that her sister in law Shirley Lester has! I did not know much about a double portion but I loved Shirley and listened to her songs a lot on the big records way back then as a new convert. I am not sure just how sanctified I looked but God knew and they knew I was a work in progress under God's gracious hand--I stayed faithful, worked where I was asked-loved the souls of men-and the spirit of these loving and forgiving, non judgmental pastors Bro John David Long and Sis Helen--left beautiful footprints upon my heart all these 45 yrs now or more-You don't forget a man of God like this-but if you inspired-You walk on with your head high with your eyes focused on the Master-you help every feeble sin sick soul along the journey-favoring no one over another-yet in honour preferring one another only--all of that led me into one ministry into another ministry- I have never been empty handed in ministry-as I age, though I have a rest home ministry, radio ministry, music ministry etc(after 30 yrs of founding and pastoring a great missionary church in Mo.) my heart still panteth after MORE OF MY LORD, and my heart desires to never miss a soul on the journey--with this all said, I praise my Lord for Rev John David Long and his loving wife Helen and family for always loving me, seeing God's best working in me, and challenging my young hungry soul for Christ in the best possible way a human can---WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS-AND LEAVING FOOTPRINTS UPON MY HEART~~~love n thanks for being such faithful servants of the Most High God! Prayers to his wonderful family in the days ahead-I have



been battling some severe upper respiratory infection or I sure would have tried to make the trip dear ones---See you in Glory Bro John David! No tears there!Sis Linda (Lester)Reedy/beacon of hope/wsyd/nc~~~~

Linda K Reedy/beacon of hope - February 15, 2017 at 07:28 PM

DT

“ I have known John David since I was 14. I met him at Allentown Fellowship-meeting and Daddy, Bob Utter, had him and Joe come for a revival at Wyandotte Tabernacle. My daddy truly loved him and they had a very special bond. I am sure they are having a great reunion. My love and prayers go out to this precious family. Love Diane

Dianna Thye - February 15, 2017 at 05:52 PM



Jetta Feathers

Whoever wrote that eulogy was the best!

Jetta Featherston - February 15, 2017 at 07:13 PM



“ Garden of Memories was purchased for the family of Rev. John David Long.



February 15, 2017 at 04:53 PM

JA

“ Bro. John David encouraged me as a young minister on many occasions, would always take the time to say hello and chat for awhile. Thank you Sir, and fare thee well, till we me meet again.

Jeff Autrey - February 15, 2017 at 04:01 PM

JB

“ Jansen Christian Paige Regan Caleb Boston Brooklyn purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Rev. John David Long.



Jansen Christian Paige Regan Caleb Boston Brooklyn -
February 15, 2017 at 03:12 PM

RS

“ Helen this doesn't seem real. Doesn't seem that long ago that you all would come to the house when I was very young and as always mother cooked her famous bean. It's been 46 years since John David married David and I and you sang at our wedding. Life has been good for David and I. John David and your Blessing has made our marriage strong. John David was a man of GOD, was always kind and loved everyone. John David will always be in our hearts.. It will be hard, God will give you strength to carry on.
Much love,
David and Melinda Newland Starnes

Robin Starnes - February 15, 2017 at 02:01 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rev. John David Long.



February 15, 2017 at 09:57 AM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Rev. John David Long.*



February 15, 2017 at 07:47 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss bro John David baptised me back in 1963 I will never forget him God bless you all Sheila lloyd*

Sheila lloyd - February 15, 2017 at 06:49 AM



So sorry to hear of the passing of our friend. Rev. John D. Long. He was a great friend. I remember when him an sis. Helen first married they held a revival at the House Of Prayer for bro. Cox. Several were saved and I believe it was 14 received the Holy Ghost. We had a wonderful time. He came to our house after church, several times. We had tacos some and he loved them. Every time we would see him after that he would mention those tacos. We loved him and sis. Helen. I know this a hard time for you all, but the grace of God will see you through. When we lost our son I thought I couldn't stand it. But God helped me. We are praying for you. Nancy and Gary were going to take Floyd and I to see him next weekend. I fell and broke a rib. And are having some complication from it so we will not be able to attend the funeral but our prayers are with all the family. Love and prayers Floyd and Alveta Parks

Alveta parks - February 15, 2017 at 10:13 AM

CL

“ From the first time we met, I knew he was a man of God. He and Helen welcomed our family to Faith Harvest church. We became friends and I always enjoyed being with them and seeing the love of Christ that they had. Enjoyed hearing him preach. I was sad when I learned of his passing, but peace followed knowing that he had "fought the fight , kept the faith and was receiving his reward" . This world lost a great man of faith and prayer. Heaven gained a new angel. Prayers of peace and comfort for the family

Cerita Loftis - February 15, 2017 at 06:31 AM

KH

“ As I heard of this great mans passing it took me back to the late 70s or early 80s he preached campmeeting for C M BUTLER on west 49th st in Savannah Georgia Holy church of God that was the most powerful campmeeting that ever happened that year that never left me he and his wife were a classy couple with a loving heart for all even though we lost touch over the years everytime I ever heard their name mentioned it brought a smile to my heart I'm sorry of his passing that will never heal the pain in our hearts but the joy of knowing that he has received his reward is much greater that is why we can smile through the heartache. Kevin Holcombe Sr. Savannah Georgia



Kevin Holcombe - February 15, 2017 at 01:35 AM

EC

I am so sorry to hear of Bro.Long's passing. He has been a great pillar to God's people. Sis. Helen, there is nothing I can say to ease your pain; only God can. Stand tall, Sis. Helen and know that many people across this nation are praying for you . Thank God, one of His faithful children has made it home.

Ellen Corley - February 17, 2017 at 08:33 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Rev. John David Long.*



February 15, 2017 at 12:39 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. John David Long.*



February 14, 2017 at 11:49 PM