



Rev. Earl S. Bell

March 30, 1926 - February 9, 2015

Rev. Earl S. Bell, 88, Frankfort, died Monday, Feb. 9, at Taylor Manor Nursing Home in Versailles.

A native of Lexington, he was the son of the late Rom E. Bell and Mary Frances Enlow Bell. He is survived by his wife, Linda, of Frankfort; two daughters, Carey Durrett (Bill) and Allison Bell, both of Frankfort; a son, Mark Bell (Eva), of Harlan; and grandchildren Angie Parker, Matthew Durrett, Courtney Bell, Jeremy Bell, John Bell, and a great granddaughter; Kaitlyn Parker.

Rev. Bell was called to the ministry at age 16 and served as an ordained Baptist minister for over 60 years, with fulltime ministries at Southern Baptist churches in Woodford, Boyle, Franklin and Harlan counties in Kentucky, as well as in Tucson, AZ, and Pulaski, VA. He also held several interim ministries with churches across Central Kentucky.

In Frankfort, he was pastor of Memorial Baptist Church on Holmes St. in the early 1950s and Calvary Baptist Church at the Forks of Elkhorn Creek through the 1980s.

He was a 1944 graduate of Danville High School, received a bachelor's degree from Georgetown College, a master of theology degree from Southern Seminary in Louisville and a master of history degree from the University of Arizona in Tucson.

At the time of his retirement, he had served for over a decade as chaplain at the Frankfort Career Development Center where his efforts were recognized

with the 2009 Commissioner's Award from the Kentucky Department of Corrections. He was a chaplain emeritus of Appalachian Regional Healthcare, Inc., and deacon emeritus of First Baptist Church in Frankfort.

Truly committed to be in service to others, he was a constant participant in the life of every community in which he lived. In the 1950s, he was a member of the Parks and Recreation Board in Frankfort when projects like the Juniper Hills Park was begun. He was a proud member for many years of the Committee of 101 where he happily stood for many hours assisting UK fans at Rupp Arena and Commonwealth Stadium

Severely crippled by a drunk driver as a young man, his experience impassioned his life's work in medical, legal and political circles. He served as a member of the Kentucky Baptist Hospital board and was concurrently a member of the board of Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington. In his time at Harlan, he was a member of the community board of Harlan Appalachian Regional Hospital and was instrumental in developing the certified chaplaincy program adopted by the ARH system.

He served a term as state president of the Kentucky Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, with his lobbying efforts contributing to successfully lowering the legal limit for impaired driving. During his years in Arizona, Rev. Bell was a trustee of Grand Canyon College.

His mission outreach included extensive support for the Hawaii Baptist Academy in Honolulu as a member of its Mainland Advisory Council in collaboration with a college classmate and lifelong friend, Dan Kong, who was a minister and administrator of the school.

Matthew Durrett, Courtney Bell, Jeremy Bell, John S. Bell, Blake Enlow and Asa Overall will serve as pallbearers. Deacons of First Baptist Church will serve as honorary pallbearers.

Funeral services will be 1:00 p.m., Saturday, February 14, at First Baptist Church, 201 St. Clair Street, Frankfort, Ky 40601. Dr. David Hinson, Dr. Robert F. Browning, and Rev. Truett Cocanougher will officiate. Burial will follow in Frankfort Cemetery. Visitation will be 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Friday,

February 13, and 11:00 a.m. until the time of service on Saturday at the church.

Contributions may be made to Scholarship Endowment Fund, Hawaii Baptist Academy, 420 Wylie Street, Honolulu, HI 96817 or Mission Frankfort Clinic, First Baptist Church, 201 St. Clair Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 13. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church
201 St. Clair Street
Frankfort, KY

Visitation

FEB 14. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church
201 St. Clair Street
Frankfort, KY

Funeral Services

FEB 14. 1:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church
201 St. Clair Street
Frankfort, KY

Tribute Wall

KH

“ *I am so sorry for loss. May you forever remember him*

Katie Howell - February 10, 2017 at 11:38 AM

BB

“ *'chap' was a wonderful man of God.a true friend and great mentor.i just learned of his passing and although saddened yet joyous to have known this man..he appointed me choir/band director while at fcdc in 2009..I'll be forever grateful the confidence I lacked he showed in me.thank you chap.rest in peace..*

Brian bollman - November 08, 2016 at 08:09 AM

KJ

“ *I MISS u haven have a project on u and 🥲🥲🥲🥲🥲🥲 And you gone*

kiana johnson - February 24, 2016 at 12:44 PM

LT

“ *Rest in Heaven my friend. Lisa Hunn Thompson (former fiscal manager, FCDC)*

Lisa Thompson - February 12, 2015 at 10:45 AM

KW

“ *Chaplain Bell touched the lives of many inmates and staff at FCDC. He was such an inspiration and a true friend to me. The FCDC family was truly blessed by knowing him and he will always be in our hearts. Our prayers are with Mrs. Bell and the family... Kimberly Whitley (Warden FCDC)*

Kimberly Whitley - February 12, 2015 at 09:38 AM

JC

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Earl was a fine gentleman and servant of God. We have many fine memories of him at Hawaii Baptist Academy and here at 1st Baptist Frankfort We are in Cabo San Lucas now and fondly remember Earl's visit here a couple of years ago with his family. Through his prison ministry he changed so many lives. John and Karen Cosby

John Cosby - February 12, 2015 at 12:53 AM



“ Rose Romanesque Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. Earl S. Bell .



February 11, 2015 at 08:14 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Rev. Earl S. Bell .



February 11, 2015 at 08:08 PM

LC

“ Earl was a caring friend and touched many lives for Christ including mine. I will always remember the time in spent with me when I had to apply for disability in 2001. He was helpful in many ways including helping me fill out the necessary forms.

Larry Cook

Larry Cook - February 11, 2015 at 02:40 PM

KB

“ *Ken Butler lit a candle in memory of Rev. Earl S. Bell*



Ken Butler - February 11, 2015 at 12:45 PM

TB

“ *Terri Jo Baker lit a candle in memory of Rev. Earl S. Bell*



Terri Jo Baker - February 11, 2015 at 08:10 AM

JJ

“ *Janice K. Jackson lit a candle in memory of Rev. Earl S. Bell*



Janice K. Jackson - February 11, 2015 at 07:47 AM

JJ

“ *Linda, so sorry to hear about Earl! You and your family have my prayers, thoughts and love!*

jo ann Jenkins - February 10, 2015 at 04:44 PM