



Dr. Charles W. Drake

August 21, 1914 - February 10, 2014

The Reverend Charles W. Drake of Alpharetta, GA, died on February 10, 2014. Born a native of Coweta County in Senoia, GA on August 21, 1914, he is survived by his children, Charles Michael Drake of Louisville KY, Brenda and Ray Kiser of Norcross, GA, and Debbie Drake of Alpharetta, GA. He is also survived by nine grandchildren, Cathy Hillyard, Lee Anne Meyer, Amy Abbott, Lindy Kennedy, Kim Kiser Jaeger, Chris Kiser, Jenna Kiser Thurmond, Sarah Jones, Charlie Jones, and 14 great grandchildren. He is also survived by his sisters, Evelyn McClendon, Dorothy Forrester, and Janie Miller. Rev. Drake is predeceased by his loving wife, Bessie Michael Drake, brother Roger Drake, and sister, Sue Hickey.

Charles graduated from Star High School in Coweta County in 1932 and worked in five and dime stores for four years. He entered Mercer University in Macon, GA, in 1936. While at Mercer, he taught the inmates at Bibb County Jail and led many of them to faith in Christ. He was honored to serve five churches while a student at Mercer.

After graduation from Mercer, Charles taught math at Powder Springs High School and coached basketball. During his first year as a teacher, Charles was called as Pastor of the Second Baptist Church of Marietta, GA. During his pastorate, he met and married his wife, Bessie Margaret Michael, and to their union Charles Michael was born. After a three-year pastorate in Marietta, Charles felt the need for further training, so with his wife and little son, he enrolled and earned a Masters in Theology from Southern Baptist Seminary in

Louisville, KY. Rev. Drake was privileged to serve Hopewell Baptist Church in Harrodsburg, KY during this time and also sold cemetery lots for additional income. Upon graduation from Southern Baptist Seminary, Charles was called to the First Baptist Church in Smyrna, GA. Before his family could move to accept this position, a blessed event occurred – daughter Brenda was born. After some wonderful years in Smyrna, God called the Drake family to Beallwood Baptist Church in Columbus, GA. God richly blessed them in the building of a beautiful worship center and the birth of their daughter, Debbie. The family was then called to Calvary Baptist Church in Gadsden, AL where another beautiful sanctuary was built. Rev. Drake also pastored Ridgedale Baptist Church in Chattanooga, TN, Central Baptist Church in Gainesville, GA, and First Baptist Church in Lithonia, GA, where he retired, but not before he earned his Doctorate in Theology from Luther Rice Seminary. He then served Crabapple Baptist Church in Alpharetta, GA, where he retired for the second time!

Dr. Drake's second retirement was short-lived because he then served 20 churches as interim pastor and served as a hospital chaplain at North Fulton Hospital. His greatest joy was leading people to faith in Christ. His greatest love was for his Lord, his church, and his wife and family. To God be the glory – He has used the “least of these”.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **15**. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Northside Chapel Funeral Directors and Crematory
12050 Crabapple Road
Roswell, GA

Service

FEB **16**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Crabapple First Baptist Church
12760 Birmingham Hwy
Alpharetta, GA

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Charles W. Drake*

October 08, 2022 at 11:37 AM



“ *Brenda, Debbie, Michael and family so sorry for your loss. I really loved Bess and Mr.Charles. He always said we were extended family. I feel so blessed to have had them in my life. I will miss him very much!##imported-begin##Lola Haddock##imported-end##*

February 16, 2014 at 09:36 PM



“ *So sorry to hear about Mr. Drake. May the God of all comfort, continue to be with you and your family. We all look forward to a time when death will be no more-Rev 21:4. Our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family.##imported-begin##Boyd Family ##imported-end##*

February 15, 2014 at 01:44 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time of loss. Preacher Drake, as I always called him, was a godsend to me and my family when my Father, Myron Allen, was involved in a tractor accident in 2003. He ministered to our family, by sitting with us, praying with us and loving on us when we needed it most. Our lives are much richer having known him. May God comfort as only He can.##imported-begin##Jeannie Stover##imported-end##*

February 15, 2014 at 09:44 AM



“ I was married by brother drake in 1959 at calvary Baptist church in Gadsden Alabama.my family attended that chuch.he was a wonderful pastor and man.my daddy and mother were kenneth and Thelma Pruitt.my sympathy to all the family. sue Pruitt range.loganville ga.##imported-begin##sue pruit range##imported-end##

February 15, 2014 at 07:55 AM



“ As a man who loved the word, no doubt your father was familiar with the promise at John 5: 28 & 29. May you also find peace that promise. I am very sorry for your loss.##imported-begin##Nicole##imported-end##

February 14, 2014 at 07:57 PM



“ Brenda, Ray, Debbie and Michael and Family,
We want to let you all know that you are in our prayers. What a great man Dr. Drake was and how we have missed him in our church family worship these past times. What a testimony he portrayed in his daily living, and what a legacy he is leaving for all of you to follow.
Our love and prayers are with you.
Love in Christ,
Ken and Shirley Howell##imported-begin##Shirley & Ken Howell##imported-end##

February 13, 2014 at 06:38 PM



“ We are so sorry for the loss of your loved one. We are the parents of Jake Duvall, Sarah's boyfriend. May God be with all the family during this time of grief. We love Sarah very much. She told us many stories about her grandfather and we know she loved him with all her heart. My son Jake said he was a great person. We are thinking of your family and sending our prayers to each and everyone.##imported-begin##Mary and Robert Duvall##imported-end##

February 13, 2014 at 02:02 PM



“ My grandfather was sort of a hero of mine. His ever-lasting conviction for serving God always stood for what commitment looks like to me, even now. Throughout the last 20 years, this picture of "Pop" has rested on my desk as a reminder of that conviction, commitment and compassion for God and others. I know the impact he's made will long live on with others as it will with me. I'm "sad he's gone, but I sure am glad he was here". I love you Pop!##imported-begin##Christopher James Kiser##imported-end##

February 13, 2014 at 01:27 PM



“ Dr. Drake was our pastor at Central Baptist Church, Gainesville, during my high school years (early 60's). I really came to appreciate him years later when he returned to preach both my dad (1984) and my mother's (2000) funerals. He was a dear friend to our family. Michael, Brenda and Debbie, your dad was a wonderful man and a dedicated servant of our Lord. We will all miss his smiling face.##imported-begin##Larry Brown##imported-end##

February 13, 2014 at 11:45 AM



“ Dr. Drake was my pastor at FBC Lithonia during my childhood & early teen years. I recall Dr. Drake taking me and a friend along with him one Saturday morning to knock on doors, invite folks to church and share Christ when I was about 10-12 yrs old. What a dear man, passionate preacher and tireless servant of Christ! We loved him and will miss him greatly. ~ Steve Bullard.##imported-begin##Steve Bullard##imported-end##

February 13, 2014 at 10:13 AM



“ Charles Drake was a great pastor. We all loved him in the youth group. Debbie, so sorry to learn of your dad's passing.##imported-begin##Stan Pethel##imported-end##

February 12, 2014 at 05:04 PM