



# LaVerne R. Arndt

SEP 17, 1926 - SEP 29, 2016



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## **LaVerne R. Arndt**

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**E**lwin-Pastor LaVerne R. “Preacher” Arndt, 90, of Elwin, went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, September 29, 2016, with his family by his side after a long battle with Alzheimers.

LaVerne was born September 17, 1926 in Rutland, Illinois, the son Carl and Elsie (Harms) Arndt. He married Margie Engle on September 19, 1947. He proudly served his country in U.S. Army during World War II. He was previously employed with N&W Railroad. He became an ordained minister on October 2, 1955. He pastored two churches for six years before pastoring at Lakeview Baptist Church for thirty-nine years. LaVerne also known as “Preacher” was devoted to the Lord. He loved people and was involved in visitation ministry, visiting nursing homes, and spent many hours with shut-ins, hospital patients, and their families. LaVerne loved golf, traveling, and took mission trips to Haiti, Jamaica, and Romania.

LaVerne leaves behind his wife Margie of sixty-nine years, sons Mike (Letty) Arndt, Kenny (Regina) Arndt, seven grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren, sister Linda (Bob) Knebel, brother-in-law Burhl Woodrum, sister-in-law Dorothy Arndt, three half-brothers, and three half-sisters.

LaVerne was reunited in Heaven with his parents, two brothers, three sisters, and two half-brothers.

The family would like to thank Jim and Lori Brown, Dr. Daniel Smith, and the nurses and staff with Harbor Light Hospice for their compassionate care.

Services to celebrate Laverne’s life will be 11:00 AM Tuesday, October 4, 2016 in Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home. Visitation will be from 6-8 PM Monday, October 3, 2016 at the funeral home. Burial will follow in Fairlawn Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to Harbor Light Hospice.

The family of Pastor LaVerne R. “Preacher” Arndt is being served by the Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home, 2091 N. Oakland Ave. Decatur, IL. Please view



## Obituary

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the online obituary, send condolences, and share memories at

[www.gracelandfairlawn.com](http://www.gracelandfairlawn.com).

Video Tribute for Pastor LaVerne R. Arndt:

<https://www.tributeslides.com/tributes/show/Z7WQGYJCR8YXBTB7>



## Tribute Wall

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LK

**Larry And Diana Klaus** posted:

Lucille and Daniel Knutt and Carl and Mary Klaus and all their kids loved you and your wife. We learned of your visitation when Judy(MAPLE) MILLER WROTE ON FACEBOOK THAT SHE HAD ATTENDED YOUR VISITATION. LARRY AND I, DIANA KLAUS WERE IN KEYESPORT, IL. That evening. Sorry we were not there. I REMEMBER YOU TALKING ABOUT PITTSBURG, ILLINOIS. YOU INSPIRED ALL OF US TO KNOWING JESUS AS OUR SAVIOR. THERE WILL NEVER BE ANOTHER You. P.S. MY MOM AND DAD THOUGHT YOUR WIFE WALKED ON WATER. SHE IS SO SPECIAL.

October 5 at 5:23 AM

AL

**Amber Lilly** posted:

He knew me since I was a baby. He watched me grow up in Lakeview Baptist Church. He was like a third grandpa to me. He was loving passionate about people the church and jesus. Best pastor I've known. RIP Lavern

October 4 at 12:24 PM

DB

**Debbie Bickers** posted:

Pastor Arndt meant a great deal to alot of people, I am one of them. My husband Gary and I attended Lakeview Baptist Church, he presided over my husband being ordained as a minister. He helped us through some rough patches in our lives. He knew my parents from working at the railroad, he preached my dad's funeral even though they weren't members of our church. Margie, Gary went to be with the Lord in April 2015 he thought alot of Laverne. My sincere condolences and prayers are with you and your family. God Bless You.

October 4 at 4:07 AM

SS

**Sarah Spence** posted:

I grew up in Lakeview Baptist Church and I was honored to have LaVerne perform my baptism. He was a dear friend of my family and such a big part of my childhood memories. Anytime my grandparents (Charles & Bev Weeks) were ill or in the hospital, Laverne was the first to be there praying by their side, you could always count on him! He was such a sweet, kind hearted man, I am so grateful God blessed us with Preacher in our lives. Margie and family, our hearts are saddened by your loss. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. With love, Sarah Spence

October 4 at 3:34 AM



## Tribute Wall

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KB

**Kimberly Bell** posted:

Dearest Margie & Family, May your memories bring you comfort. May your faith bring you peace. Laverne touched so many lives. From the viewpoint of a little child, he always personified God to me. With love & sympathy, Kimberly Bell It was an honor to have Laverne perform our wedding. (Dan & Kimberly Bell, September 2nd 1991)

October 3 at 5:30 PM

RA

**Regina Arndt** posted:

My Father in law was a very kind, compassionate, funny and caring Christian man. I'm so sorry me, Lisa and Randy could not be there. It breaks my heart. He will so very much be missed. I'm glad you were my dad for 36 year's. Rest now dad. We'll see you again. Love Regina

October 3 at 1:20 PM

RE

**Rev David Ellis** posted:

Rest in peace and light and refreshment with Our Lord and Saviour. You were a great friend and mentor to myself and to so many of us in the ministry, and Rhonda and I want to express to you Margie, our heartfelt sympathy and condolences. May the Peace of the Lord be with you always, Sincerely; Rev. David and Rhonda Ellis

October 3 at 12:44 PM

BT

**Bob And Sharon Traughber** posted:

Dear Family of Pastor Arndt, Laverne married Bob and I June 13, 1965 Bobs 3 brothers, all well over 6 ft. tall, was giving Bob a very hard time about getting married while waiting for the ceremony to begin, Laverne got in middle these guys and told them to straighten up and behave and they did!...It was a great scene to behold for all those brother-in-laws. It was quite a memory for us Bob and Sharon Traughber Members of until He retired. We love you two very much.

October 3 at 9:32 AM

TM

**Tracie Mounce** posted:

Lit a candle in memory of LaVerne R. Arndt

October 1 at 4:22 PM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring LaVerne by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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