



Dennis Lee Edwards

SEP 2, 1952 - JUN 10, 2015



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COMPLETE FUNERAL SERVICES

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Pastor Dennis Lee Edwards, 62, passed from this life into the arms of Jesus Wednesday, June 10, 2015, in Decatur, IL.

Services to celebrate Dennis's life will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, June 13, 2015, at Maranatha Church, 555 W. Imboden Dr., Decatur. Visitation will be 12 p.m.-3 p.m. at the church. Burial will be held at a later date in Graceland Cemetery. Memorials in memory of Dennis may be made to the Edwards family.

Dennis was born September 2, 1952 in Decatur, IL to Roy and Lila Edwards. He married Linda Wright-Phillips in April 26, 1980 in Decatur. He graduated from Macarthur High School in 1970, and received his degree from Bible College Global University. He worked 30 years at Firestone, 5 years at ADM, and he was a school bus driver for Mt. Zion. He was the Pastor of Freedom Assembly of God for 20 years. Dennis started playing drums at age 12. He would play drums anywhere and anytime. He was a loving and wonderful husband and father. His grandchildren were the light of his life. His favorite thing to do was to talk to people about Jesus.

Dennis leaves behind his wife, Linda; son, Travis (Goldie); grandchildren, Keith, Ashley, Trevor; brother, Bruce (Lynn); in-laws, Joe (Sue) Lawson and Peggy (Steve) Bruns; nephews, Derek, Brandin, Brysen; nieces, Summer, Kailey; and his special family at Freedom Assembly of God and Maranatha Church.

He is preceded in death by his parents; mother-in-law, Bobbie; fathers-in-law, Kenny and Al; and sister-in-law, Karen.

The family of Pastor Dennis Lee Edwards is being served by the Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home, 2091 N. Oakland Ave. Decatur, IL. Please view the online obituary, send condolences, and share memories at www.gracelandfairlawn.com.



Tribute Wall

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PK

Pansy Kirgan posted:

No one particular memory to share but many things come to mind when we think of Dennis, he was a great friend to Gary – reached him with the love of God like no other man of God had ever been able to do. Never seemed to know a stranger, could talk to anyone! And his favorite subject – Jesus! He loved the Lord and it showed. Also loved music, praising the Lord. I think of the verse in the Bible where it says to go to the highways and byways and compel the people to come in.....that's just what Dennis did. He didn't stay inside the four walls of the church waiting for souls to come to him – he went where others wouldn't. I can picture him in the arms of Jesus hearing the Lord say "well done, good and faithful servant" Our loss and heaven's gain. Prayers to the family! Gary & Pansy Kirgan

June 16 at 4:12 AM

LE

Lynn Edwards posted:

My husband's brother Dennis was a kind, sweet man. I have known him for 35 years since attending his wedding in 1980. I met Linda and Travis as well as mother Lila and other family members at that time. She would get us all together every three years or so whether in Decatur, Seattle or on vacation in places like Hawaii. We were so surprised when Lila brought Dennis with her for our wedding in 1982. I was so glad that he was there to meet my family and friends. He was a godsend to his mother since he stayed in Decatur his whole life. Bruce and I were so happy that Lila could remain in her home when she became ill. It was Dennis and his entire family who took care of her for those several years before her passing in 2012. They are both in the arms of Jesus now. He was a very inspirational brother-in-law and I know he prayed for us as I now pray for Linda, Travis, Goldie, Keith, Ashley and Trevor as theyface and heal from this tremendous loss. Love always, Lynn

June 15 at 10:32 AM

BE

Bruce Edwards posted:

Dear Linda, Travis, Goldie, family and friends, I know this is very hard on all of us and Dennis will be missed very much. I have thought of Dennis a lot lately and have very pleasant memories of our childhood and reminiscing all the fun times we had. I enjoyed catching up with him at our family get togethers. Dennis and I saw the whole country from the backseat. He had a great sense of humor. I hope we can all take his good traits and incorporate them into our lives and that we all learn how precious and uncertain life is. Dennis had a lot of talents besides music. Love, Bruce

June 14 at 9:10 AM



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PB

Peggy Wright Bruns posted:

Dear Linda, Travis, and Goldie....words cannot adequately express what we hold inside our hearts. We are so very sorry for your loss. We'll always have wonderful memories of Dennis and how he touched the world with his kind, caring spirit, sweet humor, and love for all. We send our deepest sympathy and love, and wish you comfort at this most trying time.Peggy, Steve, & Harriet

June 13 at 7:48 AM

DW

Deb Webb posted:

Lit a candle in memory of Dennis Lee Edwards

June 13 at 5:49 AM

SL

Shannon Lanier posted:

Dennis was my daughter's bus driver for the last several years. His smile was a true gift for us each morning. When my youngest was having trouble adjusting to school it was Dennis and his caring heart, warm smile and love for children that gave her the courage to just keep pressing on. She got to know him and they became wonderful friends. I hope he knew exactly how much he meant to me and my girls. We missed him this year and spoke of him often, praying for healing and patience. Now his family will be in our prayers. Thank you Dennis. Heaven is a richer place with you in it. We look forward to seeing you again and joining you to sing praises of thanksgiving to God.

June 12 at 3:27 PM

AR

Allen Robinson posted:

Remember meeting Dennis maybe 1971 with alot of hair and a big hat. Always a great guy.

June 12 at 2:53 PM

KP

Ken Perry posted:

Linda, Travis, and Dennis's extended family, I send my condolences. I know we will miss him but he's with Jesus now and that comforts me. Dennis was my friend for many years and I know he doesn't want us to grieve too long. Let's just celebrate his life. We weren't too close the last few years until his cancer and mine brought us back together but it was too short a time. Thank you Dennis for all your prayers for me. I don't think I would be here if not for all the prayers of everyone and especially the ones you and I prayed in the hospital. I'm going to miss you brother.

June 12 at 1:21 PM



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JB

Jane Battersby posted:

His Aunt Freddie is pictured with Dennis.

June 12 at 8:54 AM

JB

Jane Battersby posted:

This photo was taken when Dennis was 14 at his Uncle Leo Severe's Music store. He may have liked the organ, but he loved drums & left with a new set of drums that day.

June 12 at 8:51 AM

JW

Jeannie Wilson posted:

Dennis was in the same group I was in Jubilation we did a lot of ministry together. I remember when he came to Jesus the outward transformation was gradual. His hair got shorter his attire changed. His wife Linda was a blessing to be around and you could tell how proud she was of him. God had called him and did a great work in him. He will be missed greatly and we will all be together some day and we will be singing around the thrown. Good journey my friend. May the Lord Jesus be with family and friends. Jeannie Wilson.

June 11 at 5:47 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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