



Francis "Boyd" Latchaw Jr.

January 31, 1927 - June 8, 2019

Francis Boyd Latchaw, Jr., age 92, of Oskaloosa, was called Home to Heaven on June 8, 2019 at the North Mahaska Care Center in Oskaloosa. He was born January 31, 1927 in Franklin, Pennsylvania, the son of Francis Boyd (Sr.) and Sadie Pearl Latchaw. He attended grade school and part of high school at Utica, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Franklin High School in May of 1944 earning All-State honors in football. After high school, Boyd played in the Western PA Hayrake Amateur Baseball League and worked at Joy Manufacturing Company in Franklin, as a clerk and supervisor, and as a salesman and clerk for a locally-owned business Ramsdale & Kunkel.

In May of 1949 he came to personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Shortly thereafter he was licensed to preach by the First Baptist Church of Franklin, Pennsylvania. Two years later he sensed a call to prepare for Christian ministry and in January of 1952 he began study at the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Illinois, enrolled in the Pastor's Course and was active in the Missionary Union.

Boyd met Janette Fry at Moody Bible Institute. He would often remark how he was drawn to her by her intense love for God and others and her unwavering commitment to serve God wherever He would lead. They both graduated from Moody Bible Institute in 1955 and were married June 18th at the Community Evangelical Church in Baltimore, Maryland. Boyd and Jan contacted the Sudan Interior Mission about missionary opportunities in Africa. After five years of additional study and work to prepare for a missionary assignment, Boyd graduated from Wheaton College in August of 1959 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Studies with a Teacher's Certificate for grades 7-12.

When all preparations were completed, Boyd was ordained at Wheaton Bible Church in October of 1960. On Dec. 26, 1960, he and Janette, with two young sons (Alan and Bryan), left the United States for assignment in Kagoro, Nigeria, West Africa.

Boyd began his missionary duties serving as a high school teacher at the Secondary School in Kagoro, Nigeria. Two years later, he taught at Hillcrest School in Jos. His final

assignment came at Kent Academy in Miango, a school for children of S.I.M. missionaries. There he served as a teacher and as the school Principal.

Boyd and Jan returned to the States in 1965. While earning his Master's degree from Northern Illinois University, he taught and served as guidance counselor Sandburg Jr. High in Elmhurst, IL. While his teaching career offered some rewards, Boyd longed for opportunities of more direct, hands-on Christian ministry. That opportunity came in 1969 when Boyd was invited to take a position of Chaplain at Cal Farley's Boys Ranch near Amarillo, Texas.

There he provided teaching, preaching, Bible memory camp programs, and spiritual guidance and counseling to staff and residents. In 1977 they moved to Valparaiso, Indiana, to begin working for the Moody Bible Institute as a Stewardship Representative and Visitation Pastor for the Midwest Region. He served in two other stewardship positions (with Back to the Bible and Child Evangelism Fellowship) which allowed Janette to travel and serve with Boyd. For twenty-two years, Boyd ministered to the constituents and prayer supporters of these Christian organizations, before retiring in May of 1998.

In 2002, Boyd and Janette moved to Oskaloosa, Iowa.

While Boyd did not pursue typical hobbies, he was deeply devoted to his interest in the Bible, Theology, reading, visiting and serving others, and sharing his Faith. Boyd volunteered in several areas of ministry at Fellowship Bible Church and Central Reformed Church believing that "One who serves God never retires."

Boyd always strived to live out his life with a sense of purpose and meaning, not only with an eternal focus but also by meeting day-to-day challenges and entering in to the lives of those he met – always with an intent to communicate God's love and the hope God alone can give.

Boyd discovered many valuable lessons over his years of learning and service. He learned that faith has authentic meaning and touches every area of one's life. In his marriage, family, ministry and life, Boyd grew in his understanding that his relationship with God was based on faith in Jesus Christ alone and that the Holy Spirit opened his heart and mind and will to teach him and convict him. At the time of his death, he was confident of his eternal destiny.

The life lesson that motivated all that he did is based on his favorite Bible passage, 2 Corinthians 5:11-21. The lesson is both simple and profound: when a person comes to faith in Jesus Christ, they are a new creation. God through His Holy Spirit changes a heart of stone to a heart of flesh giving each one who lives by faith a new desire and a new

empowerment to live a purposeful life to the glory of God. Christ has reconciled us to God and we are to be reconciled to others and serve as God's ambassadors.

Boyd was preceded in death by his wife, Janette (at the time of her death, they had been married 58 years); three brothers: Merle, Earl, and Arnold, along with his mother and father, Sadie Pearl and Francis Boyd Latchaw, Sr.

He is survived by his two sons: Alan Latchaw, his former wife Christine; grandson Aaron (Jessica) Latchaw, great grandson Benjamin Wyatt all of Ft. Worth, Texas; and Bryan (Betty Ann) Latchaw (Oskaloosa, IA) and grandchildren, Bob (Brittany) Latchaw (Northfield, MN), Matt (Lyric) Latchaw (Norwood, OH), and Jana Latchaw of Grandview, MO and her fiancé Andrew Milbourn of Overland Park, KS.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, June 13, 2019, at 10:30 a.m. in the Central Reformed Church in Oskaloosa with Reverends Jon Nelson and Bryan Latchaw officiating. Burial will be in the Old Log Cemetery at Barkeyville, PA, at a later date. There will be a family prayer service at 10:15 Thursday morning in the east lounge of the church. Visitation will begin Wednesday after 12 p.m. in the Bates Funeral Chapel and the family will be at the funeral chapel Wednesday evening from 5-7 p.m. to greet friends and relatives. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made to the Boyd Latchaw Memorial Fund which will be given to help support the missionaries Phil and Ruth Ann Alessi serving with NOVO/CRM and Scott Espisito serving with REAP Granada/AIM.

Events

JUN **Visitation - Open** 12:00PM - 05:00PM

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Bates Funeral Chapel

114 South 7th Street, Oskaloosa, IA, US, 52577

JUN **Visitation - Family Present** 05:00PM - 07:00PM

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Bates Funeral Chapel

114 South 7th Street, Oskaloosa, IA, US, 52577

JUN **Funeral Service** 10:30AM

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Central Reformed Church

815 2nd Avenue East, Oskaloosa, IA, US, 52577

Comments



“ Bryan and Betty Ann,
From our family to yours, please accept our sincerest condolences on Uncle Boyd's passing. It is with great memories of your Dad and Aunt Janette we cherish. Always made the time to see us in Michigan at our graduations and weddings. Our parents (Sandy and Carroll) shared so many wonderful memories of both Earl, Arnold, and your Dad with us. Knowing his awesome service in the name of his Father for his career has made a positive impact for everyone. Please know our thoughts are with you and your entire family. Brad and Dockyi Nadig (Sandy and Carroll Nadig's son)



Brad Nadig - June 12, 2019 at 08:49 PM



“ 54 files added to the album LifeTributes



Bates Funeral Chapel - June 12, 2019 at 09:49 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Francis "Boyd" Latchaw Jr..



June 11, 2019 at 07:56 PM



“ My Mom met Boyd and Jan in the early 1950's at Moody and our families have been lifetime friends. We are thankful for the bond we share in Jesus Christ and the many good memories along the way. May God be with family and friends during this time.

David Carwell - June 10, 2019 at 12:16 AM



“ Bryan & Betty Ann.....my heart goes out to you and your family at this difficult time.....you are all in our thoughts and prayers. May your Dad rest in peace.

Bob and Patricia Draughn



Patricia Draughn - June 09, 2019 at 09:15 PM



“ Bryan and Betty Ann, I am so sorry for your loss..my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time. Marcy Mabee

Marcy Mabee - June 09, 2019 at 07:30 PM