



## Rev. Dan Alan Ray

October 14, 1933 - November 11, 2017

Reverend Dan A. Ray of Greer passed away peacefully surrounded by family Saturday, November 11, 2017.

Mr. Ray was a beloved husband and father, an impactful Baptist minister for more than 60 years, an author, friend and mentor to countless others, and an active volunteer in Greer at Greer First Baptist, as a member of the Willing Workers Sunday School Class, with the Greer Lion's Club and many years as a board member of Greer Community Ministries.

It is in his service to God that Ray will be most remembered. His ministry was his passion and spanned the nation. He served as Pastor of Sylvia Circle Baptist Church of Rock Hill, SC, Palo Verde Baptist Church of Phoenix, AZ, Orange, CA, and Bethel Baptist Church of Greenville, SC. He served as Director of Missions for the Beaverdam Baptist Association in Oconee County, SC, Director of Evangelism and Stewardship for the Pennsylvania/South Jersey Baptist Convention in Harrisburg, PA, and Director of Stewardship and Cooperative Program Development for the South Carolina Baptist Convention. He also served North Greenville University as a development officer, First Baptist Church Mauldin, SC as church administrator and First Baptist Greer as church administrator. In addition, after his retirement, Ray helped many Baptist Churches in the Upstate during difficult transition periods as a valuable interim pastor. He was especially blessed to serve the Rocky Hill Baptist Church in Cedar Mountain, NC as his last official place of ministry. Ray also served in recent years on the Board of Trustees of Connie Maxwell Children's

Home of Greenwood, SC

Ray's book, "Laughing with the Reverend," recalled humorous and inspirational moments from a lifetime of church work. As a public speaker and entertainer, his "stories" entertained and inspired hundreds of audiences throughout South Carolina in recent years.

He is survived by his beloved wife Martha of 62 years, a son, Reverend Alan Ray and his wife Melinda of Richmond, VA, Barry Ray and his wife Tina, of Greer, Andy Ray and his wife Regina, of Marietta, and daughter Robin Ray Crusco and husband Greg of Greer. He leaves behind eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Also considered surviving children of Mr. Ray are Brian Ikjae Chin of OK, and Al Sato of Tokyo, Japan, and dozens of international students who lived with the Ray family over many years.

A celebration of Reverend Ray's life will take place 3:00 p.m. Monday, November 13, 2017 at Greer First Baptist Church with visitation from 1:30 p.m. until 2:45 p.m. at the church. A private family burial will be held at Hillcrest Memory Gardens.

Honorary Pallbearers will be the members of the Willing Workers Sunday School Class and retired Directors of Missions of South Carolina.

The family is comforted by the reality that Mr. Ray is now at the feet of the Savior whom he served tirelessly his entire life, surrounded by countless thousands of people in heaven who are there after having been touched by his lifetime of ministry.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Connie Maxwell Children's Home, P.O. box 1178, Greenwood, SC, 29648-1178 or at [ConnieMaxell.com](http://ConnieMaxell.com).

Online condolences may be made at [www.thewoodmortuary.com](http://www.thewoodmortuary.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 13. 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM (ET)

Greer First Baptist Church  
202 W. Poinsett Street  
Greer, SC

## Service

NOV 13. 3:00 PM (ET)

Greer First Baptist Church  
202 W. Poinsett Street  
Greer, SC

# Tribute Wall

RF

“ *Such a blessing for me to know Rev. Ray! A precious, dear servant of God. My prayers to his family! Rachel Field*

Rachel Field - November 16, 2017 at 06:21 AM

RW

“ *You are in our thoughts and prayers. Pastor Ray was a blessing to me and others like me for a number of years. I loved his preaching and teaching of God's Word. His humor was well received and meant so much to all of us as we served our Lord together. Ruth Whitson*

Ruth E Whitson - November 14, 2017 at 09:42 PM

JW

“ *Jane Wallace lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dan Alan Ray*



Jane Wallace - November 13, 2017 at 04:47 PM

KR

“ We are so sorry to hear of the loss of this wonderful and beloved friend. Dan was such an inspiration to us as he helped during the transition time of Church Administrator before our arrival at Greer First Baptist. He and Martha were such delightful friends and we are grateful that God brought us together as partners in ministry. We pray that God brings peace to Martha and the family, and know that Dan most assuredly heard these words of upon his entrance into Heaven:

*“His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.” - Matthew 25:21*

*With much love,  
Ken, Beverly and Delaney Richardson*

---

**Ken and Beverly Richardson** - November 13, 2017 at 10:30 AM

JR

“ Dan was a very close friend whom I respected and loved;we traveled across the state of SC sharing the meaning and message of Christian Stewardship. I had the opportunity to talk and pray with Dan the day he was leaving the hospital for home.He will be missed greatly by his family and many friends across the nation.



*Dan was a faithful servant and lovedd his Lord,his church, and family get much! Dan is Home, prepared by the Lord, Himself. As a new gospel song by the Kingdom Heirs states "Heaven is sweeter because you are there" - it truly is because Dan is there and so many of his family and friends. May our Holy Spirit comfort his previous family in Dan's promotion to the "land o the living".*

*John & Kay Rush*

---

**John Rush** - November 12, 2017 at 02:36 PM

GM

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. May Peace and Love comfort you today and all the days ahead.

*Greta (Phillips) Moore*



---

**Greta Moore** - November 12, 2017 at 10:52 AM

LV

“ We are so sorry for your loss. May God give you peace and comfort during this journey. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. I want to share with you that Rev. Ray taught me a great lesson, and that was that it is the responsibility of parents to share the gospel of Jesus Christ with their children.



Larry and Karen Velasquez - November 11, 2017 at 11:11 PM

CP

“ My pastor for over three year's at Rocky Hill Baptist Church (Cedar Mountain, NC), where he taught me, and so many others, so much on how to serve our great Lord. I am forever thankful for Pastor Dan! My 16-year-old grandson Quinn Harris passed away while Pastor Dan was serving here and, as Quinn adored Pastor Dan, this wonderful pastor preached at Quinn's funeral. He and his wife Martha will forever be part of our family. Praise God for sending such a strong Christ-driven man to preach & teach the Word as it is written! And, as only a few will understand, I will never again be able to look at a package of "Chicklits"(gum) the same .....

Christine Pace - November 11, 2017 at 10:03 PM

PG

“ Dan was a friend, colleague and most of all a man of God. I always valued his wit, wisdom and insight. We will miss him. We are praying for you all 🙏.  
Pastor Dan Griffin, Harmony Baptist Church, Elgin, SC

pastor Dan Griffin - November 11, 2017 at 09:15 PM

PS

“ Martha and family know that my thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. i know Dan is singing with the angels and telling a joke or two. May God give you comfort and strength in the days ahead. Love to you all. ❤️ Paula Stringer

---

**Paula Stringer** - November 11, 2017 at 09:04 PM

TS

“ Uncle Dan, you will be missed, you are an inspiration to all of us, You really carried your parents compassion throughout your life and the people you have changed are endless. Although i know you will be missed, I can say we are all proud to say we knew and loved you over the years. Thank you for all you have done over the years and now you can go on to heaven as a loyal servant of the Lord.



*Love Teresa (Rains) and Brian Shipman and family.*

---

**Teresa Shipman** - November 11, 2017 at 08:51 PM

BD

“ What a Testimony.

---

**Bobby DeYoung** - November 11, 2017 at 06:17 PM

GF

“ What a wonderful legacy Mr. Ray left for his family and the churches he served. I am so sorry for your loss here on earth, but I know you are celebrating his crossing into eternity.

*Thinking about you and praying for you,*

*Gina Martin Fine*

---

**Gina Fine** - November 11, 2017 at 03:54 PM

RD

*Pastor Alan, Melinda and family my most sincere sympathy during this difficult time knowing you will experience joy in the memories of your father and peace in the knowledge of his eternal joy. May God continue to bless and keep you all.*

---

**Rena Dance** - November 11, 2017 at 09:52 PM

JH

*Martha, you are in my thoughts and prayers. I enjoyed the conversations I had with Dan. He always made me smile and helped me in many ways. May God give you the strength and courage during this time.*

---

**Joe Hammett** - November 13, 2017 at 07:14 AM