



Lee Roy Shelton III

March 7, 1948 - November 6, 2020

LEE ROY SHELTON III (1948-2020)

Lee Roy Shelton III, aged 72, passed away on November 6, 2020, at his home in Centerville, Minnesota, after a lengthy illness. A memorial service will be planned for a future date.

Lee was born March 7, 1948, in New Orleans, Louisiana, to Lee Roy Shelton Jr and Loraine (Reeves) Shelton. He was raised on the West Bank of New Orleans in Algiers. He graduated from Behrman High School in 1966 and attended Louisiana State University his freshman year.

In September 1967, he married Marsha Robertson from Hattiesburg MS. Immediately following their marriage, they began teaching at Grand Bayou Elementary School in Plaquemines Parish LA, where they taught for three years.

Subsequent careers included business machine sales in New Orleans and sales rep for Hunt-Wesson Foods in Fort Smith AR. It was in Fort Smith that Lee was converted to Christ and felt a strong desire to diligently study God's Word and continue his education, taking both correspondence and in-person classes with hopes of one day teaching or going into the ministry full time. In 1976 he moved his family to Litchfield MN to manage Mt. Zion Christian

Bookstore, founded by his father, where he pored over good, sound books and textbooks on Reformed theology and doctrine.

During his time at the bookstore, Lee began hosting an early Sunday morning radio program called Daybreak, sharing the gospel through music and the spoken word, at KLFD in Litchfield and later at KDUZ in Hutchinson, for a total of 16 years. Due to the radio program and his interaction with customers in the bookstore, he was asked to speak at various churches where pulpit supply was needed. This included Lake Jennie Evangelical Covenant Church in rural Dassel.

In 1980 he was called by Lake Jennie as full-time pastor and was licensed by the Evangelical Covenant Church. In the latter years of the Lake Jennie pastorate, he also began preaching at Lake Union Evangelical Covenant Church in South Haven on Sunday mornings. This fueled a desire for an itinerant preaching ministry. After almost 13 years at Lake Jennie, he began working as sales manager for CREMCO in Litchfield, continuing his radio program and filling the pulpit in various churches throughout West Central Minnesota. Lee was then hired as a sales rep by US West/Dex Yellow Pages, which resulted in a move to Willmar. He began preaching regularly at Immanuel Lutheran Church in French Lake.

After a couple of years in Sevierville TN with Marsha's parents, they moved to Cold Spring MN, where Lee went to work for Dex in St. Cloud until his retirement. After his health began to fail and he could no longer travel, Lee and Marsha moved to Falcon Heights to be closer to their children.

Being confined to a hospital bed, Lee began preaching virtually on Sunday mornings for Country Home Fellowship at the Nyquist farm near Howard Lake. He also mentored several men who were either serving in the ministry or who had a desire to serve.

In 2018 Lee and Marsha moved once again to the small town of Centerville. After entering hospice care in 2020 and he was no longer able to preach, Lee continued, as he was able, to minister to others by phone.

As Lee began the final phase of his journey to his heavenly home, he received support from and was ministered to and encouraged by many family members and friends in various ways, by providing a listening ear, sharing scripture or devotionals, sending texts and letters of encouragement, and most importantly, praying with and for both Lee and Marsha. He began to decline the first week of November, entering his longed-for eternal rest on November 6.

Lee was preceded in death by his parents; his paternal grandparents, Lee Roy Shelton Sr. and Dola (Simmons) Shelton; maternal grandparents, James Z. Reeves and Carrie Fae (Bailey) Reeves.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years; three children and their spouses: Lee and Dawn Shelton of Centerville MN, Christy and Paul Washburn of Apache Junction AZ, and Sharla and Craig Foster of Finlayson MN; nine grandchildren: Patrice, Philippe and Olivia Shelton; Roy, Jake, Audrey and Lydia Washburn; Brynnda and Harlan Foster; sister Sharon and brother-in-law Alan Frolek of St. Joseph MN; and brother Zack and sister-in-law Janis Shelton of Beaumont TX.

As the end of Lee's earthly life drew near, these words from a well-loved hymn were much on Lee's heart:

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought,
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

Cemetery Details

Lake Jennie Covenant Cemetery

18531 705th Ave
Dassel, MN 55325

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall

JW

“ *My sincere condolences to the friends and family of Lee Shelton. I met Lee online about eleven years ago, when I was researching his grandfather for a book I was writing. We kept in touch by phone and email for some years after that, and I always appreciated his kindness, generosity, courage, and integrity. He was a wise man who appreciated the humanity in others, without regard to differences in religious belief or background. I wish more of us had that much insight.*

John Wathey - March 08, 2021 at 11:47 AM

LG

“ *Many great memories of Lee when he hosted Daybreak on KDUZ. Lee was truly a man of GOD. Our listeners really enjoyed Lee's show. Its wonderful to know Lee is now in is heavenly home.*

Larry Graf

Larry Graf - November 13, 2020 at 10:01 PM

KT

“ We were blessed by the Lord to have Lee and Marsha in our lives during their short stay in Tennessee which goes on today although Lee is enjoying the chapter we are all looking forward to. Lee and Marsha were a blessing to all of us at Grace Community Church in Maryville Tennessee. We and many other families are especially thankful for the encouragement we received in Lee’s exhortation to read William Hendriksen’s *More Than Conquerors*. We have read through it every year as we finish the yearly Bible reading with Revelation. We will be reading that in December and it will refresh our love for Lee and Marsha as it has every year 🙏
To God be the glory in these last hours in the Church of His beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ 🙏🙏🙏

Ken and Gail Taggart - November 13, 2020 at 05:25 PM

FV

“ You all have our sincere sympathy in the loss of such a dear man. He was a very special friend to us, every visit we had on the phone left me very encouraged. he was such a blessing to us. After his many years of suffering what a joy to know that he is in the presence of his precious Lord and Savior. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Marsha and your family, we pray God will give you strength and comfort and peace as you carry-on in life

Fred and Ann Vlastuin - November 12, 2020 at 11:02 PM

DP

“ I last spoke with him just a couple of months ago. We have been dear friends for over 50 years. I will miss our phone calls, but mostly feel grateful for having had him in my life! Love and prayers to Marsha and the family he sored!

Diana McCoy Perry - November 11, 2020 at 01:36 PM

NI

“ We love and are praying for you all as you mourn with hope that can only be found in Christ. I know you love him so much! God be with your souls this hour.

Nicoleta - November 10, 2020 at 02:05 AM

LS

“ I had the privilege of having Lee as my pastor, confirmation teacher, and friend. He was, and always will be, one of my greatest spiritual mentors. His knowledge and discernment of the Scriptures was invaluable, and I'm so thankful that the Lord used him and his family so profoundly in my life. I grieve his absence in this world, but am joyful knowing he is in the presence of his Savior who he loved so much! He definitely has quite a legacy!

Lisa (Peterson) Selchert - November 09, 2020 at 07:20 PM

JT

“ I am thankful for the opportunities I have had to have visits with Lee by phone and facebook regarding the Bible, theology, and life... and ministry to the Washburn family. May God our Father give you comfort by the Holy Spirit and hope in Christ of the resurrection and reunion.

John Tock - November 09, 2020 at 01:08 PM