



Earl J. Knowles

June 23, 1930 - January 29, 2016

Earl J. Knowles, 85, of Carthage passed away Friday January 29, 2016 at Spring River Christian Village in Joplin. He was born June 23, 1930 in Calico Rock, Arkansas. He was the son of John Earl Knowles and Bertha Renfro Knowles. Earl was a long time resident of Carthage. He served as a United Methodist pastor from 1965 to 2000, mostly in the southwest Missouri area. Earl was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Carthage. Earl was united in marriage to Florine Smith on December 25, 1948 in Twin Creek, Arkansas. She preceded him in death on September 14, 2012. Earl is survived by one son, Howard Knowles of Carthage and one daughter, Janice Wright of Carthage, three sisters; Ernestine Engaman of Atchison, KS, Thelma Cantwell and Pat Wood both of Springfield, MO. 4 Grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. Earl was preceded in death by one son Gerald Knowles in 1959.

Services will be 10:00 a.m. Wednesday February 3, 2016 at the First United Methodist Church in Carthage. Visitation will be 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday February 2, 2016 at the Ulmer Funeral Home. Burial will be in Norfolk Cemetery, Norfolk, Arkansas. Contributions may be made to the Charity of the Donor's choice in care of the Ulmer Funeral Home. Online condolences may be sent at www.ulmerfh.com. Arrangements are under the direction of the Ulmer Funeral Home.

Tribute Wall

JP

“ We did not know Pastor Knowles very well, but often so him in church. He was quite an interesting and fiery preacher, certainly captured you attention. To his family I want to say, you have our deepest sympathy.

Jacqueline Potter - February 20, 2016 at 12:10 AM

JE

“ Howard & Janice: Your Dad was the very best minister our family has ever had the pleasure of knowing. He was so much a part in 72 of the new church in Anderson & our two children couldn't wait for his children's sermon each Sunday. He & your Mother made the time they were with us here in Anderson very special and rewarding. You all have our love & sympathy.

Jim & Margie Edmonds - February 02, 2016 at 07:33 PM

BS

“ I'm sorry to hear of the passing of Junior. He was a great uncle and friend. He will be missed.

Ben Smith - February 02, 2016 at 03:22 PM

GB

“ From George's daughter, Mary:
Daddy always thought the world of Earl, his "Tall Preacher Friend" he had known for many years. Also a resident at SRCV, Dad enjoyed visiting Earl several times when both of them were up to it. I recall the joy on both men's faces as they greeted one another, encouraging one another. My father joins you in grief and heartfelt sympathy at this time of loss and mourning. We are keeping you in our prayers for comfort, and also rejoicing that Earl has been released from his suffering and is now with his Lord Jesus in Heaven.
Sincerely,
Mary Bruffett for George Farmer

George Farmer & Mary Bruffett - February 02, 2016 at 01:49 PM

WH

“ I remember the Knowles family who lived in Salesville, AR whose kids attended the Salesville School where Ed Pinkston was the teacher and Earnestine was a fellow student. Junior was in high school in Norfolk and so was my sister Maxine, the girls called Junior Juicy Knowles but I never knew why. My family moved to Idaho in '46. I occasionally visit AR and Salesville, the last about five years ago, many of the land marks are still there and recall fond memories of the two years my family lived there. My condolences to the knowles family for the loss of that tall drink of water I knew as Junior.
Bill Holstine Seattle, WA

William C. Holstine - February 02, 2016 at 01:22 PM

HR

“ Junior's passing brings sadness and many fond memories of one of my favorite people.

Junior always had the right words to say for any occasion and the right words to say to put events in life in perspective.

He understood each of us and always had the kind word to say.

I remember his words at the funeral of my uncle Paul Renfro and his discussion of my Dad with me at lunch on the day my Dad was buried.

I am sure everyone he knows has similar memories of this great man.

This world has suffered a loss, but the next world has gained.

He will always be in alive in my memory.

Herman Renfro

Herman Renfro - February 01, 2016 at 09:42 AM