



Elmer Joplin

June 17, 1915 - January 22, 2015

Elmer Lee Joplin, age 99, of Manteno, IL passed away on January 22, 2015. He was born in West Frankfort, IL in 1915 to Elmer Roscoe and Ada Miriam Joplin. Elmer was 4 years old when his father was killed in a tragic coal mining accident. A few years later, his mother was re-married to William George Elliott, who was a kind and loving step-father. From an early age, Elmer was immersed in the Christian community that would become his lifelong passion. He earned a Bachelor of Sacred Literature Degree in 1943 from the Chicago Evangelical Institute, later renamed Vennard College. In his senior year, Elmer began pastoring a mission church in Harvey, IL and then pastored in Nebo, IL where he was ordained as an elder of the Church of the Nazarene. Over the next 20 years, he pastored churches in Gorham, Fairmount, Sidney and Assumption, IL. In 1961 he moved his family to Bourbonnais, IL and joined Kankakee First Church of the Nazarene, where he was a devoted member for 53 years. He taught the Sunday School Bible Class for 17 years. With his wife Dorothy, he led the senior social group "Prime Time" for 16 years and was involved in many other ministries of the church. Elmer was employed by the Bourbonnais Post office from 1962 until his retirement in 1981. Not one to be satisfied with retirement, Elmer then took on maintenance work at the WVLI radio station. He "retired" from the WVLI in 2003 at the age of 87. When not working or tinkering in his garage, he thoroughly enjoyed golf and many cross-country trips in the US with his family, plus visits to the Holy Land, Europe, and Alaska. Elmer was blessed with a loving family. He married Dorothy Helen

Gossett on August 10, 1941 in Ridge Farm, IL and they celebrated 73 happy years together this past August. Together they raised two children with patience, discipline and humility. Elmer was kind and soft-spoken and always had time to answer a question or solve a problem, no matter how small. He is dearly missed by his loved ones, who celebrate the fact that he is now at peace and with his Creator. Elmer is survived by his wife, Dorothy, his son Paul Roscoe (Sharon) Joplin of Spring, TX, and his daughter Ruth Ann Joplin of Chicago, IL. Also surviving is grandson Derek (Michelle) Joplin, granddaughter Dawn (Kirt) Hampson, great grandsons Aaron Vetrone and Zachary Joplin, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, sisters Edna Mae Joplin and Pauline (Robert) Carson, half-sister Rebecca Edelman, and step sisters, Hila (Dwight) Rice and Lolabelle Viars. A gathering of family and friends will be held on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Bourbonnais Chapel of the Schreffler Life Story Funeral Home, 1100 N. Convent St. Bourbonnais, IL 60914. A celebration of life service will be held on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at the Kankakee First Church of the Nazarene, 1000 N. Entrance Ave., Kankakee, IL, with visitation beginning at 10:00 a.m. Burial will follow at Kankakee Memorial Gardens Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Kankakee First Church of the Nazarene. You can also archive a favorite memory or photo and sign the online guestbook by visiting www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Elmer Joplin*

February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM



“ *Lon and I think of Elmer with fond memories. We celebrate Elmer's life and home going. We know that he is rejoicing with Jesus today and that is a blessing. He represents a life lived well. He was a supporter of the church and treated us always with kindness and love. We offer our condolences to Dorothy and family. Sincerely, Sue and Lon*

Sue and Lon Williams - January 26, 2015 at 02:01 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of my dear friends moving on to glory. The Joplins were great friends in my growing years at old Nazarene Acres Camp on Illinois District. Their son and I did a lot of fishing in the old camp lake even getting wet a few times. Elmer pastored Fairmount Illinois Church and I served there in 1965. He was truly a devoted Christian and preacher as well as mail carrier for many years. God bless the family in this time of loss.*

Pastor James Blue - January 26, 2015 at 01:24 PM