



Obituary for Dr. Paul Edward Turner

Paul Edward Turner, 82, of Asheboro, North Carolina went to be with his Lord and Savior, Saturday, July 31, 2021, at Randolph Health in Asheboro.

Dr. Turner was born on June 24, 1939, in Rush Co. Indiana to the late Roy D. Turner and Armetha Steward Turner. In 1963, after graduating from Marion College, Marion, IN (not IWU), he married Janet Van Cleave of Terry, MT.

In 1971, responding to God's call to missions, Paul and family left for the Philippines to serve as Bible College teachers, to prepare pastors and leaders for the growing churches. II Timothy 2:2 motivated Paul for this work: "And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." Through the years he also spearheaded theological education by distance-learning, to train lay-people in local churches for ministry. Many of these gifted people established new churches as they put into practice what they learned.

Gen. Supt. of the Philippine Wesleyan Church, Dr. Pablo, and Paul had a dream: a Wesleyan Graduate School for pastors who wanted to earn a Master's Degree. At the age of 58, Paul earned his Doctor of Ministry degree from Nazarene Seminary. This enabled him to establish the Graduate School, as well as teach there. A dream was realized.

From 1999 to 2007, Paul shouldered the oversight of Wesleyan missions in 12 other Asian nations. This entailed much travel and leadership development, which meant, for example, spending 6 weeks in India, teaching in their Bible School during the monsoon season.

From 2005 to retirement in 2007, Paul and Janet lived and ministered in Japan, and continued their travels to surrounding Asian nations. They enjoyed ministry in Asia for 30 years, as well as 13 years pastoring churches in IN, SD, MT, and KS.

During his retirement years, he served for many years as the Editor of the LINK, the newsletter of Wesleyan Missionary Alumni Fellowship. He also managed the WMAF website and was responsible for the obituaries and biographies posted prior to July 2021 and copies of the LINK since it's inception.

In addition to his parents, Dr. Turner was preceded in death by his siblings, Wilma, Robert, and Russell. He is survived by his wife, Janet; two daughters, Joy Y. Anderson (Tim) of Brookings, OR; Lois J. McGrady of Asheboro; son, Daniel P. Turner (Julie) of Spokane Valley, WA; and three granddaughters, Natasha Turner, Brittany Sandy (Ryan), and Emma Chloe McGrady; two step grandchildren, Ethan Ricker (Christine) and Rachelle O'Farrell (Rick) and three great grandchildren, Jayden, Jaclyn and Bella.

A memorial service was held on Oct 4 at the Neighbor's Grove Wesleyan Church in Asheboro. Internment was at Arlington East Cemetery, Rushville, IN.

Memorials may be made to The Wesleyan Church of the Philippines, Global Partners of the Wesleyan Church, 13300 OLIO Road, Fishers, IN, 46037.