



## Jimmy Severn

April 17, 1965 - September 28, 2009

Rev. Jimmy Ray Severn, 44, of Decatur, Arkansas, died September 28, 2009, at The Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. Born April 17, 1965, in Siloam Springs, Arkansas, he was the son of George Severn and Carol Daniels Severn. Jimmy was a graduate of Gentry High School, and received a bachelor's degree from Central Bible College in 1987. He was Pastor of Newsong Church in Centerton, Arkansas. On September 5, 1987, Jimmy married Lynn Richardson in Whiteland, Indiana. Survivors include his wife Lynn of the home; his parents, George and Carol Severn of Gentry, Arkansas; one brother, Glenn Severn and wife Connie of Gentry, Arkansas; his grandfather, Harvey Severn of London, Arkansas; his mother-in-law, Joy Richardson of Bloomington, Indiana; and one brother-in-law, Rev. Bill Richardson and wife Cindy of Springfield, Missouri. Pallbearers will be Steve Baker, Mike Richardson, Scott Miller, Carter Longardner, C.J. Brummett, Mark Kendall, Virgil Carlson and Theo Smith. Funeral services will be 3:00 p.m., Saturday, October 3, 2009, at Gamble Elementary School in Centerton, Arkansas, Rev. Brad McMath officiating. Burial will follow at Springtown Cemetery, Springtown, Arkansas. Visitation will be 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Friday, October 2, 2009, at Wasson Funeral Home, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Saturday, October 3, 2009, at Gamble Elementary School, Centerton, Arkansas.

# Tribute Wall

LO

“ I am saddened and very sorry to hear about Jim. I knew him during his teenage years. My dad and mom pastored Bethel Heights AOG for six years, and my family and I attended the church during that time. I always enjoyed Jim's singing and guitar playing. God gave him special talents at an early age. My older two sons were in the teen class with Jim, and his Mom taught the class. Carol, I can certainly empathize with you and I know your heart is breaking for your son. He is now in Heaven with my son, Michael, and my Mom and Dad. I can just see Jim and Daddy talking now. Daddy would be proud to know that Jim became a minister. He always cared a great deal for Jim and his family. So did Roy and I. We had no idea that Jim had become a minister. If we had known, we would have attended his church. I want ya'll to know that our prayers are with you. God knows our pain and sees our sorrows, and He can heal broken hearts. I know that it will take time, but I want to assure you that the pain will become more bearable as time goes by. But, of course, you will never forget Jim. I'm sure you will think about him every day, as I do my son, even though it has been 15 years since God took him home. We can just look forward to the day when God takes us home to be with our families for all eternity! May God Bless the whole Severn family. Carol, I would love to hear from you if you have time to write. Love You, Linda

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**Linda Camp Otto** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

BH

“ Lynn our prayers are with you. Jim and you served with honor at Ellettsville where Betty and I had served as associate Pastor many years before. We know the congregation there rejoice with Jim's home going and will treasure memories of you folks for ever. The hurt you feel of Jim lost will be touched by the loving hand of Jesus. Your missionary friends...

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**Bob & Betty Holyfield** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

MH

“ Lynn, words cannot express what I am feeling right now, sadness & shock. This just doesn't seem real to me. I know this was God's plan and we aren't meant to understand it. I can just imagine him on the streets of gold, playing his guitar and trying to outdo all the angels. I have been so honored to have you as my youth pastor as a teenager and my senior pastor as an adult. It was your influence that got me back on the right path, and also led my husband back to Christ. Lynn we love you lots, & Pastor Jim, thank you for your service to the Lord, we can't wait to see you again in Heaven. We will continue to "Go after God" like you always showed us. We love you and miss you. Love, Mike, Rachel & Michael Heady

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**Mike & Rachel Heady** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

JS

“ Lynn,

*Jerrell & I were so saddened to hear of Jim's passing. We know how hard it is to lose someone you love. We wanted to let you know that you are in our prayers. I have spent a lot of time thinking of Jim this last week. The one time that sticks out to me is when you guys came over for dinner and I let our dog in and Jim ran laps around our house with our dog hot on his tail. Or showing up to a church work day in brand new clothes. These are the memories of him I will remember always. I am so sorry we weren't able to attend the funeral, we wanted to. Unfortunately, I was out of work all week sick. May the Lord give you peace and strength. We love you. Jerrell, Jennifer, Ian & Aidan Stephens*

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**Jennifer Stephens** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

BT

“ Lynn--we were so sorry to hear about Jim, nothing can explain this, but God's mercy is great and our trust is in Him. Janet enjoys the piano so very much, it has been a blessing to her and our family. We will always think of you when we hear that piano and Janet worshipping her Lord. God Bless you and may you find strength in HIM. Christian Love-Bruce and Janet Tupper

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**Bruce and Janet Tupper** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

JH

“ Lynn,

*May God Bless and keep you during this most difficult time in your life, I know. But God will carry you through. You are a strong wonderful woman of God, and Jim was a wonderful man of God. I will always remember him dancing across the platform, singing, praying for others. He had a heart after God. My heart goes out to you Lynn, I remember First Assembly of God years ago where we attended together.*

*Your in my prayers.*

*Love  
Nancy*

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**Jeff and Sandy Hacker** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

CO

“ Lynn and family,  
Jimmy Ray will always hold a special place in my heart. My memories of him always makes me smile. He was so funny and fun loving. I appreciate his loyal service to God and his church family. I have had the priviledge to sing on the Praise Team at Ellettsville AG for many years. Those memories I will forever cherish.  
I pray for strength, guidance and comfort in the days ahead.  
~God bless!  
Cherie & Jeff Olsson

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**Cherie Olsson** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

DP

“ We seen how much Jim loved you Lynn. You are his FIRST LADY. He adored you and didn't care who knew. I enjoyed seeing Jim talk so kind and affectionate to you at church. He really represented to us and others what a real husband is supposed to be.

Thank you both for demonstrating God's love and showing us what a real marriage is supposed to look and be like.

Love you Lynn  
Crystal Prince

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**Dan and Crystal Prince** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

GS

“ Lynn, our hearts go out to you and the family. We can hardly believe that this has happened to "our" Pastor Jim! We loved him soo! We remember his great sermons, wonderful voice leading worship on the guitar and his sense of humor and the great times we had at the Fall Jamoborees with Jim in his overalls and suspenders and how he prayed for us all. He leaves a great legacy at Ellettsville First Assembly.

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**Gene & Vicky Shanks** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

MF

“ Sweetest Lynn, my prayers have been and will continue to be with you. Lord richly strength you and encompass you with his angels and love.

Love,  
Martha Fox

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**Martha Fox** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

SF

“ I remember so much about Jim. While he was my youth Pastor, I was on the worship team with him and then when he became Senior Pastor I followed him to the worship team for the main church. You just establish so much of a relationship/friendship with him. He was just so fun, funny, nice, and caring. I loved his laugh, his smile, and the love he had for God. I remember him dancing on the stage for God during worship. And now he is dancing on the stage with God. He will always be loved and missed.

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**Shawn & Amanda Frye** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

TB

“ I can't find words to express how sorry I am. Jim was such a blessing to so many and his passion for God and for living was apparent in all he did. I have missed being part of his church since he left to start his new church. I loved the worship times he lead us in - music is so important to me and is such an important part of my relationship with God. Pastor Jim lead us in such beautiful times of worship through music. I know he is worshiping from his heart now in the presence of the Lord. Lynn, you are in my thoughts and prayers and I wish I could be with you and all those that love you and Jim at the service today.

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**Tara Bazler** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

RC

“ Dear Lynn

*We are so sorry for your loss we had no idea that Pastor Jim was ill It was a shock when we recieved the news of his passing. Our prayers are with you and the rest of the familiy.*

*We mourn with you and all of us who have been priveledged to know Jimmy. We Will miss him but he has meet his Lord and I know he is Happy.*

*I have thought about Pastor Jim alot these last few days and the thing that keeps coming back to my mind is everytime he preached about heaven he would jumped up and dpwn Smile that bright smile and shout I'm going its going to be a wonderful place. We love you Lynn as we loved Pastor Jim and will be lifting you up in Prayer.*

*The Freemans*

*Larry and Linda*

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**Rev Jay S Covert** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

MM

“ Lynn,

*I am so sorry for your loss. Pastor Jim was such a wonderful man. I always enjoyed hearing the two of you signing and playing together. The two of you were always in harmony. You both made such a big impact on my life from the beggining and even more of an impact when I grew up. He made the loss of my twins so much easier cause he was there for me every step of the way and even helped me with the plans. I will always have a special place in my heart for him and for you. I love you very much and you will always be in my prayers. Ernie already misses him so much.*

*Love,  
Misty Macy*

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**Misty Macy** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

AE

“ Dear Lynn and family, our thoughts, prayers, and love are with you today and each day as you are comforted by friends, family, and the Holy Spirit.

*2 Cor 4:7 but we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.*

*Jim was an earthen vessel shaped by God, by the hand of God, as a potter molds the clay, and we praise God for Jim's life and example.*

*Aloha - April and Dan*

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**April and Daniel Easter** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

DS

“ We send out heart felt sympathy to Lynn, Pastor Jim's mother, father, and brother; as well as other family and friends.

*I will always be thankful for the time spent under the ministry of Pastor Jim & Lynn. Pastor Jim taught us to praise & worship our Lord exuberantly and unashamedly. Today I'm sure he's doing that very thing.*

*He had a way of preaching God's word in such a way that it was interesting and understandable. With his unique (and often humorous) stories, jokes, and illustrations. Then he would bring his point home with a ?HEAVY REVY?.*

*With all of Pastor Jim's talents and abilities he could have been successful in many venues. But he chose to use them to serve the God he loved.*

*He will always be sorely missed but fondly remembered.*

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**Dennis & Sally Sexton** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

JS

“ Pastor Jim was a wonderful pastor. I remember talking to him about attending Central Bible College, and he had good things to tell me about the school. Thank you for helping me make one of the best decisions of my life! Pastor Jim had such a heart to see God's will done in our church. I will never forget hearing him pray one Sunday evening during an altar service. You could hear and sense his passion for God and for others. The legacy he left at Ellettsville First Assembly will never be forgotten. He will be greatly missed!

~Susan~

*I will always remember Pastor Jim for his love and enthusiasm for Jesus. He was truly a man after God's heart. He always inspired me to try and give my best in worshiping the Lord and not hold back. He loved our church and cared for us like family. Jerry and I were so blessed to have known him. You'll be in our hearts forever. Pam and Jerry*

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**Jerry, Pam, and Susan** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

SS

“ Pastor Jim was very special to me-one of my favorite people. He never failed to give me a hug and tell me he loved me. That could be because I wrote his paychecks. What you saw was what he was. I think he was always a kid at heart because I remember when we would go out for a staff dinner he and Pastor Mike or whoever was with us might take off chasing each other thru the restaurant parking lot like teenagers. I will always associate Starbucks with Pastor Jim. He will be missed.

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**Shirley A. Smith** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

DW

“ We were blessed to know Pastor Jim. His joyous spirit was contagious. He taught us how to worship at a higher level. He was a true inspiration to us. His smile will never be forgotten.

*Dave and Pam Walton*

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**Dave & Pam Walton** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

JB

“ It was such a blessing that you were in my life as a great long time best friend. Just to say that you are one of the funniest and most vibrant man I have ever met. I will miss all of your funnies and your great services, sermons and especially worship. You are a wonderful man, husband and pastor. He touched a lot of lives....including mine.

*I will miss you so much my friend.  
Judy Brummett*

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**Judy Brummett** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

RB

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Its a temporary loss but very painful just the same. Your family is in my prayers.

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**Renee' Shields Bradshaw** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

RB

“ Pastor Jim was a wonderful person that was truly led by God. He would take time to heard form God and follow God's will. We will miss you greatly.

*Ross and Mary Bell*

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**Ross&Mary Bell** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

LS

“ I am so glad to have had Pastor Jim as a minister. He had such a heart and sense of protection for those in his care. He had a wonderful sense of humor. I remember him just falling to his knees and singing the "Wonderful Cross"

*It is still hard for me to grasp I will not see him again until I get to heaven.*

*I love you Lynn and am praying for you and family. Hope to see you again soon.*

*Lanore*

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**Lanore Scamihorn** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

DD

“ Lynn - Pastor Jim was such a wonderful man and awesome Man of God. He will be sorely missed, but Donnie and I know he and your Dad are rejoicing in Heaven now. We're praying for you daily, my little buddy. I'm sorry I can't be there with you, but I will see you soon. I love you lots.

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**Donnie Betty Davis** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

KB

“ Lynn,  
We are praying for you and your family. Pastor Jim, as we will forever call him, was one of the most loving and caring people we have ever known. He had a wonderful personality a great laugh and smile. He was a great preacher with the power of God over him.  
With much love and many prayers, Kirk and Lisa Barnes

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**Kirk and Lisa Barnes** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

MW

“ Dear Lynn,

*We are praying that you and your family will feel God's peace and comfort at this time. Jim was such a wonderful person and he will be missed. We wish we could be there with you to celebrate his life. He is in a much better place now. Praise God!*

*We Love You,  
Mark and Suzann Westerfield*

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**Mark & Suzann Westerfield** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

BM

“ *I visited Jim and Lynn's church in Ellettsville several times and was so impressed with Jim's gift of ministry. He was a godly man and husband. I know he will be missed greatly by many people.*

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**Barbara McDonald** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

KD

“ Lynn,

*I was sorry to hear about the death of your husband. You and your family have meant a great deal to me and my late brother, Craig. I'm sure that God is with you in your time of sorrow.*

*Peace and Love,  
Kenny Dunn*

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**Kenny Dunn** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

KB

“ I met and worked with Jim on the site and concept drawing for the new church. I didn't know him long, but enough to know his passion for worship and serving God and his people. You could tell he was excited about the church and the future possibilities and was anxious to build. I was looking forward to working with Jim on the project!! To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord, but the absence felt by friends and family is what has to be dealt with everyday. I pray God's peace and comfort to Lynn, and both Lynn and Jim's parents at this very hard time.

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**Ken Booth** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

JC

“ Jim was great friend. We had alot of good times. My prayers are for his family.

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**John Coones** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

SB

“ Jim was a very gifted and talented man of God. I sang on the praise & worship team Ellettsville 1st. I was so sick a few years ago, and he was always there for me. I loved him and bless his memory. "I'll meet you in the morning my friend."

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**Steve Baker** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

PH

“ I had the pleasure of ministering in music with Jim at an Indiana Youth Camp back in the 90's. He was a great musician and loved the Lord. His family is in my prayers.

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**Phil Harrison** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

CA

“ Lynn,  
We love you so much and are praying for you. We are so honored to have had Pastor Jim as our pastor. We are forever changed. Newsong will continue and we will make sure his vision comes to life.

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**Charles and Sarah Adams** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

SP

“ Our world would be a better place with more men like Jim Severn in it.

Lynn and NewSong Church, you continue to be in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Sherri Perry** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

BB

“ Lynn,  
We are so sorry. We are praying that the presence of God will surround you and you will feel the peace that only God can give. Our hearts and prayers are with you.

*Billy and Carolyn Burks*

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**Billy Burks** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

DH

“ Jim and I began as youth pastors in Arkansas about the same time. We enjoyed wonderful times together at camp and other district meetings. Though he is in the presence of the Lord, we are all saddened to lose him. I look forward to meeting him again in that beautiful city that knows no sickness, pain, or tears. I wish we could be with you for the funeral. Unfortunately it is not possible for us to be there, but know that we are praying for you and your entire family.

*Dane and Paula Hall*

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**Dane Hall** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

SM

“ Love you man...can't wait to see you again up there.

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**Steve Morris** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

SP

“ Lynn, I know you must be hurting even though Jimmy is with our Lord at this moment. The only peace I can offer you is that he is no longer in pain and is praising His Lord right now with songs and dance. That is my belief and I hope I'm not offending you. Jimmy was such a sweet boy to me in school. I will miss the boy I knew but I know he is in a better place. I will continue to pray for you and may God Bless you always.

*Sharon*

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**Sharon Parker** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

LM

“ *To The Severn Family*

*So sorry for your lose. My prayer is that God be with you during this time, to give you strength and understanding. I wish there was something I could say or do to comfort you. Love and thinking of you, Laveta*

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**Laveta McCallister** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM

SQ

“ *Lynn,*

*I'll always remember when you two first met, the way your eyes would light up whenever you'd talk about "Jimmy Ray"*

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**Sheila (Korth) Quinn** - September 19, 2012 at 12:00 PM