



## Rev. John Butts

June 23, 1925 - March 19, 2013

On March 19, 2013, the Lord called John's mission on earth fulfilled as he started his eternal heavenly life with Jesus at the age of 87. John was saved at age 19 and met his lovely wife, Evelyn, whose dad pastored the church he attended. John's life call was to the ministry with the Assembly of God as a pastor, evangelist and missionary. He lived in Arkansas for his first two years, then his family moved to western Oklahoma, then to California during the Dust Bowl days to find a better life, ultimately moving back to Oklahoma where John and Evelyn were married on April 3, 1950. They lived there and raised four children in Leedey, Oklahoma, until 1970, when the family moved to West Siloam Springs, Oklahoma.

He used his ability as a builder to establish Tabernacle Evangelism in Africa, which has become the standard for establishing churches in Africa. He made 34 evangelism trips to Africa to establish new churches and preach the message of salvation. He built and pastored the church in Leedey, Oklahoma in the 60's, pastored several churches in Arkansas, and ultimately built and pastored with his family and congregation at West Siloam Springs, Oklahoma Assembly of God in 1976 until present.

He was born in Pindle, Arkansas to John and Belva Butts on June 23, 1925. He had four sisters, Elizabeth, Viola, Agnes and Launa and one brother, Rucker, who all preceded him to their heavenly home.

Survivors include his wonderful wife, Evelyn of the home, Larry and Carolyn Butts of West Siloam Springs, Oklahoma, James and Beth Butts of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, John and Belinda Butts of West Siloam Springs, Oklahoma, and Carol and David Schmidt, missionaries to Cameroon with residences in West Siloam Springs and San Diego, California. Grandchildren are Derek Butts, Lindsey Butts, Ryan Schmidt, Aaron Butts, Melanie Schmidt, Kristin Butts-Stanley, Nathan Schmidt, Jenna Butts and four great grandchildren; brothers-in-law are Rev. Dennis Meyers, Earl and Riga Gore, Walter Gore, Raymond Gore, and Leah Meyers. He was a fun and good example for his 28 nieces and nephews. His church family includes members and many ministers who looked up to John for his leadership and mentoring.

Funeral services will be 2:00 p.m., Saturday, March 23, 2013, at Assembly of God Church, West Siloam Springs, Oklahoma. Visitation will be 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Friday, March 22, 2013, at Wasson Funeral Home, Siloam Springs, Arkansas. To sign the online guest book, visit [www.wassonfuneralhome.com](http://www.wassonfuneralhome.com). Burial will be 3:00 p.m., Sunday, March 24, 2013, at Red Star Cemetery, Leedey, Oklahoma.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR **22**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Wasson Funeral Home  
441 U.S. 412  
Siloam Springs, AR 72761  
(479) 524-5131  
wasson@wassonfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.wassonfuneralhome.com>

## Service

MAR **23**. 2:00 PM (CT)

West Siloam Springs Assembly of God  
5524 Cedar Dr.  
West Siloam Springs, OK

# Tribute Wall

Daryl  
Watkins

“ *I wasn't aware until today of the passing of Brother Butts. My heart is saddened and although it's been over a year I wanted to express my condolences to Sister Butts, Larry, James, John, Carol and families. I have some wonderful memories from my time at West Siloam Springs Assembly of God and will forever remember Brother Butts as a gentle man who dealt with every aspect of life with the same mild-mannered approach. His contribution to the community will long be remembered and the church that exists there stands today as a memorial to his many years of ministry. May the Lord shelter each of you in His loving arms.*

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**Daryl Watkins** - May 17, 2014 at 11:36 AM

Linda  
White

“ *Pastor Butts did a lot to help people. He was very caring and giving. He was wise and gentle and very loving. We really really loved him.*

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**Linda White** - March 25, 2013 at 02:35 PM

FM

“ *Pastor Butts was a very sweet man. He will be missed by so many.*



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**Francisco & Danyell Medina** - March 22, 2013 at 10:33 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rev. John Butts.*



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March 22, 2013 at 07:50 PM



“ *John and Belinda,  
I was very sorry to hear about your loss. I know that you will miss him very much but remember you will get to see him again someday! Praying that God will comfort you and the rest of your family at this time.  
Love y'all,  
Roma*

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**Roma Gordon** - March 21, 2013 at 10:59 PM



“ *Larry, James, John, Carol and Evelyn*

*I am very sorry for your loss. I want you to know that your dad made an impression on me that has always stayed in my mind from when I lived and attended church there. That was 34 years ago. I remember how he always put much effort into making each person that attended church to feel welcomed and loved. It did not matter your talent level or your social status, he was dedicated to loving as Christ loved....unconditionally.  
I love you all and will keep you in my prayers.*

*Mike Ellis  
Sallisaw, Oklahoma*

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**Mike Ellis** - March 21, 2013 at 05:53 PM

PB

“ *God's blessings and comfort to the family of Rev. John Butts.*

Phil Blotevogel - March 21, 2013 at 12:12 PM

BB

“ *Beverly Blount lit a candle in memory of Rev. John Butts*



Beverly Blount - March 21, 2013 at 11:05 AM

MH

“ *Martha H. purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Rev. John Butts.*



Martha H. - March 21, 2013 at 08:46 AM

BR

“ *My prayers are out to our distant cousins/great aunts-uncles in Oklahoma and Arkansas. I appreciated the hospitality shown by Johnny and his children when I came out for a visit with my Grandad, Rucker Butts. I know you all will miss him as I miss my granddad. Much love.*

*In Christ,*

*Carey Brad Randolph, Round Rock, TX*

Brad Randolph - March 20, 2013 at 04:52 PM

TS

“ I remember Pastor Butts giving me the opportunity to preach . I was just starting out , wouldve been 1980's . He was an encouragement and a blessing to that young preacher. I also know Africa will miss him as well. Debbie and I will be praying for the family. God Bless, Terry and Debbie Scott

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**Terry Scott** - March 20, 2013 at 02:41 PM

LH

“ James, John & families...we are so sorry for your loss. May your memories & God's love bring you peace, comfort & strength during this difficult time.



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**Larry & Lana Hurt** - March 20, 2013 at 10:34 AM