



Lawerence Hallum

January 4, 1920 - March 7, 2009

Lawerence David Hallum, age 89, of Cookson Hills Christian Ministries in Kansas, Oklahoma, died in Springdale, Arkansas March 7, 2009. He was born January 4, 1920 in Clarksville, Arkansas, the third child and only son of eight children. His parents were John Virgil Hallum and Essie Beeler (Willis). He was preceded in death by three sisters, Lola Virginia, Hazel Laurette and Elsie Emmaline, and is mourned by four younger sisters: Anna Lee, Jessie L., Joye Bell and Carrie Willie Aredia. The family was desperately poor, hit hard by the Great Depression, and Lawerence was doing a grown man's work at the age of 10 to help support the family. He suffered from malnutrition and had a bleeding ulcer by age 16. In spite of many absences he loved school and graduated from the eighth grade. At age 18 he joined the Civilian Conservation Corps, a Roosevelt Works Projects program, and was stationed at Devil's Tower, Wyoming. Because of the stomach ulcer he was rejected for Military service when he volunteered to serve with his relatives and friends during World War 2. His family had settled near Pawnee, Oklahoma. After his time in the CCC he returned home to find work wherever he could. He met Nora Ellen Rountree at a farmhouse dance and decided to pursue her, although she was engaged to someone else. His successful suit was culminated in their marriage before the Justice of the Peace on May 25, 1940. Lawerence was a hard worker and always provided well for his family. The specter of poverty and hunger followed him throughout his life. He had a lifelong love for automobiles. He became a Christian in 1947 and, never one

to do a thing halfway, in January of 1948 he was off to Midwest Christian College in Oklahoma City to learn how to preach. He graduated in the spring of 1951; however, because of skipping high school he received a blank diploma. He was awarded an honorary Bachelor's Degree many years later by Ozark Christian College. Lawrence and Ellen had three natural children, Patricia, Awynne, and David, and countless foster children. Lawrence was preceded in death by Patty and David, and is survived by Awynne. In January 1961 the Hallums left a successful ministry at Forest Hills Christian Church in Oklahoma City to take the helm of Cookson Hills Christian Ministries, a struggling children's home in the hills of Northeast Oklahoma. His own childhood gave Lawrence a heart for children in need. The rest of his working life and into retirement years he was committed to Cookson Hills. He traveled many thousands of miles promoting the ministry he loved and lived. In his last years he was robbed of memory and finally of life by the onset of Alzheimer's disease. He is survived by his one love and lifelong companion, Nora Ellen, his daughter, Awynne Thurstenson of Siloam Springs, AR, many grandchildren, great-grand children, foster children and friends. Funeral Services will be Thursday March 12, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. at Community Christian Fellowship of Siloam Springs, Arkansas. Memorials may be sent to the Hallum Strategic Fund, Cookson Hills Christian Ministries, Rt 3 Box 200, Kansas, OK 74347. Arrangements are under the direction of Wasson Funeral Home of Siloam Springs, Arkansas.

Tribute Wall

CR

“ Awynne & Joe, we would like to express our deepest sympathy to you and your family. We know how hard it is to lose a parent. Remembering your family in our prayers.

Chyle & Marie Rollins

Chyle & Marie Rollins - September 19, 2012 at 11:28 AM

SB

“ Awynne,
Larry & I are sad for you in the loss of your dad. Knowing you, I'm sure you have done everything you could to make his last days the best they could be. May God give you and your family His peace and comfort.

*Love,
Sandra*

Sandra Beattie - September 19, 2012 at 11:28 AM

NG

“ Awynne,
I am so sorry for your loss. Your fathers' dedication to the Father's work must make you proud. I hope that happy memories of the years you had him with you will comfort you at this time.

Nellie Goodman - September 19, 2012 at 11:28 AM

JF

“ Rick,

Just want you to know my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time of passage. As you said, "It was his time to go home." If we only knew all that God has prepared for us on heaven's shore, it would ease our time of grief here. Know that I appreciate you and your consistency over the years.

God bless you,

John R Feaster - September 19, 2012 at 11:28 AM

DD

“ *Lawrence Hallum was a man who loved the Lord and showed it. He had a gentle but purposful manner and made everyone around him feel welcome.*

Dan & Shelly Dantzler - September 19, 2012 at 11:28 AM

TK

“ *You all are in our prayers, if there is anything that we can do please let us know.*

Todd and Terry Keesee - September 19, 2012 at 11:28 AM

DC

“ *We are praying for your comfort in Christ.*

Doug Calvert - September 19, 2012 at 11:28 AM