



## Rev. Lonnie J. Nelson

July 27, 1929 - September 12, 2013

Rev. Lonnie J. Nelson, 84, of Siloam Springs, Arkansas, died September 12, 2013 in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Born July 27, 1929, in Alix, Arkansas, he was the son of Oather Nelson and Areta Quick Nelson. Lonnie received a BA from Central Bible College in Pastoral Studies and a BA in History Education from John Brown University. He was a homebuilder, and he taught high school history and psychology. He also taught at the Siloam Springs Alternative School for twenty years. He pastored in the Assembly of God Church for 28 years and in the United Methodist Church for 30 years.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Martha Lack Nelson, and son, Michael Nelson.

Survivors include his wife, Sue Whiteside Nelson of the home; two sons, Phillip Nelson and wife Josie of Chicago, Illinois and Dr. John Holcomb and wife Beth of Siloam Springs; three daughters, Marilyn Hoyt and husband Marshall of Siloam Springs, Sherie Fenno and husband John of Colcord, Oklahoma, and Stacy Ladyman and husband George of Skillman, New Jersey; daughter-in-law Jody Braley of Aurora, Colorado; sixteen grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00am on Tuesday, September 17, 2013, at First United Methodist Church, Siloam Springs. Visitation will be Monday,

September 16, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, at Wasson Funeral Home, Siloam Springs.

# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood Cemetery

Oakwood Cemetery  
Paris, AR 72855

# Previous Events

## Service

SEP 17. 10:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church  
325 E. Twin Springs St.  
Siloam Springs, AR 72761

# Tribute Wall

Daryl  
Watkins

“ I am a few months late learning of Lonnie's passing, nevertheless I wanted to express my condolences. Lonnie was a man I'll never forget. He made a tremendous impact on my life as a young minister and on one particular occasion his support meant the world to me when not much was making sense. I held him in highest esteem and thank God for every moment I was privileged to know him. He was an honest man in every way. In not only his words, but his actions, his ministry and his expressions of humor and counsel. I treasured his wisdom and sincerity. Many many times I've thought of him over the years since we last met. May God grant you His comfort Sue. Farewell my friend until we meet again.

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**Daryl Watkins** - May 17, 2014 at 10:53 AM

LC

“ Sue, I truly am sorry to hear of Lonnie's passing. He was such a good, kind man. I didn't get to know him as well as I would have liked since I live in Tahlequah, Ok. But he performed the ceremony for my husband and I and then again for my brother-in-law and sister-in-law in your home. We really appreciated this. I met you and Lonnie through Al and Jinny Goodman before all this. My prayers and concern goes to you. I know how hard this is for you since I lost my husband in 2003. May the Lord comfort and keep you in his care. Lois Carroll

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**Lois Carroll** - September 27, 2013 at 08:24 PM

VG

“ There are so many memories we have of this mighty man of God, it would fill a book. We feel so sad for Sue and the family, and wish we lived closer than a 24 hour drive. The Nelsons did a mighty work in Batavia and will not be forgotten. Love and prayers are sent your way, Sue. Jinny and Al Goodman

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**Virginia Goodman** - September 22, 2013 at 10:17 PM

TM

“ Sue.....So sorry to learn of Lonnie's passing. Had no idea he wasn't well. News was slow in reaching me in Homer, AK.....I always liked the man. We shared common classroom experiences and enjoyed a good story. RIP my friend.....Tony Maurer

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**Tony Maurer** - September 22, 2013 at 12:29 AM

KS

“ Sue: We were so sorry to hear of the loss of Lonnie. It was our pleasure to have known him--and for many years, too. As you may know, my mom and dad had known Lonnie and his family many years ago, and they always felt close to him. It always did our hearts good to see you together. We enjoyed and appreciated many of his services though some included the funerals of close friends. God Bless! Friends Keith and Mary Ann Sutterfield Edmond, OK

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**Keith Sutterfield** - September 20, 2013 at 08:04 PM



“ *Mr. Nelson was my school teacher way back in 1982 he was always good to all of us kids and showed us what it meant to be a man of God then by example later by being at the church in highfull*

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**Robert Morrow** - September 19, 2013 at 04:02 PM

RM

“ *I just found out about Mr Nelson he was a school teacher of mine back in the 80s and he was a good man*



*Robert Morrow*

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**Robert Morrow** - September 19, 2013 at 02:52 PM

AR

“ *Al Rapp lit a candle in memory of Rev. Lonnie J. Nelson*



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**Al Rapp** - September 17, 2013 at 09:35 PM

CD

“ *It was a beautiful service today. I will cherish all the fond memories we had working together as well as the laughs and the great talks we had. My heart goes out to the family.. Sue, you have been very special to my daughters and taught two of them. There was never a doubt in how much Lonnie loved Jesus, his family and the kids he taught.*

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**Charlotte Darling** - September 17, 2013 at 09:02 PM

KD

“ *Karen Davis lit a candle in memory of Rev. Lonnie J. Nelson*



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**Karen Davis** - September 17, 2013 at 01:37 PM

TF

“ *The Fulfers lit a candle in memory of Rev. Lonnie J. Nelson*



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**The Fulfers** - September 17, 2013 at 12:47 PM

AN

“ *How sad we were to learn of Lonnie's passing. Andy and Lucy loved Lonnie so much. And then when we came to Arkansas and met Lonnie, we fell in love with the spirit that was Lonnie. He baptized our four girls in the Springtown Creek in 1980, encouraged and helped Andy with his ministry in Cincinnati in 2003, and was always a constant friend. His spirit will live on through all of the many people he touched. Our heart felt sympathy goes to Sue and all of the family. Our memories of Lonnie will always be precious ones. Andy & DeNese Newbill.*

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**Andy and DeNese Newbill** - September 17, 2013 at 12:14 PM

BS

“ Bro Nelson was an important part of the Keigley family. My mother always spoke so highly of him and I remember him from my childhood days. He was also present at a difficult time of my life and could verify the "circus" I went through. My oldest brother was mentored by him for many years. He has touched so many lives and I know his reward is great!

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**Bobbie (Barbara Keigley) Seyer** - September 17, 2013 at 10:42 AM

SH

“ What wonderful memories our family has of Lonnie and his precious family! Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time! With love from  
the family of Clinton Jenks.

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**Suzy Harrington** - September 17, 2013 at 09:20 AM

KD

“ Lonnie was the best at everything and holds a place in so many hearts. Sue we love you both so much at the Highfill Church.  
Charles, Karen, Stacy and Shawna Digby

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**Karen and Charles Digby** - September 17, 2013 at 12:34 AM

TS

“ We have so many loving memories of Lonnie and the work he did with the Highfill Church. Our all time memory is of him riding a wagon and holding down the stage backdrop one December day to get it from Gentry Church to the Highfill Church. You know we love you Sue. Charles, Karen, Stacy and Shawna

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**The Digbys, Charles, Karen, Stacy, Shawn** - September 17, 2013 at 12:25 AM

RH

“ My father Rev. Roba Harrison and Rev. Lonnie Nelson both served as pastors in the Arkansas District Council of the Assemblies of God for several years. Both have gone on to their eternal rewards, will have many stars in their crowns. God bless the extended families as we pray for peace, understanding and a renewal of your spirits.

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**Rondell & Jane Harrison** - September 16, 2013 at 09:51 PM

JT

“ Sad to read of Lonnie's passing. He was our pastor in Gentry, 30 years ago, and he was so much more than a man who preached on Sunday. He was a friend. He gave us so much! He remodeled the church beautifully, and he and Sue led and directed wonderful children musicals, blessing all who participated or attended. Blessings and love to Sue and family. Joyce and Bill Tucker

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**Joyce Tucker** - September 16, 2013 at 09:11 PM

AK

“ I was so sad to learn of Lonnie's passing. Seems like I knew the Nelson family from my first days in Siloam - Phil was in my class and Martha was our librarian. I recall playing for a wedding at which he officiated, etc. But I really got to know him once he became part of the Whiteside family - I know that my precious Grayce and Tom adored him and that he was so good to them. Sue, Phil and the whole family , please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Allen Kimbrough** - September 16, 2013 at 05:14 PM

BB

“ We are members of the Gentry United Methodist Church and just want to thank Rev. Nelson and family for the beautiful remodeling done when he was the pastor there. We did not live in Gentry then, but do now, and we are blessed by all he did. He was beloved by this church and we have heard so many wonderful things about him. Thank you all and may the Lord bless each of you and give you comfort.

*Brenda & Terry Bailey*

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**Brenda & Terry Bailey** - September 16, 2013 at 03:34 PM

AS

“ Amy (Goodman) Sasser lit a candle in memory of Rev. Lonnie J. Nelson



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**Amy (Goodman) Sasser** - September 16, 2013 at 02:57 PM

DS

“ My pastor, family friend and mentor as my teacher in high school. We love you Lonnie, and our family will never forget the wonderful, positive impact you made on our family. God bless, and enjoy your new home!!!

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**Dave Scott** - September 16, 2013 at 02:28 PM

C(

“ Mrs. Sue,  
So sorry for your loss. We are praying for you and your family.

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**Cindy Bonds (Rapp)** - September 16, 2013 at 02:27 PM

SE

“ We are very saddened to hear of Lonnie's passing. The past couple of months have been extremely challenging for him and for all of you who love him. We pray God's peace, "which passeth all understanding" may accompany you at this time.  
Dr. and Mrs Scott Estes

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**Scott Estes** - September 16, 2013 at 02:16 PM

SK

“ I have some wonderful "Lonnie" memories to share for sure. My first childhood recollection of Pastor Nelson was how he would sit on the platform on Sunday mornings at Siloam 1st A/G with ALL of his black dress socks showing. Silly how a kid's mind works. I remember the night Martha passed away, awakening in the middle of the night to hear the bad news and what a tragic shock we all felt. I remember how my sis, Angie Wolfe, and Marilyn Nelson were the greatest of buds back then. Then, as I grew up in the church, I looked many times at Martha's memorial gold plaque on the baby grand piano that Lonnie had put there in her honor. Our lives were so intertwined; the Nelson's living across the street in the parsonage and all of Daddy's work on the new (back then) church building. I feel that my life was affected by his in that I serve in the full-time ministry today and carry a torch from the legacy he left. His eye was full of kindness towards me as a child. Rest in Peace, Pastor Nelson! Love to ALL the family.

Shelly (Wolfe) Korrot,  
Music Pastor, Suncoast Cathedral Assembly of God, St. Petersburg,  
Florida  
(parents: Howard Leon & Bobbie Wolfe)  
(Husband, Thomas Korrot and two daughters, Chapel & Loni-Claire)

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**Shelly Korrot** - September 16, 2013 at 02:15 PM

SE

“ We are very saddened at the news of Lonnie's passing. The past couple of months have been extremely trying for him and for all of you who love him. Please accept our deepest condolences, and may the peace of God, which passes all understanding, accompany you in this time.

*Dr. and Mrs. Scott Estes*

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**Scott Estes** - September 16, 2013 at 02:13 PM

GM

“ Mr. Lonnie, was and will be important to my life. He "loved God" and provided a mental space and place to me. Literally 100's of At-Risk kids owe their education to his courage. Mr. Lonnie definitely thought and taught out of the box. A true "gentle"men for us to emulate in life and deed. My kindest wishes to Sue and Marilyn. What Lonnie built will last forever. I'll miss Mr. Lonnie a lot. Greg Markovich

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**Greg Markovich** - September 16, 2013 at 01:59 PM

AN

“ Angie lit a candle in memory of Rev. Lonnie J. Nelson



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**Angie** - September 16, 2013 at 01:31 PM

BB

“ To Sue, Marilyn, Phil and Nelson family:  
Words cannot express our loss or grief, but we know heaven is worth the wait...our families go back many years and have a wonderful history that we can share. Lonnie Nelson wasn't just a wonderful pastor but has been a true friend. The Nelson family has been a tremendous blessing to our community. We love you all.

*The Spriggs Family*

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**Belinda Butts** - September 16, 2013 at 11:42 AM

SP

“ *Shermana Philpott lit a candle in memory of Rev. Lonnie J. Nelson*



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**Shermana Philpott** - September 16, 2013 at 10:18 AM

TS

*The Highfill Church holds so much love for and fond memories of Lonnie and the work he did with our church. My all time memory of him is his riding a wagon and holding the stage back drop on it to take it out to Highfill from Gentry one December day. He gave it his all. We love him and you too Sue. Karen and Charles Digby, Stacy and Shawna*

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**The Digbys, Charles, Karen, Stacy, Shawn** - September 17, 2013 at 12:20 AM

EB

“ *I have many fond memories of Brother Nelson from my days at the Assembly. He was such a wonderful and kind man. And loved by all whose lives he touched. He will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with his family. But we all know we will see him again!*

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**Ellen Brammer** - September 16, 2013 at 09:48 AM

RM

“ For Sue, Phil, Marilyn, and all the family:

*I am sorry for your loss, all of you, but so happy for Lonnie's peace and rest. He leaves a legacy of love and loving service from his many years in this community and all the lives he's touched here. May God's grace comfort and sustain you all; may your memories and time together now be a time of love and sharing as a family.*

*Roxana Morrill*

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**roxana morrill** - September 16, 2013 at 06:02 AM

MM

“ *Pastor Lonnie was such an inspirational man. From my youth growing up & attending AG in Siloam Springs, there I found the Lord at age 10. At age 19 he performed my wedding ceremony too. His two sons Mike & Phil were close to my age and were such nice kids. Martha was special to me. Sorry Sue I never met you but I'm sure Pastor Lonnie picked a gem when we married you. I pray the Lord's comfort and encouragement in the days ahead. May you be comforted knowing there'll be a huge reunion with loved ones-in-Christ and our Lord!*

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**Marlene Fletcher McClelland** - September 15, 2013 at 10:05 PM

AS

“ *Lonnie Nelson was a precious pastor and friend. We're so blessed to have known and loved him. Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Marilyn, and your entire family. Heaven will be sweet. We love you always, Garry and Angie Scott*

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**Angela Scott** - September 15, 2013 at 09:12 PM

PB

“ To all the Family of Brother Lonnie. May God's peace and comfort be with all of you at this very sad time. Brother Lonnie is celebrating with Jesus! Brother Nelson married my Husband and me. He was so nice to us, and He was a Special Man! God Bless you all.  
Jack & Patty Boyle

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**Patty Boyle** - September 15, 2013 at 07:44 PM

BB

“ Hello Sue and family. I remember you two as friends and our neighbors many years ago when we lived on South Oak Hill in Siloam Springs. Thankfully, you two had many wonderful years together. He truly was a wonderful person, was always friendly and helpful to anyone in need. My mom loved him as one of her many pastors. May God bless and keep you and family.

*Beverly Brooks-Gore  
Haines City, Florida*

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**Beverly Brooks-Gore** - September 15, 2013 at 06:13 PM

RV

“ Sue, was a classmate and friend of Mike, Friend of Pastor Lonnie. Lonnie Is In Heaven With "The Saints Of Glory". GOD Bless you And Your Family In This Time, Of Loss.

*Randy & Connie Vohs*

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**randy vohs** - September 15, 2013 at 05:22 PM

BB

“ Sue, you and the family are in our thoughts and prayers. Lonnie has been a long time special friend who has been a classic example of loyalty, integrity and a living example of personal devotion to God. We will never, ever forget him. Blessings on you now and in the days to come.  
*Bob and Yvonne Brock*

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**Bob Brock** - September 15, 2013 at 03:40 PM

JP

“ SUE, YOU ARE IN MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS. I ALSO TOLD MY NEW PASTOR, DARREL MADDOX THIS AM AND HE GAVE A VERY NICE PRAYER FOR YOU ALL IN CHURCH.--I LOVE YOU,  
*JEANIE MAPLES PHILLIPS*

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**JEANIE PHILLIPS** - September 15, 2013 at 01:42 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of  
*Rev. Lonnie J. Nelson.*



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September 15, 2013 at 12:13 AM

TE

“ Dear Sue,  
*Lonnie has always been such a blessing to our family. He was so comforting when Grandad Sherman and Grandma Lena passed away..so sweet. When I read his obituary today I was overwhelmed by the many lives he must have touched. What a wonderful man! He was definitely Jesus' hands and feet. Praying for you and your family. Love from Bill and Teresa Allcorn*

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**teresa** - September 14, 2013 at 11:10 PM

AW

“ *Lonnie Nelson was a wonderful, kind, man who made a big impact in our lives. He was our first pastor after we were married. Our love and prayers go out to his sweet family. So sorry for your loss.*  
*Steve and Ann Woodruff*

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**Ann Woodruff** - September 14, 2013 at 08:16 PM

SC

“ *lonnie you will be missed really loved bowling with you you were a true friend*  
*the crile family siloam springs*

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**sarah crile** - September 14, 2013 at 06:41 PM

JB

“ *Sue, I didn't know about Lonnie's passing until today. Our prayers are with you and your family during this sad time. Lonnie was a fine man of God, and I know that you are comforted by knowing that he is in the loving arms of our heavenly Father. Love and prayers to you and your family.*

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**Joyce Bailey** - September 14, 2013 at 05:21 PM

BS

“ *So sorry for your loss--but, we know he is rejoicing in heaven! So many memories of Lonnie. He was one of my favorites as a young , teenage Christian. He was there supporting me and my family during a horrific accident, he has been my pastor and a wonderful lifetime friend. Prayers for all the family--may you have God's peace and strength during this time.*

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**Betty Southerland** - September 14, 2013 at 12:31 PM

AW

“ We will miss Lonnie and his smile. We are so sorry for your loss and pray God will give you strength and comfort. Sue and family, you will continue to be in our prayers.

*Al and Jane Waggoner*

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**Al and Jane Waggoner** - September 14, 2013 at 11:17 AM

DJ

“ Thank you, Lonnie, for being a wonderful pastor and friend for many years. So happy for you, but I know all your loved ones are hurting and prayers go to the family.

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**Donnie and Shirley Jackson** - September 14, 2013 at 09:33 AM

JB

“ We'll miss Uncle Lonnie's big laugh & enjoying good food and conversation around the table. Our thoughts and prayers are with Sue, Phil and Marilyn and their families at this time.  
Love,  
Jerry, Jeannine & Michael

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**Jeannine Bailey** - September 13, 2013 at 07:51 PM

RH

“ One of the kindest men I have ever known. Well done good and faithful servant. All my love to his wonderful family, but especially to my dear, sweet friend. Marilyn. Love you.

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**Renea Hill-Ellis** - September 13, 2013 at 07:00 PM

LA

Thank you, Lonnie, for being our pastor and friend since we came from California in 62. You were also my first boss and took me in as family. I will always love you.

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**Loren Adams** - September 15, 2013 at 12:05 AM