

## Richard "Dick" C. Chewning

May 12, 1933 - February 17, 2015

Richard (Dick) Chewning's spirit returned to his Creator on February 17, 2015. He was born May 12, 1933 in Virginia to the late Vivienne Akers Chewning and Carroll Wills Chewning. He is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Shirley Clarke Chewning, and their three children: Karen C. Schoch and her husband Tim of Glenside, PA.; J. Jeffrey Chewning and his wife Susan of Springdale, AR.; and David C. Chewning of Waco, TX. Dick and Shirley were blessed with seven grandchildren: David, Rebekah, Rachel, Samuel, Ruth, Sarah Katherine, and John. And granddaughter Rebekah Kirk and her husband Isaac have blessed them with two great grandchildren, Isaac Kirk V and Alexa Joy Kirk. He is also survived by one brother, Rear Admiral (ret.) Robert Wills Chewning, and one beloved cousin, Robert Marshall Pinkham. Dick knew himself to be redeemed from the "fall." He believed his life could only be understood when seen in the light of God's patient, loving, merciful, and providentially manifested grace.

He graduated from Virginia Tech, the University of Virginia, and the University of Washington, and did Post Doctoral study at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. He taught at the University of Richmond for twenty-five years, and held the "Harry and Hazel Chavanne Chair of Christian Ethics in Business" at Baylor University for fifteen years.

During his academic career Dick also served on a number of Boards of Directors / Trustees for a total of ninety-three years and served as the "Chairman of the Board" of four of those organizations for thirty-one years. He

was honored to serve twice as the Moderator of the “Reformed Presbyterian Church, Evangelical Synod” and once as the Moderator of the “Presbyterian Church in America.”

Dick’s academic passion was studying God’s Word and seeking its application for those called to the field of “business.” In doing this he had over one hundred articles, es-says, and reviews published, along with writing and editing seven books. The writing he most cherished was his last, “Becoming Partakers of The Divine Nature.” Much of his writing was done with the members of the “Christian Business Faculty Association” in mind. He wanted Christian business faculty to understand, as thoroughly as possible, Christ’s mind as His revelation addresses the personal challenges that confront all who are called to work in the marketplace.

He loved Shirley and their children and their children’s children deeply, but his greatest love was the One, Triune God who revealed Himself in the incarnation, life, death, and resurrection of His only Son, Jesus Christ, and who sends His Spirit to dwell with those who are Christ’s inheritance. He considered it a high calling to serve as an elder in Christ’s church and to be granted the privilege of teaching in the church for many years. He wanted everyone to know that God the Creator Savior offers grace and mercy to everyone who repents and loves Him.

Funeral services will be 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Fayetteville, Arkansas with Dr. Paul Sagan officiating. Burial will follow at Oak Hill Cemetery, Siloam Springs, Arkansas. Visitation will be 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Monday, February 23, 2015 at Wasson Funeral Home, Siloam Springs, Arkansas.

Memorials may be made to Mission Fund, c/o Covenant Presbyterian Church, 4511 W. Wedington, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 72704.

# Cemetery Details

## Oak Hill Cemetery

2122 W. University St.  
Siloam Springs, AR 72761

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **23**. 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

FEB **24**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Covenant Presbyterian Church  
4511 W. Wedington  
Fayetteville, AR 72703

# Tribute Wall

EM

“ I was beyond blessed to serve as Dr. Chewning's Graduate Assistant at Baylor University in 1992-1993. The impact that he made on my life is immeasurable. He is one of the most intelligent people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing yet his greatest asset was his heart. He had so much compassion for others. His passion and integrity were evident in everything that he did. He was an outstanding professor and helped me become the woman that I am today. My sincere condolences to his loving family and friends. He was such a light to all who knew him and he transformed my vision of what an earthly father is supposed to be and helped me see how awesome and loving our heavenly Father is. I think of him often and tell people how he influenced and changed my life. I have no doubt that the Lord told him "well done, good and faithful servant" when he arrived home.

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**Elise McGee** - March 05, 2025 at 02:25 PM

CR

“ I'm not even sure if this will be seen by anyone. He asked me to call him Grandpa Chewning. There I was a sophomore in college, still struggling with the whole "What do I want to be when I grow up" and along come two of the finest people I've ever known. Richard and Shirley Chewning...a.k.a Grandpa and Grandma. There were many mornings when I had the opportunity to have breakfast with them. Many conversations were had and the influence that he was upon my life is still rippling. We received for several years after Christmas letters with updates of him and Shirley, but sadly, we moved and I lost touch. I am so thankful for God putting him in my life at a time it was most needed. Thanks, Grandpa Chewning, for taking the time to talk about life even though your intellect and knowledge far surpassed mine. I will never forget you.

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**Chris Rayment** - March 30, 2016 at 09:26 PM

PA

“ I had the privilege of working with Dick for many years as a colleague at Baylor University. What a fine man and Christian role model Dick was for so many people throughout his fruitful life. He enriched my life both professionally and personally in innumerable ways. His greatest legacy resides in the lives of so many people like me. Phil Van Auken, Waco, Texas.

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**Phil Van Auken** - March 31, 2015 at 11:44 AM

SU

“ To the Chewing family,  
All of your friends at Swim Ranch are sending our deepest sympathy after learning of your father's/ grandfather's passing. We know he was very proud of the accomplishments of his grandchildren in swimming and diving:) We are thankful for the opportunities we've had to get to know Jeffrey, Susan, and their children. May God continue to bless your family. Ed and Virginia Fedosky, Susan and Kim

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**susan** - March 14, 2015 at 11:55 AM

AS

“ Shirley,

*I just learned the news of Dick's homecoming moments ago. Know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. I still have the Hebrew-Greek Key Word Study Bible that we used for the Bible study he led here at Mount Vernon Nazarene University. He was a wonderful, godly man.*

*God bless you and your family,  
Ardyth Stull*

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**Ardyth Stull** - March 13, 2015 at 12:19 PM

YS

“ Dear Shirley,

*Dick was a wonderful mentor and friend, and so are you. Possibly the best expression of this is Kathleen May and Steve Mason’s article in the 2010 JBIB (Vol. 12).*

*But personally, Dick (and you) never failed to challenge and encourage me – and make me laugh. Dick had great humor and great humility. He was a remarkable Christian scholar, and God directed his influence for good in this generation. We will miss him very, very much. Thank you both for your ministry in CBFA and for being such a blessing to so many people.*

*Yvonne Smith*

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**Yvonne Smith** - February 24, 2015 at 06:43 PM

GP

“ Shirley and family: Dick was a wonderful friend and mentor, and I thank God for Dick’s involvement in my life. While God does the work of sanctification in our lives, in my case he definitely used Dick in the process, and for that I am grateful. Dick’s recollection of your courtship is a great memory and I recount it to my children.

*“Now (may) the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep (Hebrews 13:20) bless you, and keep you; The LORD make His face shine on you, And be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance on you, And give you peace.” (Number 6:24-26).*

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**Gary P. Vander Plaats** - February 24, 2015 at 12:40 PM

NG

“ I was fortunate to meet Dr.Chewney when he was at John Brown University. He used to stop by the Teacher Ed Office many mornings, when his office with in the library, just to say hello. I so enjoyed visiting with him, and feel it is a great honor to have met him and spent time with him.

*My prayers and thoughts are with his family.*

*Nancy Goodwin*

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**Nancy Goodwin** - February 24, 2015 at 09:45 AM

DN

“ When Dr. and Mrs. Chewning were at Union University, we had the privilege of having them along with others for dinner one evening. I was so engrossed in listening to what they had to say that my other dinner guests cleaned up the kitchen without my help. Dirty dishes will wait. Hearing God's truth from the Chewnings does not wait. I was truly blessed by knowing them.

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**Debbie Newell** - February 23, 2015 at 03:13 PM

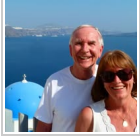
RH

“ Dick was a gentle friend and source of encouragement. He always had a pleasant smile and warm greeting. He gave of himself in many ways and I am a better person from knowing him and Shirley as well.

*Dick Halberg*  
*Houghton College*

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**Richard Halberg** - February 23, 2015 at 01:02 PM



“ Dear Shirley and family, I want you to know what a wonderful positive influence Dick has been in my life. I met Dick at my first CBFA Conference at Azusa Pacific in October, 1994. When Dick addressed the entire conference he spoke with tears of the challenges he'd faced integrating faith. His honesty made me realize I was not alone in the challenge. That realization has helped sustain me for the past 20 years.

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**Andrew Herrity** - February 23, 2015 at 12:29 PM



“ Summer's Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard "Dick" C. Chewning.



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February 23, 2015 at 10:01 AM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Richard "Dick" C. Chewning.



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February 23, 2015 at 08:59 AM

CP

“ Dear Shirley and family, I have many fond memories of seeing Dick at CBFA conferences. He was challenging and thoughtful in terms of what Christian business faculty should be about, but he was also kind and supportive on a personal level. The phrase that keeps coming to my mind is that he was a Christian gentleman. His example of the virtues of faith, hope and love will remain in our memories. God's grace to you all.

Cindy Peck  
Anderson University

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Cindy Peck - February 23, 2015 at 08:38 AM

BE

“ I met Dick and Shirley at one of my first CBFA conferences over a dozen years ago after leaving industry to make my ministry in Christian higher ed. This giant/legend in our field and his wife Shirley immediately made this nervous career changer feel like I belonged and made me feel like an old friend. I have treasured their support and encouragement and friendship over the years. May God comfort you Shirley and all of the family as you celebrate Dick's life and mourn our loss.

Godspeed Dick Chewning.

-Bob Eames, Calvin College

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Bob Eames - February 22, 2015 at 09:19 PM

JB

“ Dear Shirley and Family. My condolences with your loss. May the Lord strengthen you at this difficult time. Dick was my inspiration. My students heard a lot about his writing and benefited immensely. *Business through the eyes of faith* was must reading.

*John Boersema, Redeemer University College (emeritus), Ancaster*

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**John Boersema** - February 22, 2015 at 06:05 PM

DV

“ Dick's writing changed my life. It was my great pleasure to be able to thank him personally for opening my eyes to the possibility of relevant Christianity in the context of business. His writings lead me to change my life path, complete my PhD and project his mission into business classrooms at two universities.

*He was my hero and I am so grateful for his life and heartbroken to have him gone.*

*David Vance, PhD*



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**David Vance** - February 22, 2015 at 06:00 PM

ML

“ Dr. Chewing's life of passion, care, and integrity influenced countless students and faculty. He took bold and strong stands, was a pioneer in applying biblical theology to business, and mentored, encouraged, and challenged all to pursue high-quality scholarship. He left an indelible example of Christian leadership and service wherever he served. His love for his family was evident to all. Blessings, Shirley and family, and thank you for sharing Dick with us.

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**Monty Lynn** - February 22, 2015 at 05:51 PM

MM

“ Dear Shirley and Family, Personally and on behalf of everyone in the Christian Business Faculty Association (CBFA) I want to extend our deepest sympathies. The debt we owe Dick to beyond measure but we rejoice that our leader, mentor and friend is with the Lord. May God comfort you all. Mary Ann Meiners

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**Mary Ann Meiners** - February 21, 2015 at 02:06 PM

C(

“ Christian Business Faculty Association (CBFA) purchased the Care and Compassion Spray for the family of Richard "Dick" C. Chewning.



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**Christian Business Faculty Association (CBFA)** - February 21, 2015 at 11:47 AM

LF

“ Dear Shirley and family, Grace Marie and I , grieve with you all, over the sudden loss of our dear friend Dick. The both of you, have been an on going and instrumental part of our lives threw many hard times. Thank you for being who you both are.

*Leo Freeman  
Grace Marie Freeman*

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**Leo Freeman** - February 21, 2015 at 11:08 AM

DS

“ Dear Shirley and Family, Our heartfelt sympathy and love to you and your family. May God bless you all with comfort and peace. Fred and Donna Schwieder



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**Donna Schwieder** - February 20, 2015 at 06:02 PM

AW

“ Like others I was shocked to hear of Dr. Chewning death. Even so He is with the Lord. For that alone we can rejoice. Dr. Chewning was a friend and a brother in Christ. He and Shirley reached out to me when I lost my wife Jeanette and I have not forgotten the kindness and love they showed then. I do pray for Shirley in her loss and will continue to pray for her. Al West

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**Al West** - February 20, 2015 at 04:59 PM

TC

“ The Board, Residents and Staff of Quarryville Pres Ret Comm purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Richard "Dick" C. Chewning.



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**The Board, Residents and Staff of Quarryville Pres Ret Comm** - February 20, 2015 at 04:55 PM

BB

“ I always looked forward to the days that Mr Chewning walked into the office. His laughter, stories, and wise advise brightened my days. I will truly miss him. My prayers for comfort are with you and your family, Shirley.

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**Barbara Berger** - February 18, 2015 at 09:18 AM

SF

“ *My family and I would like to offer our deepest sympathies to you and your family for such a great loss. Please know that you are never alone. Turn to the Holy Scriptures for guidance and to help soothe your heart. Psalms 34:18 assures us that God is near to those broken at heart and crushed in spirit. Please accept our deepest sympathies.*

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**S Ford** - February 17, 2015 at 06:52 PM

KS

“ *Dear Shirley and Family,  
I'm so sorry you have lost such a great husband and a great man to our communities. Such a strong and sweet man of God. Our condolences for you as we pray for your comfort, and our praises to his father in heaven to finally have him home.  
Love and Prayers,  
Keith & Donna Schultz*

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**Keith & Donna Schultz** - February 17, 2015 at 06:06 PM