



Preacher Lewis Julius Guthrie

June 7, 1944 - November 7, 2017

Preacher Lewis Julius Guthrie
Pickens, South Carolina

Preacher Lewis Julius Guthrie, 73, husband of Shirley Gilstrap Guthrie, was called home to his Heavenly Father Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at his home surrounded by his family.

Born in Greenville County a son of the late Austin Woodrow Guthrie and Frances Maybelle Moore Guthrie.

As a teenager, Lewis worked in a grocery store and later began working in a textile mill. He met his wife Shirley in November 1968. After a short courtship, Lewis knew Shirley and he were meant to be and were later married on March 1st, 1969. They were blessed with their first child Teresa February 18th, 1970. Riley shortly followed February 15th, 1971. Kristina was born October 30th, 1972 and their youngest child Jason was born August 23rd, 1975. Lewis and Shirley began caring for 2 Papua New Guinean sisters, Lucy and Lydia, in 1988 and later adopted them in 2000.

Lewis and his family began attending Roanoke Baptist Church in 1975. On January 14th, 1976 he accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior. He began to feel the Lord's call to preach almost immediately and soon surrendered to it wholeheartedly. He enrolled in Tabernacle Bible College in August of 1976.

He graduated 3 years later. While in his second year of bible college he answered the call to missions. After graduating college he was accepted by Baptist International Missions Inc. as a missionary to Papua New Guinea. He immediately began preparation to go to the mission field. After two and half years of deputation to raise support, he and his family arrived to Papua New Guinea on September 16th, 1982.

Lewis and Shirley decided to work in the city of Lae, Morobe Province in the north eastern part of the country. He immediately began teaching at Lae Baptist Bible College. Within a week he was working in West Taraka 10 miles outside of Lae. He along with a national preacher started Victory Baptist Church. The church grew their membership to over 200 in attendance within the first 6 years of operation and then later worked at Markham Valley Baptist Church around 15 miles west of Lae. He ministered there 2 years before passing his position to a national preacher and then working in Gabensis 30 miles south of Lae for about 3 years. He later returned to Markham Valley Baptist Church for a short period time. In 2004 he began Mercy Baptist Church about 40 miles west of Lae and ministered there until 2007 when the church was discontinued due to a tribal fight. He also assisted many other churches as a stand in pastor when needed. He maintained his teaching position at Lae Baptist Bible College throughout this time and until his departure from PNG.

After dedicating 33 years of his beautiful life to the mission work he loved, he became very ill and had to return to America on April 28th, 2010. Shortly after he was diagnosed with Cancer and Alzheimer's. After a little over 7 years of illness he went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday November 7th, 2017. Lewis was beloved by all who knew him especially his wife, family, and friends. He led many to the Lord and was a champion to the downtrodden. Lewis's sweet and nurturing soul will always be remembered and cherished by those who knew him.

Survivors include his wife of forty-eight years Shirley of the home, four daughters, Teresa Frances James of Easley, Kristina Townsend (Phillip) of Pickens, Lucy Apene and Lydia Uteli both of Papua New Guinea, two sons, Riley Lewis Guthrie (Becky) of Pickens, Scott Jason Guthrie (Stephanie) of Easley, fifteen grandchildren, Adrian, Jesse, Alicia, Kiley, Shaaron, Kris, Sylvia, Kenyon, Sierra, Kasey, Landry, Emersyn, Shirley, Baby Girl, Justin, four great grandchildren, Ellysa, Eva, Yasmyn, and Slater, three sisters, Linda Batson (Barry) of Greenville, Shirley Nahhas (Eddie) of Memphis Tennessee, Patty Looper of Pickens, three brothers, Ben Guthrie of Pickens, Randy Guthrie and Jimmy Guthrie both of Greenville.

Preacher Guthrie was predeceased by his parents, a brother Harold Guthrie and a sister Darlene Guthrie.

Visitation will be 1 pm until 3 pm Friday, November 10, 2017 in the chapel of Mountain View Funeral Home.

A celebration of Preacher Guthrie's life will be held 11 am Saturday, November 18, 2017 at Roanoke Baptist Church.

Mountain View Funeral Home is serving the Guthrie family.

Tribute Wall

KG

“ *Kiley Guthrie lit a candle in memory of Preacher Lewis Julius Guthrie*



Kiley Guthrie - April 27, 2023 at 12:00 PM

Resa Dillon

“ *Resa Dillon sent a virtual gift in memory of Preacher Lewis Julius Guthrie*



Resa Dillon - December 11, 2017 at 05:10 AM

Resa Dillon

“ *Resa Dillon lit a candle in memory of Preacher Lewis Julius Guthrie*



Resa Dillon - December 11, 2017 at 05:09 AM

Resa Dillon

“ *Daddy I miss you so much the holidays have not been real without you I love you and miss you more than words can ever express and I will never be able to be the same a part of my heart went to heaven with you a big part of myself is missing! Teresa*

Resa Dillon - December 11, 2017 at 05:07 AM



“ I had the privilege of working with Brother Lewis and Sister Shirley for 3 years in Papua New Guinea. He will always hold a special place in my heart.

Debra Jackson - November 10, 2017 at 06:49 PM

JT

“ Bro. Guthrie was a great man and faithful missionary! I always enjoyed being around him. He had a great way of making people laugh and enjoy life!!

Jeremiah Townsend - November 10, 2017 at 12:14 PM

LB

“ I'm going to miss you big brother though our lives were taken from us and we were separated I never one moment stopped loving you you were so caring and loving to us you will be missed some time things don't work out but Lewis I always loved you and was proud of all u achieved in Papau New Guinea I know now you are resting in the arms of Jesus a job well done on this earth but I know I will see you again and you will always look like Elvis Presley to me I still think about all your Elvis Presley's albums I'm sorry that during the years we were separated and I know I'm going to have to live with them it's too late to try to make amends but Lewis you were and will always be my big brother that I thought you looked like Elvis Rest I Peace Big Brother I'm very proud of all the work that you did for the Lord and all the people in New Guinea I love my big brother and yes I have a lot of regrets but I'm glad you are now resting in the arms of Jesus 🙏🙏

Linda Faye Batson - November 09, 2017 at 08:14 PM

VG

“ *Victory Baptist Church - Rossville, GA purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Preacher Lewis Julius Guthrie.*



Victory Baptist Church - Rossville, GA - November 09, 2017 at
01:46 PM