



## Gary Douglas Porter

November 30, 1945 - March 9, 2021

To live stream the service please click the link below:

<https://www.oneroomstreaming.com/view/authorise.php?k=1615489446105278>

Gary Douglas Porter, age 75, of Elizabethton, Tennessee went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 from Hillview Health Center. Gary was born in Brilliant, Ohio to the late Dorothy Porter. In addition to his mother, he is preceded in death by his granddaughter, Katrina Bradley.

Gary was a minister and retired executive director at the Christian Children's Home of Ohio. He was a member of Southside Christian Church and was a wonderful, loving man of God.

Those left to cherish Gary's many wonderful memories include his wife, Roberta "Bobbie" Brean Porter; a daughter, Leslee Bradley and husband Ian, of Elizabethton; two sons, Matthew Porter and wife Denise, of Bellbrook, OH and Eric Porter and wife Aggie, of Grayson, KY; and his grandchildren: Joshua Porter, Douglas Porter, Benjamin Porter, Porter Bradley, and Scott Porter.

A celebration of life service for Gary Douglas Porter will be conducted at 4:00 PM on Saturday, March 13, 2021 at Tetrick Funeral Home, Elizabethton with his sons, Matthew Porter and Eric Porter, officiating. The family will receive friends from 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM in the funeral home chapel, prior to the service on Saturday.

Those who prefer memorials in lieu of flowers, may make donations to Milligan University, 101 Neth Drive, Milligan College, TN 37682 or to the Christian Children's Home of Ohio, 2685 Armstrong Road, Wooster, Ohio 44691, in memory of Gary.

Our staff is committed to taking care of our guests and families that we serve. Please understand we will be following the State's COVID guidelines. We also ask all guests and family members attending visitations and services to please bring and wear a mask and

practice social distancing.

Online condolences may be shared with the family on our website, [www.tetrickfuneralhome.com](http://www.tetrickfuneralhome.com) Tetrick Funeral Home, Elizabethton is honored to serve the Porter family. Office 423-542-2232, service information line, 423-543-4917.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 13. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Tetrick Funeral Home  
211 North Riverside Drive  
Elizabethton, TN 37643

## Celebration of Life Service

MAR 13. 4:00 PM (ET)

Tetrick Funeral Home  
211 North Riverside Drive  
Elizabethton, TN 37643

# Tribute Wall



“ *Tetrick Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Gary Douglas Porter*



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**Tetrick Funeral** - March 12, 2021 at 10:17 AM

PB

*Beautiful tribute. Gary and Bobbi were two of the first people to welcome me to Orrville Christian Church in 2008. God Bless and comfort this family .*

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**Peggy and Jon Bragg** - March 12, 2021 at 06:53 PM

JH

“ *I was just sitting here enjoying a cup of coffee from a cup given to me by Gary, in appreciation from him for my assisting him in closing his mother's home after she passed away. The cup has provided many pleasant memories of Gary's friendship, but somehow today it encouraged my thoughts to check on Gary, and I discovered that he had passed earlier this month.*

*I have the deepest appreciation for Gary's friendship, from our first connection with the West Akron (OH) Church of Christ, our mutual alma mater (Milligan College -- now University), time spent together in Tennessee, and the many in and out connections through the years.*

*To all the family -- please accept my deepest appreciation for Gary, and my sincere condolences at Gary's passing.*

*Peace and Joy -- Jim Huron*

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**James Raymond Huron** - March 28, 2021 at 12:30 PM

HS

“ *Bobbie and family,*  
*So sorry to hear of Gary's passing. He was a wonderful man of God. We enjoyed all the times seeing Gary and you at the Children's Home when we came to visit and also when he came to visit our different church homes of over the years to share his ministry.*

*Hugh & Laurel Snepp*

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**Hugh Snepp** - March 23, 2021 at 09:09 PM

JS

“Bobbie and family, I am very sorry for your loss and you are in many thoughts and prayers. Gary was an amazing, Godly gentleman with a huge heart and he will be greatly missed. Besides his obvious caring spirit, Gary was a professional and prudent steward of all he managed, ultimately to benefit the kids of CCHO. I always respected and appreciated the negotiations we had on the business side for many years - he was tough! He was an inspiration to me in many ways! Jeff Smith

Jeff Smith - March 15, 2021 at 08:30 PM

JC

“Gary, and family, affected my life in a myriad of ways. He and CCHO gave me the opportunity to learn with them during a college internship, but even prior to that, because of an encounter at a summer camp, I experienced friendships with his kids that I cherish. I was a recipient of Gary's ability to love deeply and witnessed this love drive his passion for mercy in this world. Thank you for your heart and life. Joy Canning

Joy Canning - March 15, 2021 at 04:47 PM

LB

“Working with Gary on the Board, I found him to be a great visionary for CCHO. His leadership and insights will be missed. Larry Brown

Larry D Brown - March 13, 2021 at 02:43 PM

JH

“I met Gary in 1978 I lived in the christian childrens home in cottage 1 Then later in cottage 2 and later in cottage 3 lol < Gary and I had a great relationship he was a firm man but had a heart of gold and allways had time for anyone asking of it from him , I have had the pleasure of knowing two of the greatest men I have ever known Gary Porter and the late Robert Shoup , Im 55 yrs young now and carry many memmorys of gary from working in the garden to going with him and singing for different churchs to help gary muster funds for support of the childrens home which was a great passion of garys , I useto stop or call gary and i have allways tryed to stay intouch with bobby and Gary and I truely believe if it wasnt for the love and understanding that gary allways gave me I sometimes wounder were i would be now and he will forever be in my heart bless you gary Love jeff

Jeffrey Eric Hall - March 12, 2021 at 10:06 PM

MB

“ *Mulberry International Board purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Gary Douglas Porter.*



Mulberry International Board - March 12, 2021 at 04:58 PM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Gary Douglas Porter.*



March 12, 2021 at 02:24 PM



“ *50 files added to the album Memories Album*



Tetrick Funeral - March 12, 2021 at 10:17 AM

DA

“ *Doug and Dee Matt and Anne purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Gary Douglas Porter.*



Doug and Dee Matt and Anne - March 12, 2021 at 09:58 AM

DL

“ While interning at Orrville Christian in 1981, Gary made an impact on my life. It was obvious he was a special man who cared for others because of his love for the Lord. Several years later, when God called us to missions, it was Gary who offered us to consider OCC as a 'living link.' Little did we know how deeply we would become attached to the church family over the next 30 years. On more than one occasion, he would give me his credit card and say as we returned to the area for furlough, 'go to the store and get what you need.' What generosity. We tried to never abuse that, but the heart of Gary was just that way. We mourn his passing and extend our sympathy to his wonderful family. David and Donna Linn

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David Linn - March 12, 2021 at 09:56 AM

BF

“ We were so saddened to hear of Gary's death. Yet, we have always been so inspired by his service to God and His people. Our love and prayers to Bobbie and the family as your hearts heal.  
-Eddie and Billye Joyce Fine

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Billye Joyce Fine - March 11, 2021 at 05:41 PM

SS

“ Gary was such a gentle soul. He was a dear friend...a mentor...a supporter...and encourager. I had the pleasure of working closely with Gary, and Bobbie for 12 years at CCHO. His office was the biggest, but it was the most welcoming of all the offices at CCHO. I remember our many luncheons and Gary always making sure everyone had a dessert before we headed back to the office (even if it was "to go").  
I remember when I lost my dad, Gary offered to give the service. Oh...and what a service it was! March 9, 2007 was the day of my father's death and now exactly 14 years later, Heaven gained another angel making it a day I will never forget. Thank you Gary for your many years of your big belly laughs and big bear hugs. You have touched so many lives and I'll be forever grateful for you. And to his family, especially Bobbie who I worked so closely with in the finance department...you are in my prayers. May you find comfort knowing you have an angel in Heaven watching over you each and every day. Much love to you all!

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Susan Schlauch - March 11, 2021 at 05:31 PM

KK

“ Gary was a good friend and a great encourager. While we were both engaged in busy ministries, he was always an inspiration to me whenever we were together. His heart belonged to Jesus and he was always eager to let his relationship with Christ bleed into our conversations. You could see the love of Jesus in his eyes and feel it in his presence. His concern was for the welfare and salvation of others, especially for unreached children as was reflected in his actions as a devoted Christian leader and humanitarian. His influence stretched well beyond the Christian Children's Home of Ohio and reached into the former Soviet Union where his vision resulted in helping countless homeless children in Ukraine. Their lives are now forever changed and enriched because of the love of Christ that filled Gary's heart. I am one who was deeply blessed by Gary's friendship, and along with many others I will miss him deeply. Thank you Gary!!! And, thank you Bobbie for sharing in ministry with him. Our prayers are with you!!! - Keith P. Keeran

Keith P Keeran - March 11, 2021 at 02:56 PM

TR

“ Gary was a professional, peer and fellow pilgrim as a child of God. While I served as executive director at wayne county children services for a long time, our paths intertwined during his lengthy service as executive director at christian children's home of Ohio. I have many memories of Gary over this span of time--all good--all compassionate. He was one of the few individuals with whom I could confide and sometimes off-load my frustrations and burdens. I hope I was also the same for him. Through our sharing I saw how genuine he was, caring and always listening and willing to come up with a solution especially when it came to trying to help out and serve some very difficult abused and neglected children and youth.

He has completed his 'race' and his earthly pilgrimage completed. I wish Bobbie and the family the comfort that only God and His Spirit can give as we're called to walk through such a loss. He is there! He is sufficient! God will carry you in His loving arms.

thomas roelant - March 11, 2021 at 07:24 AM

KB

“ Porter family and Friends, We are so sorry for your loss. We will keep you in our prayers. We know that our words will not soothe the anguish you are feeling now. May God's enduring love give you strength in your time of sadness

Ken and Tab Brunner - March 10, 2021 at 10:39 PM



“ Garden Cross was purchased for the family of Gary Douglas Porter.



March 10, 2021 at 07:32 PM

CW

“ I am in total shock right now but am thankful Gary is with his Lord and Savior!! Praying for peace for your families during this time. I have too many fond memories of Gary at church and CCHO to post!

Cheryl Weltlich - March 10, 2021 at 06:57 PM

JW

“ Mr. Porter was one of a kind! As a kid, I was intimidated by his booming voice and large stature... a healthy sort of fear. As we grew older, I began to understand that this man had a heart of gold and that he loved all of God's children, each in their own special way. I will never forget him sitting courtside watching us play basketball and the comical rants he would go on. One time, I remember him yelling, "I'd have more fun watching paint dry!" ...in reference to our style of play, but I am pretty sure he was honestly picking on the other team (this is how I will choose to remember it anyway).. lol. Thank you to the Porter's for sharing the love of your family with so many and thank you for the memories. He will not be forgotten! 🙏❤️

Jen Wiles - March 10, 2021 at 04:42 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gary Douglas Porter.



March 10, 2021 at 03:56 PM