



## Pastor Kenneth Wayne Kyker

October 30, 1937 - November 5, 2021

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

-2 Timothy 4:7

Born: October 30th, 1937

Moved to Heaven: November 5th, 2021

Kenneth was the son of the late Albert Oscar Kyker and Nellie Simmons Kyker.

Those left to cherish his memory are:

The love of his life, his soulmate, and his ministry partner, Carol Marie Conley Kyker.

They have been married since June 3, 1961 and have served God faithfully together in many local churches for 52+ years.

Daughter Kathy Thompson and husband Scott.

Daughter Kim Garland and husband Paul.

Five grandsons: Ben Thompson and wife Ashley, Jacob Thompson and wife Catherine, Luke Thompson and wife Aspen, Seth Garland and girlfriend Lani, and Noah Garland.

Great-grandchildren: Ella, Lily, Weston, Jack, Solomon, Silas, and awaiting the soon arrival of Cleo and Emery Thompson.

Sister: Carolyn Slagle and husband Bobby

Sister-in-law: Elaine Emmert and husband Bobby

Nephews: Jody Lewis and Mark Slagle

One of Ken's favorite sayings was that "God is good - ALL the time." His life was dedicated in service to the Lord and his family. He gave his life to Christ in June 1948, and became an ordained minister of the gospel in 1965. He loved serving the local church and encouraging pastors.

Ken's love for others and passion for sharing the Gospel were always evident in his five decades of ministry. Ken embarked on international mission trips, pastored seven churches, wrote and preached thousands of sermons, led over 150 revivals, officiated hundreds of weddings and 700 funerals, knocked on doors in the community each week to invite neighbors to church, and spent countless hours counseling and praying for others. Ken was always a friend to anyone he met, and he was never too busy for late-night hospital visits with families in need of hope - with his warm, comforting smile and love for Christ shining through every moment of his ministry.

Since 2017, Kenneth served as pastor Emeritus at Antioch Baptist Church. He and Carol also attended the Drive-In Church at University Parkway Church. The highlight of his life was sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. He also loved spending time with his family. Family parties and visits with his grandchildren brought him so much joy. He loved being called "Pap!"

Ken believed in the absolute inerrancy and authority of God's Word in every aspect of life, and set an incredible Christian example for his family.

If Ken met you, he'd tell you about what a wonderful wife God had blessed him with for sixty years. He'd brag about the two godly Christian daughters they raised, and tell you all about his grandchildren and great-grandchildren he was always so proud of. But most important of all, he would tell you about His Savior, Jesus Christ, who came to Earth 2,000 years ago to live a perfect life and die on a cross, paying for the sins of all those who put their trust in Him for salvation. Ken would share that it's by God's grace alone that we are saved, through faith - and not of works (Ephesians 2:8-9). Ken would speak of John 14:6, where Jesus declares that He is the only way anyone can be made right with God. Ken would lovingly warn of God's very real judgment for those who reject this amazing offer of kindness (John 3:16), and Ken would plead with you to think on the love, mercy, and holiness of God, and turn to God in repentance and faith for the forgiveness of your sins. Then he'd encourage you to share this great gift of salvation with others, just as Jesus instructed (Matt. 28:18-20).

Beginning ministry in 1965, he pastored Bethel Baptist Church, Big Springs Baptist Church, and Fairview Baptist Church in the Watauga Association of Churches. He pastored Antioch Baptist Church, Skyline Heights Baptist Church, Reservoir Road Baptist Church, and Boones Creek Baptist Church in the Holston Baptist Association of Churches.

Kenneth was a 1955 graduate of Lamar High School and graduated from Steed College of

Technology in 1957 with a degree in accounting. He served in the U.S. Army (Active Duty and Reserve) Honorable Discharge. He worked as an accountant with ETWNC for 13 years before beginning full-time ministry. He was a graduate of Carson-Newman Summer School. He graduated in the first class of Holston Baptist Bible Institute. He also completed a degree in Pastoral Ministries through SBC Seminary Extension. He was trained and led many classes in FAITH Sunday School Evangelism Strategies and Masterlife. He participated in Billy Graham School of Evangelism and loved being a part of the Billy Graham TVTM phone ministry. He was a student of God's Word. He studied, memorized, and loved sharing the powerful truths from the Bible to encourage and bring hope and eternal life to others.

His family would like to say a special thank you to Amedisys Hospice, especially Ashley Elledge and Linda Byrd, who served our family so well during this time.

Kenneth Kyker touched thousands of lives throughout his 84 years on earth, and his bold witness and gentle spirit left a legacy that will live on for generations. Ken lived for what mattered. Ken lived for eternity. How about you?

If you were blessed to know Kenneth and have a story or a special memory of him, our family would love to hear it. Please feel free to send us your story or memory by e-mail. You can reach Kathy at [kmthompson3@yahoo.com](mailto:kmthompson3@yahoo.com) or Kim at [kimgarland3@gmail.com](mailto:kimgarland3@gmail.com).

A Celebration of Life Worship Service will be held on Sunday evening, November 7th at Antioch Baptist Church from 4-7 pm with the Funeral at 7 pm. The event will be livestreamed and may be viewed by visiting @antiochjctn on Facebook. At the service, containers will be available for memorial donations for two of Kenneth's favorite ministries, Samaritan's Purse (P.O. Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607) and St. Jude Children's Hospital (262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105.) The graveside service will be held on Monday, November 8th at 1 pm at New Victory Baptist Church Cemetery. All that wish to attend are asked to meet at the cemetery no later than 12:50 pm.

Pallbearers will be Kenneth's grandsons.

Honorary Pallbearers will be: David Keys, Herman Payne, Denver King, J.C. Milhorn, Bobby Slagle, and Bobby Emmert

This obituary was lovingly written by family.

Memories and condolences may be shared at <http://www.tetrickfuneralhome.com>. Tetrick Funeral Services 3001 Peoples Street Johnson City, TN 37604 (423-610-7171) is honored

to serve the Kyker Family.

# Cemetery

---

## New Victory Baptist Church Cemetery

527 Conklin Road  
Jonesborough, TN, 37659

# Events

---

**NOV** **Visitation** 04:00PM - 07:00PM

**7**

---

Antioch Baptist Church  
1014 Antioch Road, Johnson City, TN, US,  
37604

**NOV** **Funeral** 07:00PM

**7**

---

Antioch Baptist Church  
1014 Antioch Road, Johnson City, TN, US,  
37604

**NOV** **Graveside Service** 01:00PM

**8**

---

New Victory Baptist Church Cemetery  
527 Conklin Road, Jonesborough, TN, US,  
37659

# Comments

---



“ A tribute video has been added.



**Tetrick Funeral** - November 07, 2021 at 11:35 AM



“ Beautiful... Precious...

**Chuck Mathes** - November 08, 2021 at 08:39 AM



“ What a precious man and his family!

**Dot Erwin Coomer** - November 08, 2021 at 12:42 PM

---



“ One time many years ago, we had a singles group at Bro. Ken's church and we decided to do a ministry for the community and show a movie and have refreshments. We prepared and invited and popped the popcorn, and no one came. We were all feeling pretty defeated and he got up and told us all that we did what was asked of us and that day God was saying. Well done, though good and faithful servant. What a great experience it was for me to be a part of his church. My life has truly been blessed by knowing him and sitting under his preaching. What a legacy he has left for you. May God continue to be with your family.  
Love,  
Kim Duncan

**Kim Duncan** - November 11, 2021 at 12:43 AM

---



“ Dear Family, We are so sorry for your loss. May God Bless You and give you strength for the days ahead. My parents Rev. Junior and Frances Deakins were minister friends. Kenneth conducted revivals at churches my dad pastored. OUR prayers are with you. Paul and Debbie Mastera

**Paul and Debbie Maaters** - November 08, 2021 at 10:51 AM

---



“ Chuck Mathes lit a candle in memory of Pastor Kenneth Wayne Kyker



**Chuck Mathes** - November 08, 2021 at 08:34 AM

---



“ We have nothing but joyful memories of Ken and Carol. Because they are joy giving people.  
They have always been there for us thru out the years. Losing Ken is a huge loss to Jeff & I. He was the hardest working,,non-judge mental Pastor on this earth. There will never be another one like him. Carol is one of a kind, we are so blessed to have her in our lives. We thank God for Ken, Carol, Kathy, Kim, and their families.  
Jeff & Sandy Street

**Denise Street** - November 07, 2021 at 10:29 PM

---



“ Kenneth, you were one of a kind. As you walked the straight and narrow way you touched the lives of so many. As we follow you down the straight and narrow road many people comment on what a wonderful man you were. Not one person has a negative word about you. May you enjoy the new Mansion that you so richly deserve. See you soon.

**Chuck Booth** - November 07, 2021 at 09:58 PM

---



“ Ken was the pastor at Skyline Heights. I always loved Ken and his family. He was a awesome preacher and a godly man. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.  
Love Paula Rambo

**Paula Rambo** - November 07, 2021 at 07:18 PM

---



“ Carol, Kathy, Kim and all of family

Wilma and I are so sorry to hear about Kenneth. Our hearts and prayers go out to each of you, Wilma and I have a lot of memories of our great times we have had in the past. This is memories that will be with us as we journey on through life and one day we have a reunion up in Heaven. That will be a great day. Each of you are in our daily prayers.

May God comfort each of you in this time of sorrow.

We love each of you

Harold and Wilma Seymour and family

Harold and Wilma Seymour - November 07, 2021 at 06:38 PM

---



“ Kenneth was also a blessing to our family preaching several family members funerals. Prayers for his family. I will call my brother Ed PI Williams and tell him of your families loss.



Pete Taylor - November 07, 2021 at 04:38 PM

---



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Pastor Kenneth Wayne Kyker.



November 07, 2021 at 03:49 PM

---



“ Pastor Ken Kyker married me, Benny Franklin, and Carla at Skyline Heights Baptist Church, and he was well liked, along with being a true man of God. I wish all family members much peace and strength in the days ahead!

Benny Franklin - November 07, 2021 at 03:19 PM



“ 89 files added to the album LifeTributes



**Tetrick Funeral** - November 07, 2021 at 11:05 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear about Pastor Ken. I apologize for not making the memorial service I am sick at home in VA and didn't make it to JC. Pastor Ken was a great influence and mentor to me early on. He taught me many things. I have memories of going out to pray for the sick often. We saw many healed in great ways during that time. The Lord touched pastor Ken mightily as well. He has sewn many great seeds that are growing into great trees. He will be missed. He was always an encouragement to me in ministry. He will be missed but his legacy lives on. You all are in our prayers.

Ricky & Diana Laws

**RickyandDiana** - November 07, 2021 at 02:44 PM

---



“ Just the memory of one of of the most loving, kind, smart and the best Pastor Preacher I ever knew. I had such good times with Bro. Ken in many ways. I didn't see him much in the last few years but I loved him dearly! He meant the world to me! Prayers for Carol and all the family for comfort at this time. May God bless you all greatly!!

Bill Harrell

**Bill Harrell** - November 07, 2021 at 09:32 AM

---



“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Pastor Kyker. He married me and my husband in September 1992. A wonderful man!!!

**Debbie Shouse** - November 07, 2021 at 08:38 AM

---



“ He was a good pastor he will be missed



**Betty Laws** - November 07, 2021 at 01:15 AM

---



“ Sister Kathy we are so sorry to hear about your dad passing away we will be praying for you and your family we love you



**Mr Mrs. Stephen Hite** - November 06, 2021 at 11:45 PM

---



“ Kim. I'm truly sorry for your loss. Sounds like you were a lot like your father. You've been such a blessing in my life. I'm praying for you and your family. God bless and wrap His loving arms around you and your family during this time and in the future. With love and prayers, Barbara Smith

**Barbara Smith** - November 06, 2021 at 11:03 PM

---



“ Phil & Brenda Hoskins lit a candle in memory of Pastor Kenneth Wayne Kyker



**Phil & Brenda Hoskins** - November 06, 2021 at 10:04 PM



“ Kenneth Kyler was my family’s Pastor at Skyline Heights years ago. My Father loved to fish and Pastor Kyker told Dad he wanted to go with him. Dad fished at night so after Wednesday night prayer service, Dad hooked up the boat and went back to pick up the Pastor. Dad said he came out with 2 HUGE grocery bags of food. Dad said hey we’re going to fish, not eat all night! Pastor Kyker said well we might as well eat if we don’t catch anything!

**Debbie Bennett Ward** - November 06, 2021 at 07:42 PM

---



“ Pastor Ken was our friend and loving minister for 15 yrs. He brought our children to know Christ and Baptized them. My Mother-in-law Ruth Hughes played the piano and occasionally the organ at Antioch and he would often comment about how much he loved to hear her play. He lead my Mom and Dad to Christ and visited with them often. When my Dad was diagnosed with terminal cancer he came to visit him.. My Dad had question's that he needed answered before he knew weather or not he would be leaving the hospital. Brother Ken had left Antioch prior too this but when we called him to ask if he would speak with Dad, he was kind enough to come and reassure him that everything was alright in his life and that gave my Dad so much comfort in his final day's. Brother Ken and Carol will always be in our heart's and memories. God sent him to us when we really needed his kind, loving, and gracious support. WE WILL NEVER FORGET. this loving man who brought the word of God too so many people. Larry and Barbara Simerly

**Barbara Simerly** - November 06, 2021 at 07:19 PM

---



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Pastor Kenneth Wayne Kyker.



November 06, 2021 at 02:55 PM

---



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Pastor Kenneth Wayne Kyker.



November 06, 2021 at 01:26 PM