



Rev. Roy B. Phillips

August 6, 1927 - April 30, 2008

Rev. Roy Phillips died Wednesday, April 30, 2008 at his home in Chester surrounded by his loving family. He was 80 years old.

Born in Gumboro, DE on August 6, 1927 the son of the late William E. and Mollie L. Foskey Phillips, Rev. Phillips graduated in the Class of 1945 from Millsboro High School. He served in the U.S. Army at the end of W.W.II. Rev. Phillips married Thelma Whaley of Laurel, DE on August 6, 1947. He worked at Delmarva Power & Light Company until 1950 and then entered the ministry as a Methodist Clergyman in the Peninsula Conference. He received his Associate of Arts Degree from Wesley College in 1952; Bachelor of Arts Degree from Washington College in 1954; Bachelor of Sacred Theology Degree from Temple University in Philadelphia, PA in 1957; and a Masters of Sacred Theology Degree from Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, PA. Rev. Phillips' appointments included: Burrsville, MD from 1950 to 1952; Wesley Chapel in Rock Hall, MD 1952 to 1956; Townsend, DE, 1956 to 1959; St. George's in Clarksville, DE, 1959 to 1961; Kent Island, Chester, MD, 1961 to 1979; and Cambridge Grace in Cambridge, MD, 1979 to 1990. He retired in 1990 and returned to Chester, MD. His interim work included Vienna United Methodist Church, 1990; Queenstown charge, 1990 to 1992; St. Michael's, 1993; Crisfield Asbury charge, 1993 and 1995; and Church Hill-Price charge, 1995. In 1997, he became Pastor Emeritus at Kent Island United Methodist Church.

While at Kent Island, the merger of three United Methodist churches was completed and the people built a new church in 1962-63. In 1971, a new parsonage was completed and in 1977, an addition to the church was opened. Membership increased more than 200 during this period and the congregation learned the joy of giving.

During Rev. Phillip's career as a United Methodist Minister, he served as a board member on the: Board of Childcare; Board of Global Ministries; Board of Evangelism; and the Peninsula Foundation. He was a life member of the Kent Island Volunteer Fire Company; chaplain for the Hospice of Queen Anne's Inc. and Cambridge City Police Dept.; past chaplain for the Maryland State Police; and served in the Dorchester County Drug & Alcohol Abuse Program. In 1969, Rev. Phillips started arranging group tours throughout the world.

In addition to his wife of 60 years, Rev. Phillips is survived by two sons, Russell Barry Phillips and his wife, Barbara of Harmony, MD and Jeffrey Craig Phillips and his wife, Karyn of Crapo, MD; seven grandchildren, Rachel Kellenbenz, Keith Phillips, Jessica Phillips, Joseph Phillips, Bryan Webb, Melanie Steed, and Leah James; and five great-grandchildren, Bradley Schrader, Taylor Kellenbenz, Brandon Rauseo, Alexa Steed, and Blake Steed. Rev. Phillips is predeceased by one son, Byron Keith Phillips; two sisters, Ruth Layton and Doris Tingle; and one brother, Robert Phillips.

A visitation will be held on Friday, May 2, 2008 from 2 – 4 pm and 6 – 8 pm at Kent Island United Methodist Church, 2739 Cox's Neck Road, Chester, MD 21619. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 3, 2008 at 11 am at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Kent Island United Methodist Church, 2739 Cox's Neck Road, Chester, MD 21619 or Hospice of Queen Anne's, 255 Comet Drive, Centreville, MD 21617.

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Rev. Roy B. Phillips* ”



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - April 30, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *Rev. Roy B. Phillips* ”

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Rev. Roy B. Phillips* ”

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Rev. Roy B. Phillips* ”

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ Mrs. Phillips , Russ and families, I am so sorry to hear of Rev. Phillips passing. Russ I am sorry I did not know until tonight that your Dad had passed away. I remember how many times he would stop by the hosp. to see christy and pray for her. Lots of memories of both your mom and dad coming to the orchard to pick apples. I know your mom loved to come and pick and your dad would too. so sorry I know this is so hard for all of you. God Bless gail###imported-begin##Gail Fike###imported-end##

May 13, 2008 at 10:42 PM



“ Mrs. Phillips and Family: Please accept my deepest sympathy, Rev. Phillips was an amazing man. He will be missed by all who knew him. I will keep you and your family in my thoughts and prayers during your time of sorrow.###imported-begin##Debbie Smith Thomas###imported-end##

May 05, 2008 at 10:03 AM



“ To the Phillips family and Rachel, Rev. Phillips in KIUMC is one of the many, many special memories I have of growing up on Kent Island in the 1960's and the 70's. He is a true meaning of a Christian and I feel privileged to have known him many years ago. He followed the Lord's leading and changed many lives for the better. May your family find comfort in knowing he is at peace with God and he will hurt now more. I thank the Lord for blessing "little ole' Kent Island" with his love and leadership through the years.###imported-begin##Terri (Thomas) Schelhouse###imported-end##

May 05, 2008 at 09:17 AM



“ Our condolences go out to the Phillips family from Kathryn Copper and family. Mom has wonderful memories of Rev. Phillips and Thelma and the inspiration they brought to Immanuel UMC at Townsend, De. Mom is 91 and we now live in Marco Island, Fl. and to this day she still talks of how Rev. Phillips has affected her life. I truly was inspired by him as a kid and was good friends with Byron. Jay Copper###imported-begin###jay copper###imported-end##

May 04, 2008 at 10:59 AM



“ Dear Mrs. Phillips and Family, You have my very Deepest Sympathy ! He was a lovely, thoughtful Gentleman and will be Greatly missed. Sincerely, Libby Dawkins###imported-begin###Elizabeth K. Dawkins###imported-end##

May 03, 2008 at 12:38 PM



“ Aunt Thelma I am sorry I cannot be with you but am glad to see the wonderful family you have there. My heart and my prayers are with you all. Love to you, Russell and Jeff. DanaLee###imported-begin###DanaLee Whaley Pommell###imported-end##

May 02, 2008 at 08:50 PM



“ Reverend Phillips truly preached a loving gospel that has influenced my life. He married my parents, christened me and my sister, was a friend to my grandparents. He loved our community and we loved him back. His influence on KIMC could not be overstated. After a lifetime of good work, now he can rest. He will be missed by all.###imported-begin###Lacy Thompson###imported-end##

May 02, 2008 at 01:27 PM



“ My prayers and sympathy to your family. Rev. Phillips was truly a disciple of Christ. He showed that daily in the way he lived life; always of comfort to those in need of spiritual guidance. He baptized our sons, Shane and Wade, offered his prayers and compassion during the death of our infant son and our nephew, Bunky Grimes. Many years have passed since then; Rev. Phillips has always been a light of hope for me. God be with you.##imported-begin##Bobbi Hampton-Burr##imported-end##

May 02, 2008 at 12:22 PM



“ The most honorable & respected man I ever met in my life. When Rev. Phillips moved to Kent Island and became the minister he quickly touched everyone. My condolences go out to Ms. Thelma and the entire family##imported-begin##Gene Legg, III##imported-end##

May 02, 2008 at 11:50 AM



“ As a child, growing up next door to the Phillips' in Stevensville, Rev. Phillips led me along the path of Christianity. I met Jesus through him.
During a very troubling childhood, Rev. Phillips was my lighthouse in the storm.
He taught me that my body was the Temple of the Holy Spirit and to cherish it as such. He will be so missed... and this child of God will remember the precious times we had together learning about the Lord at Trinity Downes UMC. Thank you Rev. Phillips for making me the woman I am today.##imported-begin##Charlene Legg##imported-end##

May 02, 2008 at 09:41 AM



“ *Rev. Roy was a wonderful and inspiring person. He was an important part of my children's early church years. He touched many lives in a positive way and that is a true and meaningful accomplishment.*

Jim Bishop##imported-begin##James Bishop Jr.##imported-end##

May 02, 2008 at 07:58 AM



“ *Ms. Thelma, Russell, Jeff and families,
My heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with you all today. I think of you all from time to time since you all are part of my heritage. I could never forget going to school with the boys. I remember Byron teaching Sunday School class, and Russell as well. I remember our times in school together as far as Jeff is concerned. I was given the task of showing him around when your family came to Kent Island all those years ago.*

I have read the testimonials and they all show what a man of God Rev. Phillips was. I have met very few ministers that left me feeling as if I was loved like he did. In the past 15 years I have been secretary for a few as well.

Just know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all in this your time of loss. I can only imagine how much he will be missed.

I am sure that his God is saying "well done, my good and faithful servant." He was certainly one of the best.

Love and prayers, Debbie##imported-begin##E. Deborah W. Daugherty (Legg)##imported-end##

May 01, 2008 at 09:43 PM



“ Jeff, Mrs. Thelma and Russell.....
My thoughts and prayers are with you and yours.##imported-
begin##Susan E. Radcliffe##imported-end##

May 01, 2008 at 04:30 PM



“ It is with great sorrow that I learned of Rev. Phillips' passing today. I have many childhood memories of him. He was a neighbor to my grandparents, and I had the wonderful fortune of attending Bible School at KI United Methodist Church. It was always a joy to see him. This planet has lost one of it's best, but Heaven has gained a great one.##imported-begin##Mary Ann Francis Cowley##imported-end##

May 01, 2008 at 02:12 PM



“ My thoughts and sympathies are with the Phillips family - I grew up in Grace Church and Rev. Phillips was a kind and wonderful man. My grandmother Vesper traveled with him on Holy Land trips and thought the world of Rev. Phillips.##imported-begin##Christina Brault##imported-end##

May 01, 2008 at 01:12 PM



“ Words cannot express how I feel of the loss of this awesome , awesome, man of God, though we will deeply miss him , and deeply loved him He is certainly in a much better place then we are . He has married most "original Kent islanders",. buried a few as well .. Always had a gentle sweet word to say. Most recently I ran into him at funerals , and he was my grandftger, Lester lee's pastor for many many years at the Methodist church on Kent Island. He and his family are such a blessing to all , my condolences to his children, grandchildren, and Mrs. Thelma . He will be greatly missed but we can also rejoice for he is with Christ . Love you all Kathy Lee Hyde###imported-begin##Kathy Lee Hyde ###imported-end##

May 01, 2008 at 12:26 PM



“ Rev. Phillips was such a blessing to our family. He married our parents, Bunky & Joyce, many years ago and again was there to bury Mom in 1991. His presence and faith has always been in inspiration to both of us growing up on Kent Island. Back then, everyone was part of a large extended family. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Phillips family. Hold tight to the many wonderful memories you have.###imported-begin##Melissa Jones Tucker & Sonny Jones###imported-end##

May 01, 2008 at 09:50 AM



“ Ms. Thelma and family: Our deepest sympathy and prayers are with you at this time in the loss of a wonderful gentleman. Rev. Phillips was a person who was loved by many and his love for God will always be remembered by those who loved him. May God give you the strength to face each day with love and sunshine in your hearts. God Bless You. Gene and Lynda Palmatary, 221 Hope Road, Centreville, MD.##imported-begin##Lynda H. Palmatary##imported-end##

April 30, 2008 at 10:32 PM



“ My thoughts and prays are with all of you. I remember my childhood days attending church with my grandmother, Mary (Gool) Jewell, and all the beautiful sermons Rev. Phillips gave. He was a Rev. who will never be for gotten. My God Be With You.##imported-begin##Tammy V. Kaufman Larrimore##imported-end##

April 30, 2008 at 07:05 PM