



Oliver E. Rogers

July 30, 1926 - May 2, 2023

Oliver E. Rogers, 96, of Bloomington, IN died peacefully surrounded by his family on May 2, 2023.

Oliver grew up on a farm in rural Jeffersonville, KY, number seven of ten children. He graduated from Morehead State college in 1948 with a B.S. in Business Administration. Oliver moved home to run a Farm Co-op with his brother, Jesse. He then was drafted into the Army, serving in Intelligence during the Korean War.

After his return from service, Oliver attended Harding College to earn a Master's degree in Biblical Studies. While at Harding, Oliver met the love of his life, Norma Elizabeth Crosby. They married on March 17, 1955. The couple then moved to West Chicago, IL where Oliver became minister of West Chicago Church of Christ. He continued his studies at Wheaton College and The University of Chicago toward a PHD in New Testament literature. Oliver ministered in West Chicago for 15 years. While there, they welcomed four children: Carolyn, Marilyn, Melanie and Sherman.

Oliver's desire to spread the word of God to people from all nations led them to the diverse community of Bloomington, IN in 1969. He served as senior minister at North Central Church of Christ from 1969-1994, and then was part time minister until his retirement in 1996. During his tenure, Oliver baptized

over a thousand people into Christ, working diligently to develop an outreach on the IU campus, and the church grew to over 500 members. Upon retirement, he was honored with the Saginaw of the Wabash award given by the governor of Indiana.

After retirement, Oliver authored two books about following Jesus, "The Faith of Christ" and "New Life for the Walking Dead." He was a scholar who brought many to know the love of Jesus Christ. Oliver was a devoted husband, father, grandfather (Papa) and great-grandfather.

He is survived by his wife Norma of 68 years; two of his sisters, Reniva Riessinger and Dorma Rainey, His children Carolyn (James) McAdams, Marilyn (Mike) Bucchi, Melanie (Daryl) Mann, and Sherman (Meredith) Rogers; His grandchildren Grant (Callie) McAdams, Lauren (AJ) Schaefer, Amanda (Joshua) Miller, Lindsey (Josh) Diggs, Zachary Oliver (Johanna) White, Jeremy Bucchi, Joey (Valerie) Bucchi, Mackenzie Mann, Emily Rogers, Abigail (Parker) Willis, and Justin Rogers; and His great-grandchildren April McAdams; Seth, Hannah, Audra, Elaina, Lacey and Sophia Miller; Steven Oliver and Emma Diggs; Bailey Moore; Dominic and Mandy Bucchi; and Ella and Oakley Willis.

A funeral service will be held at 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at North Central Church of Christ, 2121 North Dunn Street, Bloomington. Burial will follow at Valhalla Memory Gardens. Family will receive friends from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, May 8, 2023, at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155 South Old State Road 37, Bloomington, and again on Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. until the time of service at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Roger's memory to Harding School of Theology or World Bible School.

Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and

friends at www.allencares.com

Cemetery Details

Valhalla Memory Gardens

310 North Johnson Ave.
Bloomington, IN 47401

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 8. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory
4155 S. Old State Road 37
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 824-5905
<http://www.allencares.com>

Visitation

MAY 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

North Central Church of Christ
2121 N. Dunn Street
Bloomington, IN 47408

Service

MAY 9. 12:00 PM (ET)

North Central Church of Christ
2121 N. Dunn Street
Bloomington, IN 47408

Tribute Wall



“ Dear Norma and family,
This world lost a Christian giant and a true warrior for Christ when Oliver Rogers went home. His gentle spirit and passion for truth and the spiritually lost defined who he was. With Norma by his side they formed a true power couple in the church and while many can say they care, Oliver and Norma spent their lives in the trenches actually living their faith. Their wake for good is broad and there is no way this side of heaven to know how many thousands of people they impacted for the kingdom. This morning we join his wonderful family and so many others in honoring and remembering Oliver. We are better people because he lived. He fought the good fight and finished strong. Now rest, dear friend. We will see you again!
With our love and deep appreciation,
Jerry and Lynn Jones

Jerry and Lynn Jones - May 09, 2023 at 12:28 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.



May 09, 2023 at 11:52 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.



May 09, 2023 at 09:22 AM



“ *Memories 44" Sonnet was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



May 09, 2023 at 09:00 AM



“ *Nieces Doris Clark and Faye McClain and families send our love to Aunt Norma and cousins. We nieces knew Uncle as a fun loving young man. I thought he and Aunt Norma were the most handsome couple I had ever seen. He accepted my invitation to walk me down the aisle when I got married to Robert Clark. This is a special memory.* 🎵🎵

doris clark - May 08, 2023 at 08:54 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



May 08, 2023 at 02:29 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



May 08, 2023 at 02:22 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



May 08, 2023 at 02:18 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



May 07, 2023 at 09:57 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



May 07, 2023 at 09:38 AM

SS

“ Oliver Norma and family were our neighbors for many years. I had many discussions over the fence with Oliver. He was a kind and thoughtful man. An interesting thing occurred as I read the obituary yesterday. A sister named Dotma was mentioned. A lady with that unusual name is a resident of the retirement apartment where we are in Asheville NC. Turns out she is Oliver’s sister. What a surprise. We are saying a prayer for Norma and the family in their time of grief. Wish we could be there for the service.

Sally and Ron Stephenson

Sally Stephenson - May 06, 2023 at 12:28 PM

DF

“ Debbie Smallwood and family purchased the Rose Romanesque Bouquet for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.



Debbie Smallwood and family - May 05, 2023 at 02:06 PM



“ Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.



May 05, 2023 at 10:10 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



May 05, 2023 at 09:28 AM



“ *Oliver Rogers led a remarkable life and touched the hearts and minds of so many people. We always enjoyed meeting Oliver with his wife in the community of Marilyn, Mike, and their family. It was something special to listen and talk to him. We are thankful that we got to know him and his wonderful family. May the family feel god's presence and support.*

Deepest sympathies from the Strauch family

Matthias Strauch - May 05, 2023 at 09:23 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



May 05, 2023 at 07:54 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



May 04, 2023 at 09:27 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



May 04, 2023 at 07:53 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



May 04, 2023 at 06:51 PM



“ *I am so very sorry for your loss. I will be forever grateful for Oliver's faith in starting a campus ministry at IU. I was baptized into Christ at North Central in Sept of 1978. His preaching & teaching of God's Word helped me grow & stay faithful. God's blessings to you.*

Laurel - May 04, 2023 at 12:21 PM



“ *Sarah, Davis', Delays, Haynes, & Zumbruns purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



Sarah, Davis', Delays, Haynes, & Zumbruns - May 04, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.



May 04, 2023 at 12:26 AM



“ Norma and family, my prayers are for you in this time of sadness. Oliver was a warrior for Jesus Christ and I treasure the times Mary Lou and I visited with Oliver and you discussing the spiritual matters of life. He helped my journey in Christ and the preaching of the gospel. May God give you comfort in this time knowing that he has the crown of life.
Donald E. Clem

Donald E. Clem - May 03, 2023 at 10:43 PM



“ It was Oliver's preaching about Jesus every Sunday morning that finally broke through my hard heart and made me realize Jesus died on a cross for me. He took the punishment for MY sins. It was Oliver who baptized me in February 1976. It was Oliver who took me with him for outreach Bible studies. It was Oliver and Norma who were always encouraging to me and spurring me on. It was Oliver who encouraged teen and campus ministries and worked closely with Paul Prill, Jeff Hill, Steve Sikes and many others. It was Oliver who thought outside the "church of Christ" box in his ministry and his books. I thank God for blessing me with Oliver Rogers in my life.
-Don Cross

DON CROSS - May 03, 2023 at 09:03 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



May 03, 2023 at 09:03 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Oliver E. Rogers.*



May 03, 2023 at 08:45 PM