



Dr. Ray P. Rust

August 8, 1925 - February 2, 2018

Dr. Ray P. Rust, 92, passed away on Friday, February 2, 2018 in Richardson, TX. He was born on August 8, 1925 to H.H. and Clara Taylor Rust, and was raised in Summer Grove, Louisiana, the oldest of three boys. Dr. Rust was ordained into the ministry at the age of 18 in November of 1943, and that same year began his service as the Pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church in Ruby, LA. He was married to Joy Lucille Stagg in August of 1946, with whom he raised a son, Larry, and a daughter, Jory. Dr. Rust earned bachelor's degrees from Louisiana College in Pineville, LA and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, and would later receive doctoral degrees from Louisiana College as well as Furman University in Greenville, SC. After his time at Pine Grove Baptist Church, Dr. Rust served as the Associate Pastor of First Baptist Church, Lake Charles, LA; Pastor of Vancleave Baptist Church, Vancleave, MS; Second Baptist Church, Biloxi, MS; First Baptist Church, Amite, LA; and First Baptist Church, Bastrop, LA. Following his years of pastoral service, Dr. Rust served in various roles at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, including Executive Assistant to the President, Acting President, and Executive Vice President. From New Orleans, he went on to serve as President of Anderson College in Anderson, SC and then on to the General Board of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, where he served as the Executive Secretary – Treasurer until retirement in 1992. After retirement, he served as the Interim Pastor for First Baptist Church, Bastrop, LA and First Baptist Church, Blue Ridge, TX. Along the way, he also served in various leadership positions with the Louisiana Baptist Convention, Louisiana College, the Baptist Message, and the Southern Baptist Convention, and mentored many members of the ministry. He is survived by his daughter, Jory Rust Watson; brother, Dr. John M. Rust; grandson, John Andrew Watson and his wife, Sara Elise Watson; granddaughter, Katherine Jordan Peters and her husband, Casey Michael Peters; granddaughter, Savannah Lareé Lawrence; granddaughter, Brianna Lauren Rust; great-grandson, Blaise Cantú; great-granddaughter, Calla Watson; and great-grandson, Clayton Watson. He is preceded in death by his wife, Joy; parents, H.H. and Clara; brother, Cpl. Charles Vernon Rust, USMC; son, Lawrence Henry Rust; and son-in-law, John Houston Watson. Patient, kind, and playful, Ray spent his life in the service of his family and the Lord, always seeking to honor others above himself, and exemplified the role of a true servant-leader to all who knew and loved him.

While his warmth, grace, and smile will be missed, there is rejoicing over the completion of a race well run and the welcoming home of this good and faithful servant. A funeral service for Ray will be held at 3:00 pm on Friday, February 9 in the Wildwood Chapel at Restland Funeral Home in Dallas, TX. Memorial gifts can be made to Anderson University in Anderson, South Carolina.

Comments



“ Brother Rust was one of those pastors whom one never forgets! My mother and dad, Kate and Claude Pickett, loved him dearly. May God give you precious memories of your father and may we all look forward to being with Jesus and our Christian friends in Heaven where there will be no sorrow! Linda Pickett Hudson

Charlotte Linda Pickett Hudson - February 09, 2018 at 06:48 PM



“ Jory, so sorry to hear about your Dad. He was one of a kind...an extraordinary human being. Those of us who was privileged to know him...and your family...are so fortunate. The last time I talked with him, he still had wise words, and that unique sense of human only he could deliver. Love to you, Margaret Ogden Morgan

Margaret Morgan - February 09, 2018 at 01:44 PM



“ Jory and other family, I am a retiree of South Carolina Baptist Convention. I was there when Dr. Rust came to us and there when he retired. He was a wonderful leader for our Convention. He and Joy were personal friends to all of us. My husband, Mike, and I had the privilege of visiting them in their home in Texas. They were loved and will be missed by many. May God bless each of you as you experience the transition this brings.

Lucy Riccardi Sweatt - February 08, 2018 at 03:57 PM



“ Such a wonderful person. I will always remember him as my Pastor who baptised me and married me years later. So sorry for your loss.

Donna Williamson Rogers - February 08, 2018 at 12:50 PM



“ Such a Godly man. Will never forget. Our prayers for the family.

Darrell & Joyce Neely - February 07, 2018 at 08:58 AM



“ Jory, your parents were very dear friends of my parents, Bill and Jerry Ichter. They served on staff together at FBC Amite, but Dad always said they were not only co-workers but very close friends. We were all saddened to hear of your Dad’s passing, but know he is enjoying his eternal reward! What a special man! He and your Mom visited us in Brazil years ago – such a fun couple! My parents are both still living. My Dad is also 92. We will all keep you and your children in our prayers and in our hearts.

Alana Ichter Greenwich - February 06, 2018 at 02:45 PM



“ Jory and Rust Family, Words cannot express our condolences for the loss of you beloved father. He led me to the Lord baptized me at First Baptist in Bastrop, LA in 1957 when I was six years old. My family sends their condolences, prayers and hugs for you and your family. Bro. Rust was not only my pastor, but a friend. He will be greatly missed by all.

Janet Marie Stuart Miles - February 05, 2018 at 03:47 PM