



## Richard E. Heishman

September 25, 1941 - September 10, 2021

Richard Ephraim Heishman was born on September 25, 1941, in the West Virginia town of Wardensville, in the mountains he held dear his whole life. The fifth son of Thomas and Margie (Hilbert) Heishman, Richard's trademark sense of humor surfaced early in life with his eight siblings, such as the story he would often laughingly recall of his eldest sister chasing him down the hill with a broom for some mischief or another.

As a young man, Richard followed his older brothers to seek job opportunities in the greater-Washington, DC area where he worked at the Rosslyn Tire Store. One fateful day, he met and fell in love with his "sweetie" of now over 60 years, Cherie Daniels, when he started playing with her young daughter, Marcia as they waited for their clothes to finish at the local laundromat.

Richard and Cherie were soon married and moved back to her home state of Iowa, where he quickly adopted Marcia and loved and raised her as his own daughter, something she will never forget.

They lived in Iowa for over a decade as Richard pursued various successful entrepreneurial adventures in operating a gas station and selling livestock equipment. But having come to personal faith in Jesus as an adult, in the mid-1970's Richard answered God's call to preach, completing his GED and enrolling as a student, along with his daughter Marcia, at Bob Jones University. He graduated from BJU in 1981 and the same year, he and Cherie moved to Davenport, Iowa to start a church.

He would go on to serve for 32 years as the much-loved pastor of Heritage

Baptist, later renamed Northside Baptist (when it merged with Community Bible Church), before retiring to Greenville to be closer to family. In those three decades, he educated young hearts and minds at their Christian school, cared for the daily needs of his congregation, and led the church to purchase property and build a new building. But most dear to his heart and the passion of his life was to faithfully witness and preach the Bible, in order to win souls for Jesus.

Marcia and her husband Mark Weaver also moved to Iowa in 1981, allowing Richard to live near what would eventually be his three grandchildren: Ellen, Jason, and Megan. Always a Pied Piper with children, Richard loved when his grandchildren would come to stay for several weeks over the summer, allowing him to share his love for hunting and fishing, finding a good bargain, and the simple pleasures of life like a good ice cream cone or “slurpie.” They will always remember his perpetual teasing, incessant nicknames, expert dickering for a deal, and avid outdoorsmanship with love. In recent years, he once again had the joy of teasing a small child, this time, his great grandson Jackson, whom he spoiled with more toy cars and trucks than could ever be counted.

Richard loved many things in life: a fresh summer tomato; bow-hunting; fishing; collecting and reselling (anything!) for a profit at the flea market; Iowa Hawkeye sports; Civil War history (especially the battle of Cross Keys, which took place in his neck of the woods near West Virginia); traveling (his and Cherie’s trip to Israel was a special highlight); his extended Heishman family and reunions with them; his daughter’s family; and his dear wife Cherie, for whom he tirelessly cared for the last several years. But most of all he loved Jesus, His Savior, a legacy of faithfulness that he has passed to his family and all who knew him.

He went home to heaven on September 10, 2021, just a few weeks shy of his 80th birthday. He now knows Jesus face-to-face and would want more than anything for you to know Him too.

He was preceded in death by his parents (Thomas and Margie Heishman)

and five siblings (Bernell Smith, Ken Heishman, Joyce Osborn, Mark Heishman, and Wayne Heishman). He is survived by his wife (Cherie Heishman), his daughter and son-in-law (Marcia and Mark Weaver), three grandchildren (Ellen Weaver, Jason Weaver, and Megan Weaver), one great grandson (Jackson Weaver), three siblings (Tommy Heishman, Sam Heishman, and Karen Dove), and dozens of nieces and nephews.

The family will receive visitors at Harmony Baptist Church (Long Forest Dr, Greenville, SC 29617) at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 18. A service conducted by Richard's nephew, the Reverend Brent Smith, will follow at 11:00 a.m. at the church.

The service will be livestreamed at <https://youtu.be/ew1eL8H-bgg>

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that memorials be made to Harmony Baptist Church or Miracle Hill Ministries.

# Cemetery Details

**Private**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

SEP 18. 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM (ET)

Harmony Baptist Church  
80 Longforest Drive  
Greenville, SC

### Church Service

SEP 18. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (ET)

Harmony Baptist Church  
80 Longforest Drive  
Greenville, SC

# Tribute Wall

RS

“*Rev. Heishman will truly be missed by myself, my wife and our church. Brother Heishman was a true man of God, who even though was retired from the Pastorate, continued to be a soul winner for Christ. He was a witness of God’s love and salvation every where he went. He had a wonderful personality that enabled him to be able to talk to anyone he met.*

*He was faithful to Harmony Independent Baptist Church and was always willing to fill in wherever needed. He would lead singing, fill the pulpit in my absence and taught Sunday School. His dear wife accompanied him in this labor of love for his Lord and Savior. They both have been a valuable asset in The Lord’s work, here and in his former pastorate, and have left a lasting impression on many lives. Until we meet again; Pastor and Mrs. Leon Shipman.*

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**Rev. Leon Shipman** - September 18, 2021 at 08:18 PM

EW

*Thank you, Pastor. Your love and care for my grandparents was a beautiful picture of what a church should be. The ability to minister even in retirement was a great gift to Grandpa, and I know he cherished the ability to serve. Thank you for loving them so well.*

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**Ellen Weaver** - September 21, 2021 at 07:08 PM

KH

“*I never got to know uncle Richard really well, during the time I was growing up I was in Virginia and he was in Iowa, saw him at family reunions. He cared a lot about people and his family and his church in Iowa, and his wife. During the time he was around me, he was a great example of what a Christian man should be, and he had a great sense of humor. We will miss him, but looking forward to seeing him again someday!*

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**Kenny Heishman** - September 16, 2021 at 02:12 PM

EW

*Thank you, Kenny. He thought the world of your dad. I remember when he brought me to a Heishman family reunion when I was 8 and we got to ride horses at your house.*

Ellen Weaver - September 17, 2021 at 10:13 AM

SH

*“ I have lots of fond memories of growing up with Richard. Going to church every Sunday at Crest Hill Mennonite church. Seeing our mother read her Bible every day. Lots of play, sponge ball, basketball, horseshoes, monopoly. Lots of work, milking cows, raising chickens, working in the garden. Now Richard has graduated to heaven and we who have trusted Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour will see him again.*

Sam Heishman - September 15, 2021 at 02:21 PM

EW

*Thank you for sharing this, Uncle Sam. About 12 years ago Grandpa drove me around where y'all grew up. It was so special to see it and hear his memories too!*

Ellen Weaver - September 16, 2021 at 12:47 PM

SB

*I work for the YMCA in Travelers Rest. We all loved Richard! He talked with everyone as he carried a cup of coffee in his hand. He would bring in donuts to share with everyone. This of course was funny because everyone here is trying to watch their weight but they loved when he brought the donuts. I have so many fond memories. He gave me a Maine mug because I went there every summer. I drink my coffee in it all the time. He was such a caring person and he will be greatly missed!*

Sue Barnwell - September 17, 2021 at 11:30 AM

EW

*What a funny story about the donuts...that sounds just like Grandpa! Thank you for sharing your memories.*

Ellen Weaver - September 21, 2021 at 07:09 PM

FC

“ I am so sorry to hear of Richard’s passing, but rejoicing to know he is with our Savior the Lord Jesus Christ. His obituary brought tears of great joy in having the privilege to have known him. Looking forward to the blessed return of Jesus: Fred Cutlip

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**Fred Cutlip** - September 14, 2021 at 04:26 PM

EW

*Amen! Thank you, Fred. He loved you and Carmen Kay so much.*

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**Ellen Weaver** - September 16, 2021 at 12:47 PM