



Dr. Richard Raymond Lloyd Jr.

March 3, 1929 - March 9, 2026

Dr. Richard Raymond Lloyd, Jr., 97, was called home to his heavenly Father on March 9, 2026. He was the son of Rev. Richard Raymond, Sr. and Edith Evans Lloyd. He was born on March 3, 1929, in Fort Edward, NY, grew up on nearby Lake George where his father built a small cottage in 1932 and would later graduate from Oneonta (NY) High School.

He graduated as the Student Body President from Carson Newman College in 1950 with a Bachelor of Arts with majors in English, History and Music. In addition, he holds the Bachelor of Divinity (1953) and Doctor of Theology (1960) from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. On December 21, 1953, he married “his songbird” Gretta Virginia Johnson beginning a lifetime of love and ministry.

He would pastor five churches, beginning at age 20. While at Carson Newman, and then his first two years at Southern Seminary, he pastored the Caney Ford Baptist Church (1948-52) in Roane County commuting weekly. While at Southern Seminary, he pastored the First Baptist Church (1952-1958) of Bridgeport, IL also commuting weekly. As he neared the end of his seminary studies, he returned to Roane County, to become pastor of the First Baptist Church Rockwood (1958 - 1962). For the next ten years, he pastored the Ridgedale Baptist Church (1962-72), in Chattanooga and finally, for the last 22 years, he served as pastor of the First Baptist Church (1972-94), Starkville, MS.

In retirement, he served as an interim pastor in 30 different churches in MS,

NY and East Tennessee, including the FBC of Oak Ridge and the FBC of Jefferson City, and internationally at the Kowloon International Baptist Church, Kowloon, Hong Kong. In addition, he taught in extended sessions at both the Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary and in the Nigerian Baptist Seminary in Ogbomosha, Nigeria. His most significant work was helping the Baptist Churches of upstate NY. In addition, he preached annually for over 50 summers, like his father before him did, at the Lakeside Chapel, Cleaverdale, NY on the banks of his beloved Lake George. He also served denominationally on the Board for the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home, President of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, as a member of the Southern Baptist Convention Religious and Ethics Committee and the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee.

He and Gretta were parents to 4 children. Richard Raymond, III, William Evan, Vicky May and Linda Lee.

Proceeding him in death are his parents Rev. Richard R. and Edith Lloyd, Sr.; his wife of 71 ½ years Gretta Johnson; his children William Evan and Linda Lee; his daughter in law Dr. Debra Heard Lloyd; his son in law Joseph Redfearn; two unnamed stillborn sisters; and Tanner Joseph Redfearn, stillborn great grandson.

He is survived by his children Dr. Richard Raymond Lloyd III and Vicky Redfearn Wilkes (Steve). Grandchildren – his pride and joy: Rev. Richard R. "Logan" Lloyd IV (Claire); Dr. Kelsey Lee Lloyd; Rachel Ann Redfearn; Jacob Michael Redfearn (Erika); William Jordan Lloyd and Captain Joseph Evan Redfearn, U.S. Space Force, (Jessie). Great grandchildren Cora Lynn Lloyd, Eva James Lloyd and Josephine Mae Redfearn. He was a proud member of the William Victor Johnson family, and as the last surviving member of the 11 children and their spouses, he leaves behind a multitude of nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life Service will be conducted at First Baptist Church, Jefferson City, TN on Saturday, March 14 with visitation from 11:00a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and the worship service immediately following at 1:00 p.m. Interment will

follow at the Union Cemetery in Newport, TN.

Memorial contributions may be made to the "Ray and Gretta Lloyd Scholarship Fund for Ministerial Students" (Pastoral, Church Music or Missions) at Carson Newman University. CNU Advancement Office, P.O. Box 557, Jefferson City, TN 37760.

Family and friends may sign the guest register online at: www.manesfuneralhome.com

Arrangements with Manes Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR 14. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church Jefferson City
1610 Russell Ave
Jefferson City, TN 37760

Funeral service

MAR 14. 1:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church Jefferson City
1610 Russell Ave
Jefferson City, TN 37760

Burial

MAR 14 (ET)

Union Cemetery
Newport, TN

Tribute Wall

DB

“ *Love and prayers for family.*

Donn Berney - March 17 at 01:04 PM

PF

“ *On March 17, 1960, Uncle Dr. Ray Lloyd officiated at his nephew's Jim Fry's and my Pat Thomas' wedding. Aunt Gretta sang, They were both a big influence on our 65 years of marriage. Jim passed in 2025 and cousin Rich conducted and played piano at his celebration of life. Now, the choir in Heaven is more complete with this Man of God and his "Song Bird" praising their Lord and Savior just as Uncle Ray has done throughout the world! Rich, Vicky and Family, may you feel even closer to your dad as he can now eat an even larger bowl of ice cream and look back on all the joy you have brought him. I Love you Pat Fry*



Pat Fry - March 13 at 08:00 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard Raymond Lloyd Jr..*



March 13 at 12:15 PM

JM

“ I was a fellow student with Ray at Carson Newman and at Southern Seminary. He was a good friend.

Jim McCluskey - March 13 at 12:04 PM

LB

“ We extend to Pastor Ray's family our condolences on the passing of their dad and granddad. There are many who will miss his cheerful smile, wave, words of encouragement, and visits. We met Ray and Gretta in 2016 when he served our church, First Baptist Church of Hoosick Falls, as interim pastor for about 6 months. They were a true joy and a beautiful reflection of what a great marriage looks like. That summer they even invited our congregation to their cottage on Lake George for our church picnic and of course included boat rides.

Carl and I cherished our moments with them and their friendship. We have visited with them each summer at the cottage since 2016 except for one year. We also enjoyed our stay at their beautiful home in TN overlooking the Great Smoky Mountains.

They were both loved by everyone who knew them and they devoted their lives to bringing others to Christ. Though they went through many hardships they remained steadfast in their faith and the knowledge of being reunited one day.

We will cherish our memories of times spent together. We will miss seeing them both on this side of heaven but what a glorious day that will be when we are together again. God bless you all his family. We know how much you all meant to them. Carl & Lorraine Brownell

Lorraine Brownell - March 12 at 04:18 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard Raymond Lloyd Jr..



March 12 at 11:05 AM



“ Dr. Raymond and Gretta Lloyd were dear friends during my college days in the late 90's through early 2000's. Dr. Lloyd sang tenor in the church choir at First Baptist Church, Jefferson City, TN and often stood next to my beloved voice teacher Dr. John Burgin. Dr. Lloyd and Gretta were always so encouraging and supportive of me during those college years and always spoke words of support and affirmation to me regarding my singing and musical ability. Thank you Dr. Lloyd for all of your many years of service and ministry to the furtherance of God's kingdom.

Sincerely,
Michael Valentine
Class of 2000 - Carson-Newman University
Bachelor of Music in Church Music with Vocal Emphasis
Franklin, TN

Michael Valentine - March 12 at 05:58 AM



“ I am praying for the family and friends of Dr. Richard Raymond Lloyd, Jr. I pray our Lord's love, comfort and strength for each of you. I am thankful for his life of faithful service for our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Dan West - March 11 at 05:41 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard Raymond Lloyd Jr..*



March 11 at 03:31 PM



“ *Love and Prayers,
Pat Fry
Winter Springs, FL*

Patricia T Fry - March 11 at 03:16 PM



“ *Rev. Ray and Gretta were blessings to all who were fortunate enough to know them. Our church was blessed by his teachings for many summers. He will be dearly missed. My love and prayers are with his family at this difficult time.*

Sharon Hammond - March 11 at 10:14 AM



“ *What a wonderful family built on faith! I worked for Dr Lloyd for many years and was fortunate to have called him a friend! Love to all the family and keep telling stories so you can laugh and share memories! RIP*

Douglas Day - March 11 at 10:12 AM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Dr. Richard Raymond Lloyd Jr..



March 11 at 10:12 AM



“ Today I am remembering Ray and Gretta and the inspiration they were to so many of us. Paul and I first knew him in college, then after seminary he pastored Ridgedale, my home church, and was a faithful leader in church and community. Once again in retirement we enjoyed their friendship as they became a part of Jefferson City First Baptist. In thankfulness for their lives and ministries, we pray for comfort and strength to all who feel the loss and sadness at this time.

imogene Baker Brewer - March 11 at 10:08 AM



Prayers and condolence's for the Lloyd family. We always enjoyed Dr. Rays visits to our First Baptist Church in Newport. Our pastor Dr. Ray (Rich III) often requested his Father to say the closing prayer.

Philip Gibson & Mary Moore - March 12 at 10:33 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Lloyd family at this time.

Benjamin Schlechter - March 10 at 11:53 PM

TF

“ The Dullanty Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Richard Raymond Lloyd Jr..

The Dullanty Family - March 10 at 11:49 PM

TF

“ The Dullanty Family purchased the Strength & So lace Spray for the family of Dr. Richard Raymond Lloyd Jr..



The Dullanty Family - March 10 at 11:49 PM

MF

“ Morrow Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Richard Raymond Lloyd Jr..

Morrow Family - March 10 at 06:12 PM

MF

“ Morrow Family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Dr. Richard Raymond Lloyd Jr..



Morrow Family - March 10 at 06:12 PM

JL

“ Ray spent his youth in Oneonta, NY where his father was Pastor of the First Baptist Church. When I first met him my husband was Pastor of that church and we had fun talking about the fact that we had both slept in the same house and bedrooms. I was the Field Minister, Associate Executive for ABC/NYS at the time. He and Gretta invited my husband Bill and I up to the cabin each year and we spent several days there with them and some overnights. Ray was an encourager for churches he served, the people he met and I counted him a friend. God used him in so many peoples lives over the years, and in the churches he served. I will miss knowing he is no longer in his home, but in God's timing I am also sure he has heard those words of Well Done My Good and Faithful Servant. Thankyou to the family for sharing both ray and Gretta with so many people. I know he was very proud of his family and took great joy in your lives. May God's peace and grace be with you all. Jane and Bill Lang

Jane Lang - March 10 at 06:07 PM

JC

With deepest sympathy to the Lloyd family.

Jan Carpenter - March 11 at 03:05 PM

RL

Jane, I will always be convinced that my dad's most significant work was not in the big churches or in the seminaries - though that was important. His most Kingdom impacting work was where his heart was in the churches of upstate NY! This is his son Rich. if you have fb, please find me.

Rich Lloyd - March 11 at 05:56 PM

DH

Dr. Lloyd was a great influence in the life of my late husband, Rev. Sam Henderson, in his youth at Ridgedale Baptist Church in Chattanooga, TN. He always encouraged and supported him in his walk of faith and decision to become a minister. He also officiated our wedding ceremony. I know his family have the comfort and peace that comes with the assurance that he is now rejoicing in the presence of his King.

Debbie Henderson - March 19 at 12:54 PM

JD

“*Ray Lloyd recruited me, a freshman at Carson-Newman, to become the church secretary at Ridgedale Baptist in 1965. Next to accepting Jesus Christ as my Savior when I was 11 years old, this was the best decision I ever made. He was my friend, along with the rest of the family; and I will always count it a privilege to have been a part of his life. God be with you all during this time of loss. Janet Gilliland Daniel*

Janet Gilliland Daniel - March 10 at 05:24 PM

AB

“*Sincere Sympathies and prayers for entire Lloyd family... May God comfort you all today and the coming days...*

Abby Balch/Donna - March 10 at 04:19 PM