



## Verlin Lynn Anthony

May 11, 1938 - February 3, 2021

Verlin Lynn Anthony, 82, joined The Church Triumphant at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, February 3, 2021. He fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith (2 Tim.4:7). Born at home in Aline, Oklahoma on May 11, 1938, he grew up on a small farm without electricity or indoor plumbing. After finishing High School in Cleo Springs, OK, he enrolled at Bethany Nazarene College in Bethany OK. He got a job as a janitor at the college and worked summers on the wheat harvest to finance his Bachelor's degree. Verlin met his sweetheart Karen Watson there and following his graduation they were married. While working full time, he took night classes to complete his Master's degree at Oklahoma University and his Doctorate of Educational Psychology at Oklahoma State University. He moved his growing family to Hot Springs, AR in 1972 to accept a position at Community Counseling Services, where he was employed until 1998. In 2000 Verlin began working at Hot Springs Rehabilitation and retired in May of 2013 when he turned 75.

He taught a Sunday School Class for many years at the First Nazarene Church and played first baseman on their church softball team. Family float trips on the Ouachita and Caddo rivers were highlights of the summers during that time. Verlin's life was characterized by kindness, compassion and generosity. He contributed to numerous charities and volunteered at Samaritan's Ministry, The Caring Place and the Stephen's ministry at First United Methodist Church.

Verlin loved his family, took great pride in his kids and enjoyed playing with his grandkids, teaching them to how to shoot bows and ride bikes. He liked hunting and fishing with friends, vegetable gardening and stoking the fire in winter with wood he had cut and split.

His faith in Christ was Verlin's guiding principle and he influenced countless others in both his personal and professional life. He faced his Alzheimer's diagnosis with courage and grace, confident in the resurrection as he gradually surrendered the things of this life. In the last months of his illness Verlin often expressed a desire to go home, he is now reunited with his parents Ernest and Myrle Anthony. He leaves behind his loving wife of 60 years Karen, their children Carroll Anthony, Spencer (Melody) Anthony and Keri (Shawn) Cochran and grandchildren Silas, Sam, and Sara Cochran. He is survived by his sister Marilyn Anderson, brother Elvin (Marsha) Anthony, sister Carol (Alan) Gering and nieces and nephews.

The family would like to recognize Dzung and Chi Nguyen for their many years of loyal friendship. We also acknowledge our gratitude to Dr. Timothy English and the staff at Arkansas Hospice. Verlin's wish to be a donor to the Genesis Whole Body Donation Foundation has been honored and no memorial service is planned at this time. The family requests in lieu of flowers donations be made to Open Arms Ministry at Hot Springs First United Methodist Church.

# Tribute Wall

EM

“ *Ellen Meadows lit a candle in memory of Verlin Lynn Anthony*



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**Ellen meadows** - February 28, 2021 at 10:07 PM

MP

“ *Karen, we just learned of Verlin's passing from Sue (Lewis) Kinzler. So sorry to hear that news. I still remember being at your wedding and when you first started dating Verlin. Though many years have passed, you are still in our hearts. Our prayers are with you and all your family at this time.*

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**Mary Lynn Peters** - February 09, 2021 at 02:39 PM

MT

“ *So sorry to hear of Dr. Anthony's passing. I have always been thankful and grateful for the years he supervised and taught me at the HSRC .He was such a great person . Prayers for the family !*

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**Melissa Tiernan** - February 06, 2021 at 06:17 PM

KF

“ *We are so very sorry to hear of Verlin's passing. We have many fond memories of him. What a wonderful Christian he was! We are blessed to have known him and all of your family. Love and prayers for you at this most difficult time. Ken and Karen Fowler*

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**Karen Fowler** - February 06, 2021 at 10:23 AM

MW

“ Dear Family, I'm so sorry to hear of Verllin's passing. I enjoyed working with him for our brief time together. He was always gracious and received me as a fellow professional. I will always remember his congenial attitude and warm spirit. We worked together on some rather challenging cases that I would never have gotten through if it were not for him. Thank God he was always there to lend a helping hand. I will never forget him. I am looking forward to renewing our fellowship on the other side. Peace be with all of you. You are in my thoughts and prayers at this time of your need.

God bless you,  
Mel Wilson, Retired Chaplain, HSRC/ACTI

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**Mel Wilson** - February 06, 2021 at 05:10 AM

JW

“ Our Love & Prayers are with Verlin's Family. He was such a kind, compassionate Professional and Friend.  
Love, Jess & Sherrill Wilson ❤️✝️🙏

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**Jess & Sherrill Wilson** - February 05, 2021 at 09:57 PM

SL

“ When I was about 10 he was a great friend to me. He was my counselor. He would take me out at the church to fly kites. He helped me thru a difficult time as a child. Much later in life I became a Mental Health Care Manager and work with at risk teens for a while.

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**Steven Long** - February 05, 2021 at 05:40 PM

CS

“ Karen, You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers--prayers for comfort and peace. Bruce & Cindy Smith

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**Cindy Smith** - February 05, 2021 at 05:09 PM

NW

“ *Mr Anthony helped me through some difficult times...I've always remembered his kindness and his faith...He was a good man in a world where there are too few good men left...May God bless your family at this difficult time...*

*Nicole*

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**Nicole Williams** - February 05, 2021 at 03:07 PM

EN

“ *Dr. Anthony was such a great man. I appreciated his kind, gentle and caring spirit. He was genuine in his concern for others. I know he will be greatly missed.*

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**Emily Neal** - February 05, 2021 at 11:56 AM

FS

“ *Saddened to hear of Verlin's passing. He was such a sweet, caring man and contributed so much to the individuals at The Caring Place where we both volunteered at one time.*

*Karen, I am praying for you and your family during this time. Fran Sublette*

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**Fran Sublette** - February 05, 2021 at 10:31 AM