



Wayne Bell

April 8, 1950 - September 3, 2009

Wayne Bell, Presbyterian pastor for over 30 years, died in his Slippery Rock home surrounded by family on Thursday September 3, 2009. He was 59.

Wayne was born on April 8, 1950 in McKeesport, PA to Kathleen and Alexander Bell of Irwin.

He was a graduate of Norwin High School and Alliance College. He received his Masters of Divinity from Louisville Presbyterian Seminary and his Doctorate of Ministry from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

For Wayne, life was a journey. His love for sailing led him to Canada's North Channel, the Western Florida Keys, Loch Ness, the Virgin Islands, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, and the Chesapeake Bay. Locally he sailed For Who the Bells Toil with his family on Lake Arthur for 25 years. He was Captain of the Lake Arthur Sailing Club. He also served as President of the Trailer/Sailor Association and co-wrote several articles about sailing adventures for Sailing magazine with his wife, Debbie.

He was an avid bicyclist and Rails to Trails supporter. Aside from riding many of the local trails Wayne has also ridden in The Galapagos Islands and Bishop Auckland, England, and Edinburgh, Scotland. His favorite journey was the trail between Washington DC and Pittsburgh. He shared the peace and serenity of this route with his wife, father, his son Jason, his daughter Rachel, son-in-law Troy, and sister Sandy on many overnight camping trips.

His true love was missions, especially providing housing for families in need. He tirelessly worked organizing trips and funding projects in Pittsburgh,

Nicaragua, Southern Florida, Suffolk, VA, and Slidell, LA.

Although a central theme to life was a sense of adventure, his fondest memories were in his own back yard with family and friends.

As a member of Beaver-Butler Presbytery, he served on the Committee on Ministry, Christian Education Committee, Planning Committee, and Permanent Judicial Commission.

Wayne was currently serving as Pastor of the West Sunbury United Presbyterian Church, West Sunbury, PA. He also served as Area Minister for Beaver-Butler Presbytery and Shenago Presbytery, serving many churches. He previously served churches in Bellaire, Ohio and Kenova, West Virginia. In addition to his parents, he is survived by his wife, Debbie, whom he married July 29, 1972 and son Jason of Slippery Rock, his daughter and son-in-law Rachel and Troy Painter of Shady Side, MD, his granddaughters Sierra Bell of SR and Alexandra (Lexi) Painter of Shady Side, MD, his sister Sandra Sargo of Somerset, mother-in-law, Dora Michael of Tarentum, brother-in-law and sister-in-law David and Donna Michael of Sarver, and family friend, Jenny Armen of Monroeville. He also is survived by several nieces and nephews: Michael Sargo of Somerset, Alexis Sargo of Austin, TX, Lisa and Brian Weiland, and their son Drake of Mt. Chestnut and Jeff Michael of Tarentum. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorial donations be made to the "Bell Memorial Mission Fund" c/o the West Sunbury United Presbyterian Church, 215 E Church St., PO Box 106, West Sunbury, PA 16061-3121. The contributions received will be used by our family to support projects in Nicaragua and the Gulf Coast region of Louisiana.

Friends will be received at the Young Funeral Home, 127 W. Jefferson St., Butler, PA on Saturday, September 5 from 1 to 3 and 6 to 8 PM. A memorial service will be held at the West Sunbury United Presbyterian Church on Sunday, September 6, 2009 at 4 PM with Rev. Lee Dreyer of White Oak Springs Presbyterian Church, Butler and Rev. Eric E. Dennis of Linway United Presbyterian Church, East McKeesport, PA officiating.

Information and condolences at www.youngfuneralhomes.com

Tribute Wall



“ Wayne was a year ahead of me at LPTS - My thoughts and prayers are with you during your bereavement. May the peace of Christ sustain each of you.##imported-begin##George C. Goodman##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Wow, my old friend Wayne - what a sweet man. I am here in tears. I am sorry I did not keep up with you more. Love and Peace, Skip##imported-begin##Skip Hansen##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ May God extend to you a special measure of his mercy and grace as you grieve the loss of your beloved Wayne.

God of all mercies and giver of all comfort: Look graciously, I pray, on Wayne's family, that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.##imported-begin##Clifford J. Hayes. LPTS classmate##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I remember days on the flag football field by the married students apartments when we were in seminary together. I was in the dorm so did not see Debbie much. Just wanted you to know that your family is in our prayers as you celebrate his life and begin to adjust to your loss.##imported-begin##T.J. Thompson##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Deb and family, My life was made a little richer by having Wayne in my life. There weretimes that I needed and he seemed to know those times and helped me over the rough spots.I will always thank God for letting him into my life.Thanks to all of you for sharing this loving man with so many others.##imported-begin##Donna Meredith##imported-end##*

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Debbie, Rachel, and Jason,*

It is with great sadness that I learned of Wayne's passing. A bright light has gone out in the world way too early. Yet we know that there is a divine plan at work and we are not in charge of it!

I am sure you and your sadness are being held in the arms of community, and loving friends and family members.

With love,

Sherry Cormier##imported-begin##sherry cormier##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *To the entire Bell family:*

We only recently had the oppurtunity to know Wayne and it didn't take us long to discover what a wonderful human being he was! We feel very blessed to have had the gift of knowing him. His kind spirit, open mindedness, and good nature will forever be etched in our hearts.

Our prayers are with you all during this time.

Angie and Erika##imported-begin##Angela Davidson and Erika##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Debbie and family. We are so sorry for your terrific loss. When you guys came to Ocean blvd, we found some truly great freinds. We know Wayne is in a much greater place today, free from pain. We shall always remember how great a person he was and how he touched our lives in the short time we knew him. We are here for anything you need.##imported-begin##Dave & Diane##imported-end##*

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *A good friend and a good man taken from us to travel a different road.*

Our thoughts travel across the world to be with you at this time.##imported-begin##Tony##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dearest Deb and family,
We offer our sincere condolences to you all. Wayne was a wonderful caring and giving human being. His friendly smile and winning disposition will always leave a lasting impression when we recall the friendship we had with Wayne. Your life together has been full of many adventures and those memories will live on in your hearts forever. We will miss him, but know he resides with our Father and is home safe and at peace forever. We celebrate our joy in having him in our lives. Peace and prayers are with you, Deb.
Love,
Tim and Deb Drennen##imported-begin##Deb and Tim##imported-end##*

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *The surest mark of faith is not the absolute absence of doubt, but the true resiliance of belief & trust in His constant and pure direction*##imported-begin##Anonymous##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *We love Wayne and will miss him terribly. It was a blessing to have known him over the years. Family gatherings were always special. Wayne played, as always, a starring role in the activities with his wit and charm. We will always remember the kindnesses he showered on both family and friends. He will always be with us in our hearts.*##imported-begin##David and Donna Michael##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Debbie and Family,*

Please know how much Wayne meant to us and many others throughout the journey of his life. He was such a dedicated and caring Preacher and a blessing to our church. We each have fond memories of Wayne and will remember him always. Peace be with each of you.

God bless,

Ron, Tammy, Shelby & Colton##imported-begin##Ron##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Debbie & Family*

Words can not express the deep sadness we feel over Wayne's passing. We will truly miss him. We will cherish the memories we have of him being a part of our lives, he was a blessing to all of us.##imported-begin##The Bashline's: Travis##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Joshua 1:9 'Be thou steadfast and of good courage. Be not afraid, neither be dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee wheresoever thou goest.'*

I write this as a thank you. Thank you for the love, affection and friendship over the last 10 years. You are someone we will always look up to on earth and in heaven. Thank you for being our friend, guide, and leader. We will always love you . We will always consider you family. The way you spent time with our boys and with us can never be forgotten.

Debbie and Wayne were the reason we joined the church. and the reason we will stay , to keep his ideals going.

Matt & Krissie Boozel##imported-begin##The "Boozels"

Matt##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Debbie and Family,

I was deeply saddened to hear of Wayne's death. Our friendship goes back thirty years to when I was in Toronto, Ohio and you were in Bellaire. I am presently in Cranberry. It was a privilege for me to have Wayne preach my intallation there two years ago.

I regret that I will miss the visitation and funeral as I am in Charlotte visiting my son and his wife. May God grant you peace and comfort now and in the days ahead.

In Christ,

Jim Moran##imported-begin##Rev. Jim Moran##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Debbie, Jason, Rachel, family

Sorry to hear about the passing of Wayne, he was dear to our hearts and family. Mom and dad always thought of him as a son. May God Bless and Keep You All.##imported-begin##Marsha Cross##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM

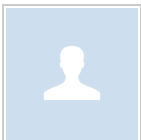


“ Dear Family,

My heart goes out to you all, even thou he has gone home those that are left have the pain of him being gone. Wanye was a great man... I have so many memories of being at your house as a kid. It was safe and warm. You were all an example to me. This is what I looked back on when I was searching for God. You gave me the stones to build my foundation. As my life went on and I wanted to get married , Wayne was the only person I wanted to marry us. What an awsome wedding it was and I still keep his words close. When my husbands mother was sick and scared and was going in for surgery, Wanye is who I called to pray with us. He came right down to Pitt. No matter what he was someone that I could call and depend on. Then he came to my work, ware I hoped to repay a small bit and help him withhis injury. Even then we talked of old times and views on faith. He was always an example. Thank you for letting me into your lives as a child, you all helped me become a much better person. My heart goes out to you, my prays are with you, and I will always remember what a great man he was.

Love ,Libby###imported-begin###Libby (Alexander)
Andrusis###imported-end###

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Debbie, Rachel and Jason;

You have my most sincere condolences. Wayne was a great pastor and a great friend. He did so much for so many and will always be remembered for his acts of kindness. He served the Lord spreading the good news of salvation.

My daughter Sherri and I learned so much from him. He will be missed.

Love and Peace,
Tom Gorham###imported-begin###Tom Gorham###imported-end###

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I grieve the physical death of my beloved brother and colleague. I praise God for my memories of him, thankful that for him the suffering is past, the pain has ended and his soul is now at home in the fullness of God.

May Debbie, the family, friends and congregation find comfort in the light and peace of God's Presence. Forever blessed be the name of the Lord.##imported-begin##Randy Campbell##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Debbie, Jason, Rachel, Troy, Lexie and Serria,

"I am so sorry. What can I do to help." Those were the words Wayne said to me the morning Bill died and they are the words that I say to each of you today.

Life is eternal....love is immortal.

Love,

Sue Datt##imported-begin##Sue Datt##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Debbie & Family: We are so sad to hear of Wayne's passing. He has touched so many lives , I know are lives have been enriched , so much by him. He will be missed so much. We we'll take him sailing in our hearts Fair Winds Wayne David, Heather, Shannon & Aaron Law##imported-begin##David & Heather Law##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Debbie and Family,*

We are saddened to hear of Wayne's passing, and want you all to know our prayers will be with you. God Bless.

Gary & Carol##imported-begin##Gary & Carol Weaver##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Debbie and Family:*

Our prayers & hearts are with you! We will miss Wayne; but we rejoice he is with our Lord where suffering no longer occurs. Our fondest memories were being with Wayne in Sliddell, LA rebuilding a house his love for mission pulled us right in and our hearts stayed. What he gave us each Sunday was a message that pertained to our lives for the rest of the week. He could relate to the young the old, the educated the uneducated. He dropped what he was doing to come to our aid at a painful time in our lives. We can still see him sitting on a chair in our living room talking to us counseling us. The rails to trails located at our summer home he loved we will always see him there in all the beauty! God will never bring you to what he will not bring you through. God bless each of you we love you all! As I serve on session at West Sunbury and Paul as a Trustee we will do all in our power for Wayne's wishes to be carried out, our dearest friend!

~Paul & Brenda Bordas~##imported-begin##Paul & Brenda Bordas##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ We've known and loved Wayne and Debbie and "For Whom Bells Toil" for many years of sailing together in the North Channel of Lake Huron.

Wayne was a well-respected cruise leader, mentor, Trailer Sailor's Association President, and friend.

On behalf of friends in the Trailer Sailors Association, our deepest condolences to Debbie and to the family. We know that there is sailing where Wayne has now gone, and envision him on his new boat, with a carpenter as his sailing companion.

Fair winds,

John & Irene##imported-begin##John & Irene Clement##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Debbie & Family,

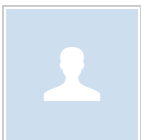
We are so sorry for your loss. Wayne was such a kind and caring man, who has touched so many lives with his kindness. We hope that you find peace knowing that he is in a much better place now, where he will be watching over you. He will be missed by many.

Our Deepest Sympathy,

Marcie, Tony, Caleb, Caden, & Carsen Traggiai

(Don & Cleo Black's granddaughter & family)##imported-begin##Marcie Traggiai##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ May the beauty of Wayne's faithful life uphold the memories of peace and love that you share as a family. Both then and now.##imported-begin##Rev. Lorrie Ghering##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *May the beauty of Wayne's faithful life uphold the memories of peace and love that you share as a family. Both then and now.*##imported-begin##*Rev. Lorrie Ghering*##imported-end##

September 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM