



Earlene Lindsay Richardson

July 18, 1928 - January 13, 2020

EARLENE LINDSAY RICHARDSON was a woman of great strength, immeasurable courage, and unbounded faith—a true woman of valor (eshet hayil) as described in Proverbs 31:10-31. She will be remembered by all who knew her for her insightful and wise Bible teaching, her gentle kindness, her ready smile, and her ever-present spirit of encouragement. On Monday, January 13, 2020, surrounded by her family, Earlene went to be with our Lord whom she and her beloved husband of 42 years, Pastor Gordon C. Lindsay, so dearly loved and served.

Born in Island, Kentucky on July 18, 1928, Earlene grew up in Detroit, Michigan. Upon graduation from Detroit Southeastern High School, Earlene attended Detroit Bible Institute, where she met the love and the light of her life, her partner and best friend, Gordon C. Lindsay. Gordon and Earlene were married on September 6, 1951. In 1951 the young couple moved to Pontiac Township (now Auburn Hills) where Gordon and Earlene ministered together as one for 40 years at Five Points Community Church (June 10, 1951-December 31, 1991). After Pastor Lindsay went to be with our Lord on June 20, 1994, Earlene continued to serve our Lord at Five Points Community Church and later at Christ Church in Gainesville, Georgia. On November 25, 1999, Earlene re-married to Pastor Robert Richardson.

Earlene is most well known for her longstanding and wide-reaching ministry to

women in the Metro Detroit area. In 1968, Earlene began teaching a weekly Bible class for women at Five Points Community Church. Within a few years she was also teaching weekly Bible classes for women at various area churches, including Marimont Community Church (Pontiac), Waterford Community Church, Grace Baptist Church (Birmingham), Oakland Avenue United Presbyterian Church (Pontiac), Tabernacle Baptist Church (Hazel Park), and after relocating to Georgia, at Christ Church (Gainesville) well into her 80s. From 1975-2005, Earlene faithfully taught the Bible five days each week on the “Ladies Radio Bible Class” on WEXL (Royal Oak) and WMPC (Lapeer). She also taught Bible classes at Birmingham Bible Institute for many years.

In conjunction with her teaching in local churches, on the radio, and at Birmingham Bible Institute, Earlene organized annual women’s retreats at Five Points Community Church, with more than 700 participants from over 100 different churches, some even coming from as far as Canada. She also organized and led several trips to Israel, which included travelers from all over the Metro Detroit area. Earlene constantly told anyone who would listen that all the ministries she was involved in were only as successful as they were because of the hundreds of volunteers who faithfully served at the Bible classes, radio ministry, women’s retreats, etc.

What ministered most to Earlene’s heart during her years as pastor’s wife and Bible teacher was the honor and privilege of participating in the growth of thousands of women and men; daughters and sons; parents, children, and grandparents who endeavored to honor and love our Lord Jesus Christ.

Earlene is preceded in death by her husband of 42 years, Pastor Gordon C. Lindsay, her brother Bob Nelson, and her parents Marie and Earl Nelson. She is survived by her three children, Robin (Randy) Barber, Dr. James (Laurel) Lindsay, and Gordie (Melissa) Lindsay; her eight grandchildren, Andrew

(Jennie) Barber (35), Jonisa Lindsay (Chris) Collins (31), Alexandria Lindsay (29), Sarah Lindsay (27), Gabriel Lindsay (24), Zachary Lindsay (23), Cosette Lindsay (20), and Joshua Lindsay (19); her seven great grandchildren, Lily Lindsay (10), Liam Lindsay (8), Blythe Barber (7), Cora Lindsay (6), Adelaide Barber (4), Oaks Barber (2), Luna Lindsay (3 months), and another great grandson Jonisa is due to give birth to in April; her brother Thomas Nelson; and her husband Pastor Robert Richardson.

A memorial service for Earlene will be held on Saturday, February 15 at 11:00am at Five Points Community Church (3411 E. Walton Blvd, Auburn Hills, MI 48326). The family will receive family and friends beginning at 10:00am. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be sent in Earlene's name to Five Points Community Church and to her son Gordie's ministry with at-risk youth in Pontiac, His Harvest Ministries (P.O. Box 994, Union Lake, MI 48387).

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements.

Tribute Wall

KL

“ To the Lindsay - Richardson Family, I was saddened to recently hear of Earlene's home going. She was a mentor, sometimes a Mom, to me over the years. I was he helper at Waterford community class and I enjoyed helping her. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her, but we get to join her on that beautiful shore one day to be forever with Jesus who alone Saves! Kathy Loba

Kathy Loba - February 19, 2020 at 07:00 AM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Earlene Lindsay Richardson.



February 13, 2020 at 02:49 AM

CS

“ The Pastor and Earlene , always made sure we had a Christmas ,as my budget would not allow me to do so for my girls , made sure we were included in church activity's and I helped out in the retreats and VBS. . and started the Friends group .and Pastor always gave us encouraging words and Earlene would always take the time to talk to me . I hope she is buried with Pastor here in Rochester MI , it would be fitting for them to be side by side . as planned.

Claudia Swaney - January 23, 2020 at 08:51 AM

CS

“ My daughter was loved in Earlene's class at Five Points in Auburn Hills. She was in high a school. I can't thank Earlene and Pastor Bob enough for their love and care! Earlene made the Bible come alive! She loved and prayed for her class! THANKS!

Candace Suriano - January 21, 2020 at 04:28 PM



“ When thinking of godly women in the Bible, I have always wanted to include Earlene in that list. She is the most godly woman I have ever met. During our many travels and churches, we have gotten to know a number of pastors wives, all godly women, yet Earlene continues to be the measuring rod to which all others are compared to. We have come across many Christians, both in the Houghton Lake/Higgins Lake area and the Thumb area who knew about Earlene through her radio ministry. Her life touched so many of us. Robin, Jim and Gordie we share you loss yet rejoice in her life.

Charlie & Janet Mitchell

Charles Mitchell - January 16, 2020 at 02:45 PM

EJ

“ Dear Randy & Robin, Gordie & Jim,
We are so sorry to hear about Earlene's passing, knowing what a dear mother and woman of God she was to each of you, your children and their children. Without a doubt you will miss her prayers, prayed so faithfully each day and the comforting and wise presence she brought every time she entered a room. Her ministry to so many was great but pales in comparison to the way she lived her life for the glory of God. She made herself so available for the Spirit of God to work in her and through her to enable her to touch so many of us, that we might be better people and more powerful in our own spiritual walks. When she spoke at the 50th anniversary celebration of Five Points Community Church, she said she had no greater joy than to know her children walk in Truth. That Truth is now where you find your comfort in the God of all comfort. Love and grace in abundance to the entire Lindsay family but especially to you four,
Mike and Ellen Johnson

Ellen Johnson - January 16, 2020 at 08:58 AM

SB

“ My dear mother, Dorothy Ruff Stein Nelson, loved Earlene. She regularly listened to Earlene's Bible studies on a radio station in Detroit, Michigan. My dear father, Thomas Nelson, was Earlene's uncle and the younger brother of Earlene's father, Earl Nelson, my Uncle Rusty. My sincerest sympathy to Earlene's family and friends.
Sally Jo Nelson Botzler, Northern California

Sally Jo Nelson Botzler - January 15, 2020 at 05:46 PM

YM

“ We will always treasure the kindness and love received from Earlene (and Gordon) during a rough time for our family. Earlene was a beautiful example of service to the Lord for all of us. Our condolences to the family. Myron and Yolanda McDonald

Yolanda McDonald - January 15, 2020 at 08:31 AM

NJ

“ Earlene was the most influential person in my spiritual life I ever met. I loved her so very much and she will be missed by many.

narda lowery jackson - January 14, 2020 at 10:58 PM

MH

“ Her commitment to ministry and her family has set a high bar for all pastors wives out there. I have yet to attend a church since 5 Points that has even come close to the example she set. She has influenced multiple generations of families over the years for the Glory of God. The legacy she has left is unimaginable.

Melissa Lowery Havel - January 14, 2020 at 08:24 PM

GL

“ To Robin and family, Gordie and family, and Jim and family. Expressing my sympathy to all of you. Earlene was a special lady and I know she will be missed by you and many, many others. Wishing you peace and comfort.

Gerry Lee - January 14, 2020 at 02:53 PM

MP

“ Robin, I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your mother. As I read her obituary, I was touched by the fact that she truly dedicated her life to the service of our Lord. My most sincerest condolences to you and your family. God blessed you with an angel.

Much love,
Mary Pignato

mary pignato - January 14, 2020 at 01:32 PM

IO

I am so sorry to hear of your loss, God will take care now even more than ever. She was a inspiration to so many and served the Lord without reservation. My prayers are with the family And you my Brother I am always here.

Isaac Owens - January 14, 2020 at 04:08 PM

JK

So sorry for your loss. I sat under Mrs. Earlene's teachings in several bible classes at Blackshear Baptist Church. She was one of the most Godly women I have ever met. She will be missed.

Joyce Stevenson Koth - January 15, 2020 at 05:36 PM