

Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

*2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.*

*3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths
of righteousness for his name's sake.*

*4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art
with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

*5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence
of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.*

*6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all
the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house
of the LORD for ever.*



R REA FUNERAL
CHAPEL &
CREMATION SERVICES

In Loving Memory of



*Wallace "Merlin"
Nelson*

June 14, 1931

March 20, 2025

Wallace “Merlin” Nelson

Wallace "Merlin" Nelson, 93, of Sedalia, MO, passed away on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at Sylvia G. Thompson Residence Center in Sedalia. He was born on June 14, 1931, in Milner, ND, the son of Emil Nelson and Minnie Lenia (Damson) Nelson, who preceded him in death.

On May 8, 1972, in Arnold, NE, he was united in marriage to Charlotte Elaine Peck, who resides in the home.

Merlin truly lived his entire life committed to the Lord's work. For fifty years, Merlin was a Pastor with Open Bible Standard Churches. His ministry included churches in California, Colorado, Nebraska, Missouri, and Iowa. Besides being a pastor, he served as a missionary for two years, as an Open Bible District Superintendent in Nebraska, as an Open Bible Camp Director in Nebraska, and as a board member for Open Bible College. Upon retiring from Open Bible, Merlin continued to follow where the Lord led and pastored for approximately ten years for Foursquare Church in Knoxville, Iowa.

Merlin had a heart for the Lord and never missed an opportunity to witness and share with others about the Lord. He loved his wife and family and loved people and taking the time to talk with others over a cup of coffee. Merlin also had a heart to give. He gave unconditionally, never questioning a person's credibility or reputation. He often lent money on a handshake, knowing he would most likely never see a dime of it again. It was more important to him to follow what the Lord put upon his heart, leaving the outcome to God.

Merlin enjoyed life with his wife, Charlotte. They spent many hours on rides, admiring God's handy work and creation. He enjoyed coffee and sweets, often driving an hour away just for a good cup of coffee and a piece of homemade pie. He enjoyed working in the yard, being outdoors, collecting coins, spending time with his children and grandchildren, going to auctions, and reading.

Merlin leaves behind his wife, his family, and many, many friends and acquaintances. Merlin never knew a stranger. As a family, we will miss him dearly, but we rejoice in knowing he is with the Lord. His life of working and living for the Lord is now being rewarded in Heaven.

In addition to his wife, Merlin is survived by a daughter, Karen Laws of Sedalia; six sons, Bruce Nelson (Kathy) of Ft. Collins, CO, John Nelson (Janene) of Black Diamond, WA, Mike Patton (Shelia) of Sedalia, Mark Patton (Jan) of Sedalia, Randy Nelson (Michale) of Ozark, MO, and Brian Patton (Donna) of Des Moines, IA; thirteen grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In addition to his parents, Merlin was preceded in death by a son, Steven Wallace Nelson; a daughter, Charlene Kay Patton; three brothers, Eugene, Dale, and Don; and five sisters, Lorrinda, Lois, Joyce, Phyllis, and Dorothy.

Merlin's family would like to express their sincere gratitude to the Sylvia Thompson staff for the compassion and care provided to Merlin over the past four years.

Graveside Service

11:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 5, 2025

Highland Sacred Gardens

Sedalia, MO

Officiant

Pastor Steve Palmer

Special Music

“Is Not This The Land Of Beulah”

“When I Lay My Isaac Down”

Honorary Bearers

Jan Nelson, Chris Patton, Stacie Merriott,

Sherry Killion, Alana Patton, Derek Patton,

Kyle Laws, Wyatt Nelson, Katie Nelson,

T.J. Nelson, Cole Patton, Josie Patton, Laura Nelson

Memorial Contributions

St. Jude Children's Hospital in honor of Merlin's son, Stevie