



Reverend Dr. Herman Bowers

September 3, 2018

The Reverend Dr. Herman Bowers went home to be with his Lord and family on September 3rd. He was 91 years old. Herman was born in Franklin County, Georgia. He was the only child of Talmadge and Floy Westmorland Bowers. He was valedictorian of his high school class and he subsequently graduated from Mercer University with his degree in history. He proceeded to earn a Bachelor of Divinity, a Master of Divinity, a Doctor of Ministry, and a Doctor of Theology from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Dr. Bowers delivered his first sermon at New Canon Baptist Church, in his home town of Canon, Ga., at age 16, kicking off his 70 year ministry. He pastored 6 churches in Georgia (New Canon Baptist, Liberty Baptist in Carnesville, Pine Street Baptist in Guyton, Little Ogeechee Baptist in Oliver, Elam Baptist in Egypt, and Calvary Mission Baptist in Savannah) on a rotating schedule before moving to Kentucky to attend Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1952. While a student at Southern Seminary he pastored Indian Fork Baptist Church and worked as a data processor for Commonwealth Life Insurance Company. He and his wife, Shirley, came to Frankfort in 1959 to begin their family and to pastor First Baptist Church until 1976. Dr. Bowers last served as pastor of Trinity Baptist Church from 1978 to 2014. During 15 of those years he served as admissions counselor at Kentucky State University. He remained a Gideon throughout his ministry.

Dr. Bowers devoted his life to service. He served Frankfort on the Mayor's Advisory Council, and the Human Relations Committee. He served as Chair of the Executive Committee for the Leighton Ford Capital City Reachout and as Executive Secretary for the Capital Crusade for Christ. He served as Franklin County Ministerial Association President and as Franklin County Cancer Drive Chairman.

Dr. Bowers was an active 50 year member of local masonic lodge, Hiram #4 and Frankfort York Right bodies. He served this organization as Grand Prelate of the Grand Commandery of Kentucky Knights Templar. He also was a 50 year member of Kiwanis International and served this organization as club president, division lieutenant governor, district governor, and international council member.

Dr. Bowers served as chaplain for the Kentucky Legislature through the tenure of four governors. Among the honors bestowed upon him during his ministry were Outstanding Clergyman of the Year, VFW Citizenship Award for Outstanding Service, NAACP Man of the Year, Kiwanis Tablet of Honor, Kiwanis Diamond Hixon, and Key to the City of Frankfort.

Dr. Bowers was proud to have obtained his private pilot's license at the age of 53, under the instruction of his son, Stephen. Meeting people and making them smile, helping people in need, gardening, and providing a home for many stray cats over the years seemed to bring him great pleasure.

Surviving Dr. Bowers are: his wife Shirley Bowers; daughter, Janice Lynn Bowers of Frankfort; son, Stephen Michael (Susan), and grandson Stephen Bowers of Atlanta, Georgia; Dr. Barbara Jean (Dave Hoffman) Bowers and grandsons Nicolas and Lukas of Paducah, Kentucky.

The Memorial Service for Reverend Dr. Herman Bowers will be at 2:00 p.m.

on Saturday, September 22, at First Baptist Church, 201 St. Clair Street, Frankfort, Kentucky. Visitation will be from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, contributions to Canon Downtown Development Authority would be appreciated. P.O. Box 159, Canon, Georgia 30520.

Rogers Funeral Home in Frankfort, KY is in charge of arrangements. This obituary is provided courtesy of Pruitt Funeral Home in Royston, GA.