



Bishop Emeritus Richard Woodland Kohl, Sr.

June 17, 1934 - July 1, 2023

Richard Woodland Kohl, Sr., Bishop Emeritus of the Evangelical Congregational Church, passed away at the age of 89 on Saturday, July 1, 2023 at the Presbyterian Village at Summerville, SC.

He was born on June 17, 1934 to Claude and Edna (Woodland) Kohl in Coopersburg, PA. He graduated from Allentown High School in 1952 and from Moravian College in 1956. He earned a Master of Divinity from Moravian Seminary. Richard dedicated his life to the Lord at age 17. He began pastoring in the Evangelical Congregational denomination at age 19 while earning his degrees. On June 15, 1957, he married Mary Louise Kilpatrick. While pastoring in Pennsylvania, Richard was called to the Chaplaincy in the United States Army and served as a chaplain for 21 years. After retiring from the US Army at the rank of Colonel, Richard returned to pastoring. He planted a church near Harrisburg, PA and in 1991 he was elected Bishop of the Evangelical Congregational Church, serving the denomination for 8 years. Richard served the Lord in full-time ministry for more than 50 years. He not only followed Jesus as a fisher of men but he was also an avid fisherman. He was privileged to live on a lake for 10 years in Pennsylvania before he and Mary retired to Summerville, SC in 2008 to live closer to family.

Richard is survived by Mary, his loving wife of 66 years, as well as his three children, Mary Elizabeth Saurman (Todd), Richard Woodland Kohl, Jr.

(Martha), and Deborah Ann Blauch (Andrew); grandchildren Brandon Kohl (Jennifer), Jeremy Kohl, Rachel Premo (Craig), Alexandria Vaux (Jason), Rebekah Stauffer (Ben), Benjamin Blauch, Jacob Blauch (Rachel), Joshua Blauch, and Nathan Blauch; great-grandchildren Jonathan Stauffer, David Stauffer, Riley Vaux, and Sophia Stauffer. He was affectionately called Pappy, and was a much-beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, pastor, and friend.

He was blessed by the care of many wonderful nurses, aides, and staff at the Village at Summerville as well as Intrepid Hospice. His family would like to thank his many caregivers including the compassionate Dr. David Castellone.

A gathering of family and friends will be held at 1:00 P.M. Saturday, July 8, 2023 followed by a funeral service at 2 PM at the James A. Dyal Funeral Home Chapel, 303 S. Main Street, Summerville, SC.

Rites of Committal with Military Honors and Interment will take place at 1:00 P.M. Monday, July 10, 2023 in the Fort Jackson National Cemetery, 4170 Percival Road, Columbia, SC 29229.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the Evangelical Congregational Church Global Ministries Community. Checks should be made out to "The Global Ministries Community" and mailed to 100 W. Park Avenue, Myerstown, PA 17067 or donations could also be sent through the following link: <https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/EvangelicalCongregationalChur/GMC.html>
Online condolences can be given at www.jamesadyal.com.

Cemetery Details

Fort Jackson National Cemetery

4170 Percival Rd.
Columbia, SC 29229

Previous Events

Gathering of Friends & Family

JUL 8. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

James A. Dyal Funeral Home
303 S. Main Street
Summerville, SC 29483
(843) 873-4040
<https://www.jamesadyal.com>

Funeral Service

JUL 8. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

James A. Dyal Funeral Home Chapel
303 S. Main Street
Summerville, SC 29483

Rite of Committal with Military Honors

JUL 10. 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Fort Jackson National Cemetery
4170 Percival Rd.
Columbia, SC 29229

Tribute Wall

DH

“ I remember when he was assigned to Bethany E.C. Church in Clayton, PA when he was only 19. He was a blessing to the congregation and he was great with the young people. He was so well received and greatly appreciated.

Doris Heim - July 27, 2023 at 07:52 PM



“ 94 files added to the album Life Tributes



James A Dyal Funeral Home - July 08, 2023 at 11:20 AM

RB

“ Dick Kohl was one of the most honest, sincere and compassionate people I have ever known...he will be greatly missed. As a fellow retired Army Chaplain, I appreciate all the support Dick Kohl has given me in the past. Our prayers continue for Mary & family Bob & Cathy Bast

Robert Bast - July 08, 2023 at 08:05 AM

EP

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. Mr. Kohl was always so kind and enthusiastic about hearing my brother and I play music at the Presbyterian Village.

Elise Pickford - July 07, 2023 at 11:19 PM

ME

“ Sending love, prayers, and blessings to the family as you grieve together. We are thankful for the legacy of your dear father, Mary Beth. (From the Mainland Southeast Asia group of SIL.)

Melanie - July 06, 2023 at 10:26 PM

RH

“ Bishop Kohl was the finest, most dedicated leader I have had the privilege of knowing. He was a friend and brother. A retired Army Chaplain our bonds were deeper. I loved this man as a mentor and father figure. I will miss him deeply. Mary you will always hold a special place in the hearts and prayers of Karen and I. Love to and the family. Don and Karen Howell

Rev. Don Howell - July 06, 2023 at 06:48 PM

MW

“ A few friends and I went to clean Bishop Kohl's house when he and his wife were moving from the lake. As a thank you, they took us to lunch. The group was too large to be seated at the same table, so we sat at two tables. Bishop Kohl came over to our table for a little chat. When the waitress came up to our table she asked if he would be joining us. I replied, "I've never seen this man in my life!" Lol. We all got a good laugh. What a sweet sweet man, now in the arms of Jesus.

Michelle Weiss - July 06, 2023 at 04:16 PM

BW

“ My prayers are with you at this time. I am so blessed to have met such a wonderful man. He was truly a gem! Dixie Belle and I will miss him on our rounds. He was extra special to us. I will unfortunately be out of town for 2 weeks starting today so I will not be at his service which I know will be memorable and honorable. He served our country in what I consider a hard profession during war time but yet as he told me he was so humbled to be able to take care and minister to our service personnel. All of our lives and yours were enriched just knowing this wonderful man. With love and prayers, God Bless you all, Barb and Dixie Belle, Intrepid Hospice Pet Team, Volunteer

Barbara Wiedenhoeft - July 06, 2023 at 09:04 AM

IS

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with each of you during this time. May you be comforted by many wonderful memories but most of all may you feel the love and comfort from our Lord and Savior in a very powerful and special way. We thank you for allowing us to help in the care of Bishop Kohl.

Intrepid Hospice Staff - July 05, 2023 at 01:30 PM