



Reverend James D. Hargleroad

July 3, 1932 - August 23, 2017

The Reverend James D. “Buzz” Hargleroad, 85, of Fort Collins and Tucson, died on August 23 after a fourteen-year journey with Acute Myeloid Leukemia.

He was born in Hastings, NE on July 3, 1932, the son of James C. and Beulah (Deems) Hargleroad. He graduated from Tekamah High School and the University of Nebraska. After two years in the U.S. Marine Corps, he enrolled at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. After ordination, he served as pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Cozad, NE. In 1964, he was called as pastor of Calvin Presbyterian, the only African-American congregation in the Presbytery of Omaha. In 1965, he and the church’s youth were featured in an Oscar-nominated film, “A Time for Burning,” which exposed the fears and tensions among the city’s white congregations in the face of racial change. The film was shown as part of Fort Collins’ E-Racism Film Series in 2009. He later served as Interim Director of the Commission on Church and Race for the Presbyterian Synod of Nebraska and as a Field Representative for Omaha’s Human Relations Department.

He moved to Chicago in 1972 to serve as Child Development Coordinator for United Christian Community Services, a collegium of historic Presbyterian and United Church of Christ neighborhood houses, for which he developed more than twenty daycare and after school programs. In 1975, he was called as pastor of Lake View Presbyterian Church, where he served until 1981 when

the family moved to McHenry County. There he served for six years as director of Pleasant Valley Outdoor Center, a program of Chicago's Community Renewal Society, which served inner city churches, families and organizations as well as schools that utilized the center for environmental education. He then became director of Lakeside Center, a community and retreat center ministry of First Congregational Church, Crystal Lake.

In 1989, he was named director of the Interfaith Council for the Homeless in Chicago. Once again the program expanded under his direction. This included several housing developments for special needs populations and Interfaith House (now The Boulevard), which supports persons who are homeless in breaking the cycle of homelessness while recovering from illness or surgery. During this period, he also assisted several Chicago area congregations as interim or part-time pastor and served as an adjunct faculty member for McCormick Seminary's joint program with the School of Social Service Administration of the University of Chicago. In 2003, he undertook a 14-month commitment to serve the Papago United Presbyterian Church on the Tohono O'odham Nation in Sells, AZ, southwest of Tucson. During that time, he became ill and was diagnosed with leukemia soon after his return to Louisville where his wife was employed by the Presbyterian Church (USA).

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, The Reverend Bobbi Wells Hargleroad; sons, Deems (Jennifer Hargleroad, DDS; Alexander, Benjamin and Jane) of Fort Collins, and Matthew (Michelle Heitmann; Adelaide and Iris) of Bellingham, WA; a daughter, Celia (Scott Kool; Avery and Alder); a brother, J. Stanley (Elizabeth) of LaJolla, CA, and half-brothers John (Jenny) of Bull Shoals, AR and William (Alicia) of Gypsum, CO.

A Service to Celebrate his Life and Ministry will be held at Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, 916 W Prospect Road, Fort Collins on Tuesday, September 26 at 11:00 A.M.

A gathering for Chicago area friends and colleagues will be held at The Boulevard, 3456 W. Franklin Blvd. on Saturday, Oct. 21 at 2:00 p.m.

A Service to Celebrate his Life and Ministry will be held at Southside Presbyterian Church in Tucson on Sunday, Nov. 19 at 3:00 P.M. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts to Southside Church would be welcomed.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

SEP **26**. 11:00 AM (MT)

Plymouth congregational United Church of Christ
916 W. Prospect Rd
Fort Collins, CO 80526

Memorial Gathering

OCT **21**. 2:00 PM (CT)

The Boulevard
3456. Franklin Blvd.
Chicago, IL

Celebration of Life

NOV **19**. 3:00 PM (MT)

Southside Presbyterian Church
317 W 23rd St
Tucson, AZ 85713

Tribute Wall

LM

“ *My profound Sympathy and appologies Bobbi for not realizing the reason you are here is to memorialize the many contributions Buzz made to so many lives.
Perhaps shared grief does lighten the burden of loss, I hope so.
Sending love and good memories, Lois Merrill*

Lois Merrill - October 22, 2017 at 04:56 PM

HF

“ *Hilda Fischer lit a candle in memory of
Reverend James D. Hargleroad*



Hilda Fischer - October 21, 2017 at 07:55 AM

EM

“ *We are blessed to have shared time in Chicago. This extensive obituary for Buzz comes as a great gift.....much of it I was learning for the first time.....thank you, Bobbi, for sharing these accomplishments and memories. Our love and prayers are with you now and in the months to come.
With love,
Eleanor D. Mockridge*

Eleanor D. Mockridge - September 28, 2017 at 06:38 PM

BW

“ I thank God for the life that Buzz espoused and lived to the fullest. I met him once at Olivet Presbyterian Church in Chicago and I know his wife, Bobbi, to whom I now send my and Ben's condolences. More recently, I was grateful for Buzz' genuine concern for a fellow colleague. While yet, himself in the hospital, he took the time to respond to my request to respond to Membra Bethea's family. That to me said a lot about his loyalty for that work that they did in Inner City Chicago. Now that I read over his obituary i can further see how it was that Olivet in a Black community in Chicago would have called him there. Thank God for servants like Buzz that were/are gifted to go into the deepest of trenches to grow the best of lives. Bobbi and family, I trust the Holy Spirit continues to comfort you.

Love and Peace,
Helen and Rev Ben Whitfield..

Ben and Helen Whitfield - September 27, 2017 at 05:36 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Reverend James D. Hargleroad.



September 21, 2017 at 02:08 PM