

## Meet Joyce and Kaylee!

No one chooses to be part of Widows in Touch! No one chooses to lose a mate! But on March 17, 2008, the Lord took Dan Rase home to be with Himself. Dan was husband to Joyce and “daddy” to McKayla (Kaylee) Nicole, born July 23, 2004. Dan also served as the Youth and Children’s Ministries’ pastor at Temple Baptist Church in Portsmouth, Ohio.

Joyce lost her husband, Dan, suddenly to heart failure, just four days after his forty-third birthday. Dan was born on March 13, 1965, and Joyce was born on Valentine’s Day that same year.

Before coming to Temple, Dan served as youth pastor at Calvary Baptist Church and also Twin Valley Baptist Church, where Joyce’s father, Don Noel, serves as pastor. It was there that Dan met Joyce and they fell in love. They were married at Twin Valley on October 1, 1994. Ten years later, the Lord allowed them to adopt little Kaylee.

Dan and Joyce came to Temple to work with the youth in 1999. They worked as a wonderful team and the youth program grew from 4 to 5 kids to over 50 regular attendees on Wednesday nights, including a youth group of 15 to 20 kids who

regularly attend SS, Sunday and Wednesday nights. As a couple in ministry, Temple Baptist testifies, “They were truly equally yoked.”



Dan had also served his community as Hospice and SOMC Chaplain, chairman of CRADLE Crisis Pregnancy Care Center, and co-founder of both the Koinonia Golf League and Baptist Youth Quiz League.

Dan was a 1983 Portsmouth High School graduate and a 1987 graduate of Cedarville College. Joyce shares her loss with her parents and Dan’s parents, along with brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces and many friends.

Joyce continues to work with the youth at Temple Baptist, counseling them as they deal with their grief and as she faces her own. As the Lord directs, Joyce plans to lead the Olympian Word of Life Club on Wednesday nights, while other volunteer leaders work with the teens and college age on Wednesday and Sunday nights. Please keep Joyce and Kaylee, their parents, and the Temple Baptist families in your prayers. ∞

# Widows In Touch

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## Dear Moms,

Next Sunday, May 11, 2008, is Mother’s Day! Since most of you are mothers—I want you to know I am thinking of you. I hope that this issue will have some happy surprises for you. I am also thinking of those men on our list who have lost wives, the mothers of their children. May God meet each need and give you a blessed day!!

I am a very fortunate lady to have my mother—and my dad—live right next door to me. Just a few minutes ago, my mother walked over to visit with me for a few minutes. My mom



is 87 years young and is still able to keep active. Two years ago, the Lord preserved her life when her aorta began to tear, but doctors were able to operate and replace a portion of her aorta. This winter she has been attending a small Bible study that I teach at one of our neighbor’s homes. It is a blessing to share her fellowship. My dad is 86 and just finished eight weeks of radiation for prostate cancer. He seemed to go through the treatments quite well. We will get final results in a

month or so.

Both my mom and dad love the Lord. My mom accepted the Lord when she was a young girl about 12 years old. She prayed that the Lord would give her a husband who loved the Lord. Her pastor did not discourage her from marrying my dad who did not know the Lord, but Dad did accept the Lord shortly after their marriage. Under their new pastor’s faithful preaching, both of them grew quickly. I thank the Lord for my parents’ faithful church attendance, Sunday morning, evening and prayer meeting, so that I could grow under a steady diet of the Word of God.



Mom with Elli Ann, our newest grandbaby.

My mom and dad attended a local Bible college while I was still in school. They both served in their church as Sunday school teachers, mom as Ladies’ Missionary leader and dad as deacon.

Thank You, Mom and Dad!  
Just for being faithful!!  
I love you!!

Pat

### Please Write!

Share your news with me!  
Let me share it with the other ladies in WIT!

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### Widows With the Lord in 2007

Beulah Jennings  
Iceola Mitchell  
Pearl Morris  
Ellen Werbeach

# Happy

# Mother's Day

### Current Widows

Carolyn Anthony  
Dorothy Barkley  
Pearl Beckley  
Merle Brock  
Margaret Canterbury  
Janice Curtis  
Virginia Fields  
Mildred Flanagan  
Yvonne Garlich  
Bonnie Gohn  
Ruth Graven  
Alma Hein  
Betty Helmick  
Louise Henry  
Margaret Howell  
Nancy Jacobs  
Ethel Jeremiah  
Ann Lewis  
LeMoyne Loomis  
Joan Markell  
Barbara McIntosh  
Peggy Miller  
Mary Jo Moore  
Betty Myers  
Nancy Payton  
Tia Shells  
Theona Smelser  
Ruth Smelser  
Mabel Strong  
Barbara Taylor  
Mary Tipton  
Marilyn Vaughan  
Donna Vermilyea  
Kitty Vine  
Edith Weber  
Clara Wolford  
Lucy Wright  
Joyce Yost

### Widowers

Gene Bryant  
Joe Holloway  
Larry Maddux  
Don Parvin

## Family News

### *Donna Vermilyea* —

Donna helps teach in the Shepherds Sunday School class and enjoys it very much. Donna lives next door to daughter, **Cathy**, and her husband, Mark. She calls her, “my servant daughter because she serves in many ways in the church ministries and is also a wonderful care-giver for me.” One of Cathy’s daughters is also due to present Donna with a new **great** grandbaby by Mother’s Day! Son, **Timothy**, and Barbara have been missionaries in Quebec for over twenty years, working in their second church plant. Daughter, **Joy**, and Kit Pherson served as missionaries in Cape Town, So. Africa for about 20 years and now pastor a small church in Alaska. Daughter, **Ellen**, also lives in Toledo, serving the Lord with her music abilities.

### *Jan Curtis* —

Janice teaches piano students and directs her church choir but also teaches music two days a week at Victory Christian School in Niles, Ohio. Daughter, **Melody** & Joseph Whinnery and their sons, Nathan(4) and Joah(2 1/2) reside in Marysville. Son, **Marcus**, Elizabeth and Hosanna Joy(2), are on deputation with Baptist Mid-Missions to go to Brazil. Son, **Ed**, and his wife, Tina are the parents of Melanie(5) and Jack Stephan(7mo.). They live in Montrose, PA and are members of Bridgewater Baptist Church where Ed is a deacon and small group leader. Daughter, **Heidi**, & Doug Chandler met at Shalom Lake when they attended family camp for so many years. Heidi and Doug are the parents of Daniel(7) and Kalista(5 1/2).

### *Nancy Jacobs* —

Nancy serves the Lord at Grace Baptist Church in Westlake, Ohio. She enjoys her six children and sixteen grandchildren. **Roger** and Dawn live in Scranton, PA. Roger manages the soccer sports for Riverfront Sports. **Cindy**, and Craig Dunnett live in Toledo, OH and Cindy runs a Christian preschool. **Sandra** and Tim Branson reside in Virginia Beach, VA. Sandra does home nursing. **Jill** and Shawn Norton live in Okeechobee, FL where he is a hospital technician. **John** and Danette live in Sheffield Village, Ohio where he works for Brown Bag Burgers. **Keri** and Andy Yund live in North Olmsted, Ohio where she is a stay-at-home mom.

### *Larry Maddux* —

Larry, pastor of Bethel Baptist, Pataskala, Ohio, rejoiced at the commissioning service for his son, **Bruce** and his wife, Debbie, at Grace Baptist, Cedarville. Bruce, Debbie and their three sons, Joshua, Josiah, and Jonathan, are Baptist Mid-Mission missionaries, planning to leave for Peru in July to work with radio. Other family members present were Larry’s daughter, **Amy**, with Jamie and their children. Jamie also pastors in Ohio at the Madison Avenue Baptist Church in Cleveland. Larry’s sister, Sue, also attended.

## Tributes In Your Honor!

### *Pearl Beckley* —

For fifty-two years you were always at Dad’s side – at all the church services and functions, at the monthly nursing home and rescue mission services. You taught Sunday school, worked with youth groups, held Bible clubs in the basement of our home, directed VBS, was faithful at the organ every Sunday, and much more. It was our house where the guest speakers and missionaries always stayed (and ate), often for a week at a time. But after the death of Dad, you adjusted to just being an 80-year-old “regular” member in a church that already had an organist, VBS director, etc. You could think it was time to quit, but instead, now at 85, you are active in two ladies’ Bible studies, you help with crafts for VBS, play the piano at an assisted living residence once a month, help provide meals for shut-ins and have a ministry of making and sending cards. Time to stop serving your Lord? Not ‘till Jesus calls you home!

— *With Love, Andrea*

### *Merle Brock*

As mom would be the first to remind us, she is a child of God, a sinner saved by grace, and friend of her savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. Her name provides a good description of her —

**M**— Musical—she performs music, but also writes music, for the Lord and for her family.  
**E** — Exculpative, that is, very forgiving. She lets bygones be bygones.  
**R** — Resourceful. What she can do with a piece of cardboard! Make a shelf, a teaching visual!  
**L** — Literary. She loves words and books, but she also uses words to minister to others.  
**E** — Empathetic. She feels the hurts of people. Thanks, Mom, for a heritage of faith in your challenging transitions of life. You have served well; we pray for more years of the same.

— *Lynn, Jan, Gary, Kevin, Jeff, Tim*

### *Yvonne Garlich* —

Mom always took care of business, but found unique ways to have fun. When husband Ben died, she said “I dislike people saying “I lost him,” because I know where he is.” Her church defines her as a godly 80ish woman who always helps. Her friends - as someone who loves to play games, go out to eat and listen to music. Her children - as a devoted, fun loving mother whose interests include poetry and sports. Her grandchildren - as the sweet Grandma, who sends the birthday card containing \$1.00. Mom is a delightful example of enjoying life, faith, and the world around her. She has shown us – it IS a great life.

— *Son, David*

### *Alma Hein*

Dear Mother,

As I think of Mother's Day approaching, I think of you and your life for the past 90 years and especially those 35 years you were a pastor's wife. I think of the example you were concerning people who were hurting and in need. You taught me what it meant to give of one's self. There were so many times when we weren't sure where the next meal was coming from, but you and Dad had faith to trust that God would supply. He always did and abundantly! Mother, after Daddy died and when my family and I would come to Michigan to visit, you continued the tradition of praying with us before we left to come back to Cedarville. You have no idea what that meant to me. I want you to know that I love you very much. You are special and thank you for the example you have set through the years in trusting God to supply our every need.

— *Lovingly, Your Daughter, Mary Filson*