

Rev. Gary Trowbridge

October 5, 1945 - April 4, 2015

OSMOND — Services for the Rev. Gary Trowbridge, 69, of Osmond will be Thursday at 10 a.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Osmond. The Rev. Russ Sommerfeld, Nebraska District president, and Rev. Glen Emery will officiate with burial in Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery. Military rites will be by American Legion Post 326 and VFW Post 7838 of Osmond. Visitation will be Wednesday from 4 to 7 p.m. at the church. Stonacek Memorial Chapel in Osmond is in charge of arrangements.

Rev. Gary D. Trowbridge went to be with his Lord on Saturday, April 4, 2015, after a battle with cancer. He was born on Oct. 5, 1945, in Long Beach, Calif. He graduated from Central High School in Cheyenne, Wyo., in 1964. Pastor Trowbridge then joined the Marine Corps in November, and he served a tour of duty in Vietnam, working in reconnaissance in the jungles near DaNang, where he received a field promotion to the rank of sergeant. He was honorably discharged in November of 1967. On June 1, 1968, he married Sarah Jane Hart. They were happily married 46 years and had four children and five grandchildren. He earned his bachelor's of science in education at Chadron State College in Chadron, and then he entered the seminary of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, earning his master's of divinity from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind. He was ordained at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Stevensville, Mont., on June 19, 1977. He also served three other congregations during his nearly 38 years of ministry: St. John's Lutheran, Okarche, Okla.; Our Savior Lutheran, Fair Lawn, N.J.; and

Immanuel Lutheran in Osmond. Pastor Trowbridge is survived by his wife, Sarah Trowbridge of Osmond; daughter Anne Garcia and her husband, Wilson of Saddle Brook, N.J.; daughter Marisa Trowbridge of Burnsville, Minn.; daughter Amy Smith and her husband, Robert of Edmond, Okla.; son Matthew Trowbridge of Edmond, Okla.; grandchildren Andrew, Megan and Natalie Smith of Edmond, Okla.; and Madelyn and Alexander Garcia of Saddle Brook, N.J. He is also survived by seven siblings, Fred Maves and his wife Donna of Cape Coral, Fla., Jean McAuliffe of Cheyenne, Wyo., Erma "Susie" Gutierrez of Yorba Linda, Calif., Ron Trowbridge and his wife, Mag of Cheyenne, Jackie Bassett and her husband, Tom of Cheyenne, Leo Salazar and his wife, Roxane of Loveland, Colo., and Gilbert Salazar and his wife, Donna of Kingston, Wash.; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his mother, Mary Ellen (Shumway) Salazar; his stepfather, Leo Salazar; and his father, Arlie E. Trowbridge. The funeral luncheon will be held at the Osmond City Hall following the graveside service. Beginning in 2003, pastor Trowbridge started years of medical tests and treatments. After each one, he celebrated by going out for pancakes. It became a family joke that "pancakes can fix anything," and the pancake run became an expected part of any medical procedure. In order to celebrate the end of his final test here on earth, the family has chosen to celebrate with a pancake lunch for the funeral meal. Music will be by organist Mr. Clint Dennis, choir director Mrs. Sharon Luhr and the Immanuel Lutheran Church Choir with "Here I Am Lord," congregational hymns "I Know That My Redeemer Lives," "The King Of Love My Shepherd Is" and "Lift High The Cross." Casket bearers will be James Bessmer, Ed Brummels, Phil Gutz, Kent Gansebom, Dwight Kahny, Justin Koehler, Paul Koehler, Scott Kumm, Randy Pfanstiel and Mike Johnson. Honorary casket bearers will be Sons of the American Legion. Memorials can be sent to Bell Carillon Fund, Immanuel Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 10, Osmond, NE 68765.

Cemetery Details

Osmond Lutheran Cemetery

Rural Osmond, NE 68765

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 8. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church - Osmond
808 N Fulton St.
Osmond, NE 68765

Service

APR 9. 10:00 AM (CT)

Immanuel Lutheran Church - Osmond
808 N Fulton St.
Osmond, NE 68765

Tribute Wall



“ *Stonacek Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Rev. Gary Trowbridge*



Stonacek Funeral Chapel - April 07, 2015 at 04:36 PM

MR

So beautiful, wish we could be there to say goodbye!
Myrna

Myrna Richards - April 08, 2015 at 02:04 AM

AL

This is a wonderful tribute to a wonderful Minister...
Alison

Alison - April 08, 2015 at 01:25 PM



“ *Rev. Gary Trowbridge*

October 05, 2023 at 03:46 AM

DB

“ Dear Sarah and family: Dave and I have moved down to North Carolina but keep in touch via e-mail with friends at Our Savior in Fair Lawn. We were sad to her that "PT" died recently. We want you to know it was a special time we all shared when he was our Pastor. I remember feeling he knew the Lord and showed it in a very real way. His sermons on Sundays were great but his every day living of the faith was so evident. I remember too how he loved to have coffee with the local folks (Lutheran or not) and he spread joy wherever he went! We can't forget that he married our son Andrew and wife, Lori and I think it was his first wedding in Fair Lawn. What a beautiful ceremony, but was so hot that Pastor had to ask Paul Durlacher to get a wet, cool cloth to keep Andrew from fainting. We also remember when you first moved to N.J. that you all stayed at our house for a few days while the parsonage was being made ready. Pastor's back was hurting so much he had to sleep in the recliner for a few nights. We shall miss him, not just as our pastor, but also a good friend! A joyous reunion we 'll have one day. We'll all miss him here on earth but I think God knew he suffered enough, and I believe there just might be some pancakes upstairs waiting for him! Love and sympathy to you and all the family.
David

David and Helen Van Blarcom - April 11, 2015 at 05:22 PM

KD

“ So many great memories of Pastor & your family. He always called Gina & me "knucklehead number one" or "knucklehead number two". Ann was a dear friend to us during school. Gina & I were both honored that he was able to pin on one of our bars at our commissionings. Praying for you all.
Karrie

Karrie Heald Davis - April 10, 2015 at 10:01 PM

SW

“ Hello Sarah and family, I posted once, but since I am not very computer literate, I don't know if it is there. So sorry about Gary, I remember you from Chadron, how hard he worked and how busy you both were. I looked at the pictures, nice to see your family, I enjoyed watching Annie when she was a baby, have some cute pictures of her. It has been quite some time since Chadron days, we enjoyed our time there, God Bless all of you in the days and weeks to come.

sheryl weander - April 09, 2015 at 05:57 PM

PK

“ Pastor Trowbridge was such a special person to so many souls. God knew what he was doing when he chose Pastor to spread the Word and shepherd His flock. He became a part of many families and will be missed by everyone! Thank You, Thank You, Thank You, Sarah and family for sharing him with us.

Doug and Patti Ketelsen & Family

Patti Ketelsen - April 08, 2015 at 08:27 PM

MR

“ Our prayers are with the family may God wrap his arms around you and comfort you in this time of sorrow! Pastor Trowbridge married Steve and I at St. John's in Okarche, Ok. On Dec 2, 1983. Seems like yesterday he made me realize the meaning of love and respect, devotion and friendship. He was a great man! My kids loved him. Thank you Trowbridge family for sharing your loved one with so many. May he rest in peace and without Pain.
Myrna Richards

Myrna Richards - April 08, 2015 at 01:56 AM

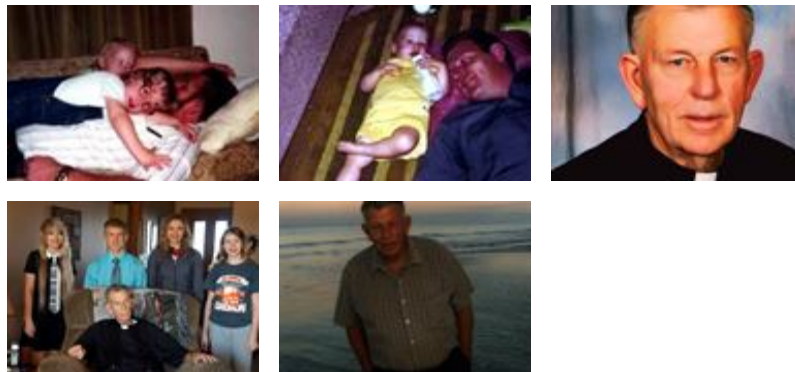
TP

“ Much love and prayers to Pastor Trowbridge's family!
Wow! What an amazing man!! I am honored to have grown up knowing Pastor Trowbridge. From performing my grandfather's funeral (Harold Bohlman - I am told it was one of his first in Okarche) to conducting the first year of my confirmation classes in Kingfisher (we ALL LOVED him!!!!!!!!!!!!) and the impromptu stopping by parishioner's homes (I always thought a super star had stopped by) he made everyday life real. He never sugar coated life, but the love of Christ always beamed through him! I always thought he had the most beautiful daughters... they never knew me, but I always thought they were cool. He truly helped guide me... in faith and fellowship. He will be greatly missed here, but oh so welcomed by our Father in heaven. A TRUE SHEPHERD....
Thanks to his family for allowing him to be such a blessed and beloved part of the lives of so many!!!!
God Bless, and Welcome home Sir!!!
Tenessa

Tenessa Jones Pinkerton - April 07, 2015 at 10:21 PM



“ 53 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stonacek Funeral Chapel - April 07, 2015 at 04:17 PM

RT

“ Our sympathy to you and your family! Pastor Trowbridge was a wonderful asset to our little community! He was a pastor to everyone, no matter what the religion! We will always remember his commitment and fellowship. Blessing to you all, cherish the many memories you have and let time heal one day @ a time.
Joyce & Roger Tacey--Osmond

Roger & Joyce Tacey - April 07, 2015 at 01:55 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray* was purchased for the family of Rev. Gary Trowbridge.



April 07, 2015 at 10:55 AM

DT

“ *The Lord's blessings be with the entire Trowbridge family, friends, and loved ones.*

May our Lord's comfort and peace keep us in His care as we give thanks for Pastor's life of service and his rest now in heaven with our Lord!

*God bless,
Pastor Deric Taylor and family
Our Savior, Fair Lawn, NJ*

Deric Taylor - April 07, 2015 at 10:37 AM

AD

“ *Pastor Trowbridge was a very special part of the Osmond community. You would always know when he was coming as he was humming a tune of some kind or another. He was very special to our family as well, having confirmed my husband and all three of our sons, marrying our oldest son, (even as he was fighting with his own health) giving our son the opportunity to practice the organ at Immanuel Church as a young boy, and baptizing our grandson. Sarah and family you have our deepest sympathy and we will continue to keep all of you in our prayers.
May God Bless You!
Jerry and Alison Dennis*

Alison Dennis - April 07, 2015 at 10:06 AM

SH

“ *My sincerest condolences to the Trowbridge family Pastor was so helpful to me when I had some sadness in my life I appreciated his guidance and kindness Always liked his message from the pulpit
May he rest in peace
Susan*

Susan Herbst - April 07, 2015 at 09:26 AM

EK

“ *Sarah and Family,
Time and prayer are the keys to healing pain . I offer you both with sympathy from a friend at this time of sadness.
Yours In Christ, Eleanor Katsch*

Eleanor Katsch - April 07, 2015 at 09:04 AM

PD

“ OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU SARAH AND YOUR FAMILY. IT WAS A PRIVILEGE TO WORK WITH PASTOR FOR TWO AND A HALF YEARS AS SECRETARY. WE HAVE SO MANY MEMORIES OF PASTOR AND YOU, OUR DINNERS TOGETHER, THE TRIP INTO NEW YORK ON SECRETARIES DAY, FRIDAY MORNINGS, AND DAYS OFF WHEN WE WENT OUT FOR BREAKFAST AT THE ELMWOOD PARK DINER. PAUL REMEMBERS THE PEPSI FISHING TRIP WHEN PASTOR WON THE AWARD FOR THE BIGGEST FISH CAUGHT. HE WAS A GREAT PASTOR AND FRIEND. HE WILL BE MISSED GREATLY. MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.
LOVE,
PAUL AND DIANE DURLACHER

PAUL AND DIANE DURLACHER - April 07, 2015 at 07:39 AM

CP

“ Our deepest sympathy on the passing of Pastor Trowbridge although we only knew him for a short time, we were blessed with his sermons that drew us closer to our Lord. May he rest in peace our Prayers & thoughts are with his family Well done though good and faithful servant.
Cathy & Joe Pluchino formally of Fair Lawn, now live in toms river, NJ.
May God Bless you all.

Cathy & Joe Pluchino - April 06, 2015 at 11:32 PM

AV

“ *Paster Trowbridge was the most caring person I knew. He visited my mother everyday when she was in the hospital. Even though she is not Lutheran, he came as a friend, visited a while and always said a prayer before he left. I ran in to him at the post office often, always asked if we were camping the week before because Robin never made it to church. And said I was welcome to come along with her anytime and he always asked how mom was doing. Paster was one of a kind and will be missed by many! RIP! Prayers to all the family for their loss.*

Amie Vargas



amie vargas - April 06, 2015 at 10:40 PM

DB

“ *Donna Burns lit a candle in memory of Rev. Gary Trowbridge*



Donna Burns - April 06, 2015 at 10:17 PM

JO


“ *Reverend Gary changed Okarche, Oklahoma from a divided Lutheran-Catholic community to an accepting community of understanding. He brought us all together. Prayers and love to the Trowbridge family.*

Judge Robert E. Davis of Okarche - April 06, 2015 at 10:00 PM

KL

“ Although our lives were like two ships passing, I felt a bond while our "gym nights" took place in Fair Lawn O.S.L.C. You were REAL and down to earth while we joked and told our life stories. I suppose the Marine in you made me feel at ease. I am a better person because you passed through.....
God-speed G.T. Kevin Lehr

Kevin Lehr - April 06, 2015 at 09:42 PM

 Missy Hoppe

“ Pastor' s family, keeping all of you in thought and prayers. Pastor' s booming voice and straightforwardness will always be remembered by my family. When my twins were little, he told us not to sit in front. They were too much of a distraction to pastor..haha! I'm so glad he was a part of so many lives in our town...he didn't care what religion you were or if you had one, he truly cared for everyone!
May God bless all of you, Missy & Ed Hoppe, Emmett & Ethen, and Amanda

Missy Hoppe - April 06, 2015 at 09:17 PM

AG

“ Though I relationship was short I will be grateful for the memories.
AL G.

A GRAEFING - April 06, 2015 at 07:36 PM

BE

“ We wish God's richest blessings on the whole family. Beverly was on the Call Committee when Our Savior Lutheran Church called Pastor T. in 1995. We are still blessed with Anne directing our Junior Choir. Pastor has fought the good fight and is now with The Lord he loved and served so well.
Beverly & Dick Engelhardt, Fair Lawn, NJ

Beverly & Dick Engelhardt - April 06, 2015 at 06:56 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rev. Gary Trowbridge.*



April 06, 2015 at 02:55 PM



“ *Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Rev. Gary Trowbridge.*



April 06, 2015 at 02:23 PM



“ *Our condolences to your family. "Rev" as I always called him was a very special person to me. He confirmed me at St. John's Lutheran Church, married John & I, and baptized both of our daughters. He was a Pastor, friend, and a man that I always had the utmost respect for. He will be missed. God bless your family!*
Love,
Diane Bomhoff

Diane Bomhoff - April 06, 2015 at 09:02 AM