



Alan Wayne Gragg

July 17, 1932 - April 12, 2019

Alan W. Gragg, age 86, passed away at home in Asheville, North Carolina, on April 12, 2019.

He was born in Bainbridge, Georgia, and is survived by his wife of 63 years, Jessie Gragg. He is also survived by daughters Cheryl Gragg, Ruth Colnot (Marcel) and Joy McIver (Rob), daughter-in-law Lisa Pause (John); and grandchildren Megan, Claire, Sam, Alain, Sonia, Audrey, and Gantt, and his sister, Carolyn Warford (Charles).

Alan was preceded in death by his parents A.W. and Virgie Gragg; his son Wayne Gragg.

He attended Mars Hill College where he met Jessie. He graduated from Furman University and went on to receive a Master of Divinity from Southern Baptist Seminary. In 1961, he earned a Ph.D. from Duke University.

Known to college students and colleagues for decades as "Dr. Gragg", he taught at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Furman University. He taught almost fifteen years at Georgetown College (Georgetown, KY) where he was a religion professor and chairman of the Philosophy Department. From 1984, he served as Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs at Brewton-Parker College while continuing his teaching role there until retiring to

Asheville.

His religious life was more than philosophical as he committed to the ministry at an early age while living in Brunswick, GA. Alan gave his first sermon at age 16, and was soon after ordained as a minister in the First Baptist Church of Brunswick. He served Blythe Island Baptist Church as pastor before starting college. Throughout his life and into his early eighties, Alan often served as a visiting or interim pastor and preached in a variety of churches.

He was dedicated to the work and contemplation of God as exemplified by persistent religious study, regular church attendance, daily devotion, and living his faith by example. He and Jessie shared their faith through active involvement with Habitat for Humanity, Morningstar Children and Family Services, and Food for Fairview.

In addition to engaging his mind and heart, Alan enjoyed walking to work, playing tennis, mowing, baling hay and pruning. He was thoughtful and deliberate. If he took it out, he put it back, and he always had the right tool for a job whether it be a chainsaw or postage stamps. He is missed not only for his wise counsel on ethical and religious considerations, but also his wit and guidance in the day to day matters of life.

He will be interred in Brunswick, Georgia, following a graveside service on April 19, 2019, at 11:00 am at Palmetto Cemetery. Following the service, family and friends will gather at Blythe Island Baptist Church (170 Cut Off Road, Blythe Island, Georgia) to share time and memories together.

A memorial service will be held in Asheville on June 2, 2019 at 3:00 PM at Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Morris Funeral Home (Asheville, NC) and Chapman Funeral Chapel

(Brunswick, GA) are providing funeral services.

Donations in memory of Alan may be made to: Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, 789 Merrimon Avenue, Asheville, NC, 28804, or Blythe Island Baptist Church, 170 Cut Off Road, Blythe Island, Georgia 31523.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

APR 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

Palmetto Cemetery
3412 Ross Road
Brunswick, GA 31520

Memorial Service

JUN 2. 3:00 PM (ET)

Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church
789 Merrimon Avenue
Asheville, NC 28804

Tribute Wall



“ Alan Wayne Gragg

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ Dear Ruth, I shed tears in memory of your wonderful Father. I saw your Father as a loving, reliable Christian man who gave you a wonderful secure and happy childhood. To see you walk in our house always made me happy and for Paige to know your Father was a gift to her. All my love to you and your immediate family. Sue Alleyne Carloss

Sue Carloss - April 19, 2019 at 04:04 PM



“ All my love to Cheryl and the Gragg Family. What an incredible man of God, Dr. Gragg.
“Well Done thy Good & Faithful Servant”. XO Kim Davis Barrett

Kim Barrett - April 19, 2019 at 10:55 AM



“ Dear Jessie, Cheryl, Ruth and Joy. It was with great sadness I read of Alan's death this morning. So grateful for his life and friendship. I am sorry I cannot be at the graveside service due to Good Friday responsibilities at church. Hope to see you on June 2.

James and Carolyn Hale Cubbedge

Carolyn Hale Cubbedge - April 18, 2019 at 07:19 AM

RM

“ We are sorry to hear of the death of Dean Gragg. We remember him for his integrity, keen wit, high academic standards and devotion to the Kingdom of God. Deepest sympathy to you, Jessie, and your family.

Ron and Patricia Melton

Ron Melton - April 16, 2019 at 10:25 AM

IA

“ Dr. Gragg was a true man of God. He was always honest and never made a decision until he had time to think about it and make sure his decision was best for the student. He "always" stood by his decision. When he left Brewton-Parker College they lost a good fine Christian man. My heart goes out to his family but please know he was well loved by me and my family.

Inez Adams - April 15, 2019 at 09:16 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Alan Wayne Gragg.



April 15, 2019 at 09:02 PM

PC

“ Sympathy to all of the family and friends but particularly Joy who was obviously influenced in her life by her dad. Phil Carson

Phil Carson - April 15, 2019 at 11:50 AM

EF

“ Dear Jesse, please accept our deepest condolences for the passing of Dr. Gragg. We will never forget him and the good memories. We remember your invite to your home when we just had arrived in Mt Vernon. Also the great memories of your visit in Plains and in our home in Americus. May God bless his soul and grant you patience and strength . With deepest love and sympathy. ❤️🙏

etrat & Mike Fathi - April 14, 2019 at 09:13 PM

AH

“ Andina Harrison sent a virtual gift in memory of Alan Wayne Gragg



Andina Harrison - April 14, 2019 at 07:47 PM

MR

“ Jesse please know you and yours are in our prayers. We have fond memories of both Alan and you from our BPC days. Blessings in the days ahead. Margaret and David Roland

margaret Roland - April 14, 2019 at 07:16 PM

MG

“ Mona Grier sent a virtual gift in memory of Alan Wayne Gragg



Mona Grier - April 14, 2019 at 04:29 PM

RU

“ Russ sent a virtual gift in memory of Alan
Wayne Gragg



Russ - April 14, 2019 at 03:42 PM