

Newkirk, Rev. Verdun

Reverend Verdun Newkirk, 81, of Caseville, went to be with his Lord on Aug. 16, 2008, at the Huron County Medical Care Facility.

Verdun Newkirk was born on Sept. 27, 1926 in Chatham, Ontario to the late Hebert Allan and Rita Joy Newkirk.

Reverend Verdun Newkirk and Dorothy McKerracher were united in marriage in June of 1950. Reverend Newkirk became Director of Youth for Christ in Dresden under the directorship of Leighton Ford, Billy Graham's brother-in-law. Reverend Newkirk received his ordination to the ministry on April 30, 1961. His first Pastorate was the Filion Baptist Church in Filion, where he served from 1961 - 1968. From Filion, the Newkirks went to the Grace Memorial Church in Lincoln Park. Verdun retired in 1989 and he and Dorothy moved to Caseville but continued to be active in the ministry by teaching, helping with music and filling pulpit at Calvary Baptist Church in 1990.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Dorothy; two sons, Gary (Sharon) Newkirk of Southgate and Craig (Cheryl) Newkirk of Noblesville, Ind.; one daughter, Lynne Parker of Grand Blanc; one sister, Joy (Bill) McGaffey of Dresden, Ontario, Canada; nine grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2008 at Caseville Calvary Baptist Church, with Pastor Mike Goforth and Eric Newkirk officiating. Burial will take place at Caseville Township Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 2 to 8 p.m. Monday at the MacAlpine Mac Chapel in Bad Axe and from 10 to 11 a.m. Tuesday at the church.

Memorials may be offered to the Family Discretionary Fund.