



Rev. Dr. Donald L Kuehle

January 13, 1934 - August 13, 2024

The Rev. Dr. Donald Lawrence Kuehle, 90, of Jackson died Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2024, at his home surrounded by loved ones.

He was born Jan. 13, 1934, in Tilsit to Lawrence and Louise Johanna Roloff Kuehle.

He and Karen Kuehle were married on May 26, 1968. They had two children, Laura (Alan) Stanfill and Aaron (Julie) Kuehle.

Don had one sister, Marilyn (Gaylon) Stutts. He grew up on the family farm, which dates back to 1844. Don attended Tilsit Grade School and was a 1951 graduate of Jackson High School. In 1961, Don received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in History and Social Sciences from Southeast Missouri State College. In 1964, Don graduated from Garrett Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois.

Don was ordained a minister in the United Methodist Church in June 1964. For 40 years he pastored churches in Anniston-Dorena; Hayward-Wardell; Esther-Libertyville-Womack; Scott City-Commerce; Illmo; Potosi-Mineral Point; Hannibal: Arch Street-Hydesburg-New London; conference office; Fredricktown and Fenton. After retiring in 1999, Don served as interim pastor at Cape Girardeau, Maple; Perryville and Whitewater.

While growing up, Don was active in 4-H, FFA and RYO (Rural Youth Organization). He was state RYO president for a term.

In 1980, Don earned his doctoral degree in radio ministry from Drew University. For 15 years, Don had his own radio show, "The Open Door". In 1991, Don began writing a weekly column, "Good Thinking", for many newspapers across Missouri.

For 37 years, Don directed a youth camp — Kuehle Kamp — at Epworth-Among-The-Hills in Arcadia. He was also active in United Methodist Fellowship, holding offices locally and on the district and conference level.

Don enjoyed all kinds of music — hymns, country, folk, jazz, pop, classical and some rock and roll. He was a bass singer in the Zioneer Men's Quartet at Zion United Methodist Church. He also sang in the church choir.

Don enjoyed gardening and seeing things grow. He once planted 100 varieties of tomatoes. Don was also a collector of rare and not-so-rare books, vinyl records, cassette tapes and 8-track tapes.

Don enjoyed the good life God gave him. He was an Los Angeles Dodgers fan. He loved basketball, Pepsi, family and God (not necessarily in that order). Now Don is enjoying life at the highest level.

Survivors include his wife, Karen Kuehle; son, Aaron (Julie) Kuehle; daughter, Laura (Alan) Stanfill of Terre du Lac; three grandchildren, Avery Stanfill, Wesley Kuehle and Evie Kuehle.

He was preceded in death by his father, Lawrence Kuehle; mother, Louise Johanna Roloff Kuehle; and sister, Marilyn Stutts of Jackson.

Visitation will be from 3 to 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 16, at Ford and Sons Mount Auburn Funeral Home in Cape Girardeau.

Visitation will continue from 9 a.m. until the funeral service time at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 17, at Zion Methodist Church in Gordonville, with Pastor Scott Griffin officiating. Burial will be at the church cemetery

Memorial contributions may be given to Zion Methodist Church of Gordonville or Old McKendree Chapel.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Zion Methodist Church Cemetery - Gordonville

3658 State Highway Z
Gordonville, MO 63752

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 16. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn
1001 N Mt Auburn Road
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Visitation

AUG 17. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Zion Methodist Church
3652 State Hwy Z
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Funeral Service

AUG 17. 10:00 AM (CT)

Zion Methodist Church
3652 State Hwy Z
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701-9513
(573) 243-8025

Tribute Wall

BS

“ Good friends of youth, Arcadia, and conference days. A fine, excellent human being.

Bill Spencer - January 13, 2025 at 06:06 PM

SG

“ A kind, soft spoken, thoughtful pastor. I have good memories of him leading our youth group with Tom and Dianne Lawson. Sincere sympathy to Karen and family.
Sheri Graham

Sheri Graham - August 17, 2024 at 04:28 PM

CS

“ My friend. Pastor Don was beside me when my husband was very sick. We sat in waiting rooms drinking Pepsi and praying. Lots of time . , we just sat in silence. I love him and Karen. Also I loved attending the Whitewater Methodist Church, where he was our Beloved Pastor

Carol Slinkard - August 16, 2024 at 07:13 PM

LB

“ So sorry for your loss. My Mother, Madge and Don are first cousins. A photo of the family in 1950.



Lisa Bertrand - August 16, 2024 at 02:39 PM

SH

“ We send condolences to the family of the Rev. Dr. Donald L Kuehle.. We remember his willingness to officiate at our mother's, Glora Kuehle, funeral at Wappapello, MO and six years later he participated in the funeral of our dad Glenn Kuehle. We are thankful for his tracing and creating the Kuehle family tree and keeping it updated and his email messages. May God be with your all.
Sue Kuehle Hartman and Michael and Felicity Kuehle

Sue Hartman - August 16, 2024 at 09:42 AM

JD

“ It was an honor and a privilege to serve the Lord God Almighty with Don.
Thanks be to God Almighty for the Gift of Don.

Dr. Jim Davis

James Roger Davis - August 15, 2024 at 04:29 PM

MF

“ I am deeply sorry to hear about Don’s passing. He was an incredible man whose spirit and enthusiasm made every camp experience unforgettable. His ability to bring joy to all the campers and counselors, while guiding us in faith to a relationship with Jesus, was truly special.



Don will be missed by so many who had the privilege of knowing him. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May you find comfort in the many wonderful memories he created and the impact he had on all of us.

With heartfelt sympathy,
Marie Faircloth - Freeman one of the lucky Kuehle Camper and Counselor

Marie Freeman - August 15, 2024 at 02:47 PM

JL

“ What a wonderful Pastor. Our family was so blessed to have Pastor Don and Karen as Mom and Dad's Pastors in their later years. There were many hospital visits, home visits, sitting with us siblings in hospital waiting rooms. I always call him "Faithful". Thank you Karen for sharing your Pastor so many years, you too were always there to encourage, either by word, or deed (even deer chili!). As I read the obituary I was completely unaware of all of his accomplishments. Would have loved to hear his radio show.. My deepest sympathy to Karen and family. Unable to tell you in person because of sickness. May God bring comfort to you all. Joanne Chapman Lincoln

Joanne Chapman Lincoln - August 15, 2024 at 10:23 AM

RC

“ Roger, Holly, Mary, Ashlynn, & Chris purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Rev. Dr. Donald L Kuehle.



Roger, Holly, Mary, Ashlynn, & Chris - August 14, 2024 at 08:23 PM