



## John Dee Becknell

March 17, 1930 - August 15, 2021

John Dee Becknell, 1930-2021

Reverend John Dee Becknell, affectionately referred to as “Pastor” passed away at the age of 91 to join his beloved maker and Lord, Jesus Christ. He is a direct descendant of William Becknell who created a profitable trade route in 1821, The Santa Fe Trail, now known as the Mountain Route in New Mexico. John was born in Stark City, Missouri and graduated from Midway High School. John was a star of the basketball team and was known to glance at his high school sweetheart and wink before sinking a basket. After graduation he married the love of his life, Bonnie Marie Woods on Valentine’s Day of 1949. He worked in the Sawmills in Washington and later decided to devote and commit his life to the service of God and helping people. He then was accepted into Seminary School in Portland, Oregon to study to become an ordained minister. After becoming a Pastor, his first assignment in 1957 was as a missionary in Laredo, Texas for the Fellowship of Prayer Church based in Washington. John was instrumental in building, serving, and sharing God’s hope and faith in Laredo, Texas, Nuevo Laredo and Allende, Mexico. He also supplemented his income working as a jeweler repairing watches and clocks, an insurance agent, and in addition to this worked for a Cable company. After twenty years with the Fellowship of Prayer, he accepted a position in California with the Nazarene church and later transferred to Quincy, Washington where he served until his retirement in 2005. While living in Washington, he was an avid gardener and grew fruits and vegetables which

were canned and shared with his family and the community. In his lifetime he ministered the word of God to thousands of people and even while residing in Sun Terrace Senior Living Home he read the bible to many of the residents. He is survived by his loving family: wife and three daughters, Alice Lynette Doncaster, Deborah Jene Beauchamp, Cheryl Lea Becknell Patterson, eight grandchildren, and sixteen great-grandchildren. Alice and three of her grandchildren recently visited Daddy/Grandpa and he affectionately stated, "Did I start all this mess?" Even at 91 years of age, he still had a sense of humor! The legacy and family will continue to grow as the great-grandchildren will begin families of their own, but best of all they will always be part of the Becknell family.

A memorial service will be held October 2nd at 3pm for John and Bonnie Becknell at Bethel church in Richland, Washington.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

OCT 2. 3:00 PM (PT)

Bethel Church  
600 Shockley Rd  
Richland, WA 99352

# Tribute Wall

BE

“ Dear Cheryl, you are so blessed to have a father as loving as John. I am sure he is extremely proud of the daughter you were to him. The apple did not fall far from the tree! He is with the saints now and will wait for you to join him in paradise. Blessings to you and your family.

*Becky McVay Condra  
Montwood High School*

---

**Becky** - August 23, 2021 at 04:11 PM

DG

*Mrs. Patterson, thank you for sharing a small part of your father's story with us. May God continue to bless you and your family.*

*David Galvez  
Montwood High School*

---

**David Galvez** - August 25, 2021 at 09:04 PM

CP

*Thank you*

---

**Cheryl Becknell Patterson** - September 02, 2021 at 12:37 AM

DB

*Dad's journey has just begun and Mom is sharing that adventure also.  
Debbie*

---

**Deborah Beauchamp** - September 09, 2021 at 06:42 PM

CP

*Dad and Mom Joining hands with Jimmy and John Jr., may they Rest In Peace together. Cheryl (the baby).*

---

**Cheryl Patterson** - September 13, 2021 at 06:22 PM



*Hi Mrs. Cheryl Patterson.... we are celebrating my Aunt and Uncle's 50th wedding anniversary. In one of their pictures they are standing with your mother and father. Would love to share, if you are interested. Sadly, we learned of your father's passing through this post. Your mother and father's impact on my family's life was immense and they are thought of fondly even after all these years. We extend our condolences and pray Lord watches over you and your family! -Oziel Gonzalez on behalf of the Familia Lupe and Celina Cervantes of Nuevo Laredo.*

---

**Oziel Gonzalez** - December 04, 2021 at 06:08 PM

LG

*Cheryl and Debbie, you have been on our minds for four years. As I sought out to reach out to you both, we learned of your father's passing. The loss of a loved one is too painful to bear, but life goes on. His memories and that of your mother's as well, will forever live in your hearts. Hope you are both doing better considering that it has been 3 years since your Dad left this world to rejoice in God's presence. I have fond memories of your parents...very structured and very loving. Sending you all our love.*

*Leticia Soliz  
Roxanne Salinas  
Alma Porras  
Brenda Martinez  
J.W. Nixon High School  
Laredo, Texas  
10/09/2024*

---

**Leticia Soliz Gutierrez** - October 09, 2024 at 11:59 AM