



Rev. Garnet Kim Gilson

September 12, 1945 - June 26, 2015

Rev. G. Kim Gilson, 69, of Holly Oak, Wilmington, DE, went on to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Friday, June 26, 2015. During his 48 years in the ministry, Rev. Gilson served more than 30 congregations in several states, most recently as pastor of Holly Oak Calvary United Methodist Church in Wilmington. Before that he was pastor of Immanuel U.M. Church in Crisfield, MD. Rev. Gilson lived a rich, eventful life, traveling to several continents and hosting a total of 27 foreign exchange students over nearly three decades. He was an avid fan of the Philadelphia Eagles and Phillies sports teams and enjoyed creative pursuits including painting, pottery, singing, and playing the piano and organ. He was a graduate of Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky and received his Master of Divinity from Methodist Theological School in Ohio.

Rev. Gilson is survived by his son, Stephen E. Gilson and wife, Nuria; daughter, Heather Gilson; mother, June R. (McGrath) Gilson; brother, Jeffrey S. Gilson and wife Debbie; sister, Elaine M. Gilson; two grandchildren, Matthew S. Gilson and Daniel E. Gilson, sister-in-law, L. Charlene Gilson; and ex-wife, Dorothy E. Gilson, as well as many loving nieces, nephews and cousins. He is preceded in death by his father, Clarence R. Gilson and brother, Keith R. Gilson.

A visitation will be held on Friday, July 3, 2015 in Holly Oak Calvary U.M.

Church, 1511 Philadelphia Pike, Wilmington, DE 19809, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM followed by a service in Celebration of Life at 4:00 PM. A second visitation will be held on Monday, July 6, 2015 in the Harriman U.M. Church, 1700 Wilson Avenue, Bristol, PA 19007 from 9:30 to 11:30 AM followed by a service in Celebration of Life at 11:30 AM. Burial will follow in Sunset Memorial Park, 333 W. County Line Rd., Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006. Flowers are welcome or contributions can be sent to: UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief), 475 Riverside Dr., Room 1520, New York, 10115. For directions and to an online condolence please visit www.stranofeeley.com .

Cemetery Details

Sunset Memorial Cemetery

333 W. County Line Road
Huntington Valley, PA 19006

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 3. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Holly Oak Calvary United Methodist Church
1511 Philadelphia Pike
WILMINGTON, DE 19809

Service

JUL 3. 4:00 PM (ET)

Holly Oak Calvary United Methodist Church
1511 Philadelphia Pike
WILMINGTON, DE 19809

Visitation

JUL 6. 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Harriman United Methodist Church
1700 Wilson Avenue
Bristol, PA 19007

Service

JUL 6. 11:30 AM (ET)

Harriman United Methodist Church
1700 Wilson Avenue
Bristol, PA 19007

Tribute Wall

SD

“ Sharon Davenport lit a candle in memory of Rev. Garnet Kim Gilson



Sharon Davenport - July 09, 2015 at 06:49 AM

SD

He was our pastor at Vienna United Methodist Church....I remember his beautiful voice.....

Sharon Davenport - July 09, 2015 at 06:51 AM

TN

“ Remember you from 6th grade thru graduation. What a wonderful life and family you made for yourself...God bless you.....

Tom Napoli - July 07, 2015 at 02:20 AM

BM

“ May God enfold your family with His loving arms to bring you peace and comfort at this time. Love and God bless, John & Charlotte Gaines and family/Bonita McNatt and family

Bonita McNatt - July 04, 2015 at 12:48 AM

MC

“ Our most sincere condolences. We are truly sorry to hear about the loss of Rev. Garnet Kim Gilson. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. May God give the comfort and peace that you all need. We will continue to pray for his departure and for you all to find peace.

Sincerely

Ethan Hacsh and family

Milka Camacho - July 03, 2015 at 01:24 PM

JC

“ We feel as though we have been part of the Gilson Family for the last 45 years. When we last saw Kim, on April 4, at his brother Jeff and Debbie's wedding, we talked about our long and lasting friendship and realized it began when Kim was in college. We followed him and his ministry through all the churches he served and through all the family joys and sadness. We saw him and his family annually during our years of ministry in Lancaster County when we would meet every New Year's Day at a Bob Evans Restaurant for a huge breakfast and time of fun and conversation. It gives us

joy to read the wonderful words written by so many friends and church members whose lives he touched with his warm and gracious ways. Our love to you all. We are lifting you all in prayer for strength in His arms and joy in His promise of a reunion in Eternity.

Jerry and Julie Crossley

Julie Crossley - July 02, 2015 at 03:18 PM

AM

“ *April Mahoney sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev. Garnet Kim Gilson*



April Mahoney - July 02, 2015 at 02:28 PM

AM

Prayers are with your family as this difficult time!

April Mahoney - July 02, 2015 at 02:29 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rev. Garnet Kim Gilson.*



July 02, 2015 at 12:31 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rev. Garnet Kim Gilson.*



July 02, 2015 at 10:52 AM

MH

“ *Marcia Holdren lit a candle in memory of Rev. Garnet Kim Gilson*



Marcia Holdren - July 01, 2015 at 04:19 PM

RB

“ *I extend my deepest sympathy to the members of the Gilson family upon the passing of their beloved son, father, grandfather, brother and relative, Rev. G. Kim Gilson. I was honored to have Kim as one of my closest friends on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Kim was truly a humble and giving servant of God. His life was lived in service to others. We met one another through Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) which trains clergy in the art of chaplaincy.*

Kim's life was a testimony to his gift for ministry. He rose to the occasion in Crisfield, where his church became a distribution center for food, clothing, and other goods for individuals whose lives were overwhelmed by Hurricane Sandy. He spent countless hours overseeing the hundreds of individuals who came to his church during the disaster. His gift for mentoring others motivated him to accept foreign exchange students - delightful young men whom he would treat as though they were his own children. His call to ministry took him to Kinshasa in the Congo where he taught English to young Africans thirsting for knowledge.

Kim left the world a better place. His faith led him to service for others which is the essence of genuine belief.

It was a privilege to know Kim. May he rest in eternal peace.

Rabbi Arnold L. Bienstock

Rabbi Arnold L. Bienstock - July 01, 2015 at 09:52 AM

DU

“ *Donna J Ullman lit a candle in memory of Rev. Garnet Kim Gilson*



Donna J Ullman - July 01, 2015 at 07:35 AM

MB

“ *Maria Böhm lit a candle in memory of Rev. Garnet Kim Gilson*



Maria Böhm - July 01, 2015 at 02:55 AM

MB

My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Maria Böhm - July 01, 2015 at 02:55 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the whole Gilson Family!!!
My family and me got to know Kim, while attending Cheswold UMC.
He was a great man.*

*The greatest memory of all, was the baptism of my son Nickolas.
My Mom and may sister came over from Germany to attend the
service and he baptised Nickolas in German so my family would
understand. I will never forget this.*

*He also got me singing in the Choir again, it was so much fun.
He was always there, when help was needed.and I will never forget
him.*

*In deep thoughts
Doris Webb*

Doris Webb - July 01, 2015 at 02:37 AM



“ *Millie Rich lit a candle in memory of Rev.
Garnet Kim Gilson*



Millie Rich - June 30, 2015 at 11:28 PM



“ *My Thoughts, Prayers and Deepest Sympathy
are with the entire Gilson Family.*



Kathy Minnichbach - June 30, 2015 at 03:02 PM

AT

“ Kim was so instrumental in our church on many levels. He asked us one time "do you want to do a cantata?" Our answer was "what's a cantata"? Well, we found out in short order and they became a seasonal affair. I particularly grew under his ministry as he pushed me to play music that I didn't think I could play and I remember one of his sermons vividly was on the book of Ester and I still have it. His ministry to Tilghman UM Church was one of the highlights in our church. Blessings to Dottie, Heather and Steve.
Ann and Dick Tomlinson

Ann Tomlinson - June 30, 2015 at 02:30 PM

PM

“ Kim and I shared many meetings and discussions as clergy members of Chester Heights Campmeeting board of directors. Long before that, from 1970's we also shared good times at Chester Heights and I remember the "Gilson" cottage from those days.

Although we only saw each other couple times a year in recent times, we maintained our friendship. He will be missed, but we will see each other in the land where we will never say good by for the last time because we know we'll see each other once again.

Pastor Jimmy Montgomery

Pastor Jimmy Montgomery - June 30, 2015 at 08:55 AM

MT

“ Pastor Kim was a talented vocalist...we loved to hear him sing. In fact, he sang at my brothers funeral. In addition, I'll remember his countless hours of service with the food distribution during the days, weeks, and months after Hurricaine Sandy. He will be missed. Love and prayers to the family, Mary Thomas and his many friends from Immanuel UMC

Mary Thomas - June 29, 2015 at 09:11 PM

MS

“ We nattended Cheswald UMC while Pastor Gilson was serving there. My family and I will always remember the brautiful productions he directed and the support shown when my son in law died in a car accident leaving our daughter and a 6 month old son. He was our rock at that time and it is sad that he passed so young.
Marianne Smith and Jamie Eglit

Marisanne smith - June 29, 2015 at 07:07 PM