



## Norman Wayne Bloom

February 22, 2018

Norman Wayne Bloom stepped into heaven on February 22, 2018. Born in Cleveland, Ohio on July 20, 1924, Norman was 93 years at the time of his passing.

Norman was an ordained minister in the Church of the Nazarene. He pastored in Leavenworth, Kansas and Hastings, Nebraska prior to beginning service as District Superintendent for the church in Minnesota in 1964. In 1979, Norman returned to his alma mater, Olivet Nazarene University, in Bourbonnais, Illinois, working with students and staff until his retirement.

In 2010, desiring to be near family, Norman returned to Minnesota, living in Eden Prairie. He is survived by his two children, Mark (Mary) Bloom and Mary Beth (Jeff Skinner), grandchildren, Brian (Liz), Eric (Shannon), Madeline, Abby (Nick Standke), Ryan Kleinfehn (Olivia), and great-grandchildren (Grace, Emma, Landon, Ella, Logan, Kylie).

In love and recognition, Norman's family and friends will be celebrating his life on Saturday, March 3, 2018. The remembrance service will be at 1:30 with visitation beginning at 12:30. Please join us at Washburn-McCreavy Albin Chapel at 7625 Mitchell Road in Eden Prairie, MN <http://www.washburn-mcreavy.com>

In lieu of flowers, Norman's wishes were for donations to be designated for Bible translation with Wycliffe Bible Translators [www.theseedcompany.org/projects/havu](http://www.theseedcompany.org/projects/havu)

# Comments

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“ 1 file added to the album Norman Bloom



**Elizabeth Angell-Bloom** - March 10, 2018 at 07:33 PM



“ Our Sympathies to Mark & Mary Beth and your Families from Kenneth & Jennie Wood & our Families - How we Loved & Appreciated your Parents!!

**Rev. Kenneth & Jennie Wood** - March 24, 2018 at 11:46 AM



“ So sorry to hear the passing of Dr Bloom. I attended the Bloomington church growing and have some fond memories of him visiting our church and at other district functions. Prayers to the family

**Larry** - August 28, 2018 at 05:19 PM



“ I met Dr. Bloom while I was attending MNU. He was so kind and gracious. When I moved to Manteno Illinois he had been the interim pastor for 20 weeks and was so helpful in my first few weeks in a new assignment. Over the next 25 years he continued to be a source of joy and encouragement. He was a wonderful man of God who demonstrated the difference between self confidence and ego. Our church owes him a great debt of gratitude. At one point in his ministry he was sending out over 600 cards of encouragement every year. We have lost a wonderful leader.

**Jack McCormick** - March 07, 2018 at 11:12 AM



“ I was about 10 when I first met Rev. Norman Bloom when he, his wife, Margaret, & little Mark moved to Hastings. There are simply too many memories to post here. I would share that about 12 years ago, he & I spoke on the phone for a very long time & he assured me that there was grace for even such difficult times as I found myself going through. He was sort of my "forever" pastor. His Christmas letter with it's personal note will be missed so much. I remember so many things he so wisely shared but particularly at this time would be that heaven would be sweeter when we had a loved one leave us.

Perhaps you heard of the tragic death of my sister, Joyce Schiffler, Sept. 7, 2016. I now see that somehow she is there to meet your father. Yes, heaven will be a wonderful place. I loved your father and felt he loved me as well as so many he came in contact with. He had a special ability of making each person feel special. Blessings to you, Mark, Mary Beth, and your families.

Sharon Schiffler Steenbarger - March 06, 2018 at 06:23 PM

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“ I got my start in pastoral ministry under Norman Bloom (back in the 70's). Fresh out of seminary, with a baby just one month old, my wife and a Great Dane, we moved to Mankato, Minnesota to plant a church. It was tough going, but Rev. Bloom was a marvelous mentor; he was really a father figure to me. I served in that community for five years, and Rev. Bloom was a frequent visitor. He loved children; he loved my children (two more were born in those years). . .and they loved him. In fact, they named their pet gerbil "Sir Norman"!

Years later, after we were long gone from Minnesota--living and ministering in Michigan--we continued to correspond. Once not so long ago, when I hinted that I was about to give it up, he wrote: "There are still many people to care for and pray with, many who need the Lord." Those were just the words I needed to hear. They moved me to stay put, and I have never regretted it. That's how powerful his influence was in my life.

Mark and Mary Beth, you were just kids when I was around. You might not even remember me. But I feel blessed to have had that time with him and with your family. You had a wonderful father. And the church was blessed with a great leader and a fervent preacher/pastor/evangelist. Billy Graham has gained a friend of like mind with whom to enjoy the first days of heaven! Grace and peace to your whole family.



Steve Bringardner - March 02, 2018 at 09:16 PM

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“ After knowing Lisa since her childhood, Dr. Bloom performed our wedding ceremony at Lake Koronis Assembly & Campground in 1978. From that day to this, he has remained our good friend and encouraging mentor. Until his last days, he was sending us long, hand-written letters filled with news, insight and spiritual wisdom. We saw him once a year in Illinois and then also in Eden Prairie after he moved back to Minnesota.

He was especially supportive when God called us to write. We sent him advance copies of each of our books; he sent back helpful notes and valuable comments. His prayers and his wisdom guided our pathway as beginning authors. He attended our book signings in the Twin Cities.

We will treasure his life and his influence, always. It was a blessing to know and love both of his wives, both of whom preceded him in death. We will miss this great man.



**Dr. David & Lisa Frisbie** - March 02, 2018 at 07:24 AM

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“ Dr. Bloom (we call him Norman) was my D.S. during the early years after Diane and I were married, and a great support he was. Always cheerful, smiling and with another word of encouragement. His demeanor never changed as it reflected his great heart. We worked closely with him as I was playing piano for District Assemblies for all the years we knew him.

When Diane passed away, Rachel and I joined him at his retirement residence just 3 or 4 years ago where he invited us to bless all his friends with a piano concert in the game room. He was as warm toward Rachel as he was toward Diane.

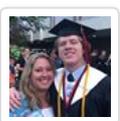
Among my strongest memories of Norman were the many greeting cards he sent. He could have written a Christmas letter and run off copies. But no. Every year along with scores of others on his list, he would personally hand-write his letters in order to personalize his words and greetings. Not surprising since it was part of his nature to be personal with everyone he met. Never looking away. Always focused on the one to whom he was speaking.

He will be missed for a while, but after that we'll join him and renew acquaintances with all those who now join him on the other side. What a day that will be.

Jerry and Rachel Nelson

**Jerry Nelson** - March 01, 2018 at 12:10 PM

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“ I have know. Dr. Bloom since I was 3 years old. He was the district superintendent in Minnesota when my dad was a pastor in Virginia, MN. I've always admired him and he has stayed in touch with my family over the years. I have wonderful memories of his kindness and him always giving me doublemint gum when I was a child. So sorry for your loss of such a great man!

**Heather Bush** - March 01, 2018 at 10:50 AM



“ Reverend Bloom and his wife Margaret led my parents to the Lord as pastor of the Leavenworth, Kansas Church of the Nazarene. He was on the board of Bethany Nazarene College when I was a student there, and I always looked forward to seeing him and Margaret. In recent years I enjoyed long, handwritten letters from him. He always had the time to inquire about my family and kept me up to date about his children and grandchildren. He was a true man of God, and I will miss him.

**Sharon (West) Jones** - March 02, 2018 at 05:42 PM

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“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Norman Wayne Bloom.



March 01, 2018 at 09:24 AM

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“ We loved Rev Bloom, and he loved us! We kept in touch over the years; he was a part of our lives and we will miss him. He attended our 50th wedding anniversary celebration as he had performed our wedding ceremony in 1956. We last saw him in Eden Prairie about two years ago. He was a fun person, who was also serious. In letters he would write that "heaven was one day closer" and now he is there!!!!  
Dave and Ruth Eigsti  
PS. The photo video from his 90th birthday celebration was very special, thanks for sharing

**Dave and Ruth Eigsti** - February 28, 2018 at 10:42 PM

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“ We first met Dr. Norman Bloom in 1973 when we became lay missionaries in an attempt to help establish a Church of the Nazarene in Mankato, MN. He was a very dear friend down through the years and our prayers and thoughts will be with his family. We so enjoyed being able to stop and visit him when he lived in Eden Prairie, MN the last several years. -- Ralph & Ramona Shepherd - Hutchinson, KS

**Ramona Shepherd** - February 28, 2018 at 09:29 PM

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“ Norman meant much to the family of Eigsti's in Nebraska. His life was a blessing and we are sending our thoughts & prayers. From Lee Eigsti & family



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Norman Wayne Bloom.



February 28, 2018 at 05:45 PM

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“ Dave and I had the pleasure of knowing Dr. Norman Bloom on the Chicago Central District while serving in ministry at Chicago First Church of the Nazarene. During our engagement we asked Norman if he would conduct our pre-marriage counseling and he kindly accepted. Over the years we would connect at various district events and he was always interested in our lives, and praying for us. He was a true friend, mentor, and encourager in our faith.

The fall of 2013 I was in Minnesota attending an antique show and I surprised Norman at his retirement home. We spent the afternoon out to lunch sharing memories. We had such a great day! Our lives have been richly influenced by this man and I'll never forget his kind tender spirit and love for Christ! He will be missed!

"Well done, good the faithful servant." Matthew 25:23

Love,  
Sarah Ludwig

Sarah Ludwig - February 28, 2018 at 02:05 PM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Norman Wayne Bloom.



February 28, 2018 at 08:50 AM

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“ 2 files added to the album Norman Bloom



**Mary Bloom** - February 27, 2018 at 12:15 PM

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“ Dr Bloom was a quiet, and unassuming Ambassador for God. He touched many minds and souls.  
May he rest in the arms of his Lord.

**Edward Vanover** - February 27, 2018 at 11:38 AM

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“ Norman and I had a special relationship on two counts. He gave me the opportunity to answer God's call to the ministry when he offered me the pastorate at Detroit Lakes, MN following studies at NBC even knowing that we only intended to stay two years before going on as missionaries in South Africa. ( We actually stayed four great years ) He fully supported our move to world missions by arranging our very first deputation tour all across Minnesota.

Secondly, and probably more important to him, my wife's name is Margaret Ellen, as was his wife. He always called 'my' Margaret by her full name and reminded us that this was also the name of 'his' Margaret.

Fellow worker in Christ, Friend and Mentor.... thank you Norman for the positive influence and encouragement across the years.

George A. Hurst

**GEORGE A HURST** - February 27, 2018 at 09:46 AM



“ Was privileged to know Dr Bloom as a child growing up in the Lord in Minnesota. He was my DS, and later a colleague in ministry as my husband and I served. He had a part in our wedding ceremony as well. Many wonderful memories. He was truly a man of God.

**Lori Jacobson Anderson** - February 28, 2018 at 08:23 PM



“ I have many great memories of Dr. Bloom, a great influence on the lives of our family. Thank you for your wise counsel.

**Ruth Jacobson** - March 02, 2018 at 08:40 AM

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“ I worked with Dr. Bloom in the early 90’s at the Chicago Central Dist. office. He was the assistant to the district superintendent, I was the office mgr. To this day I tell people how kind he was, esp. at a restaurant. He would ALWAYS ask the server his/her name and then say when we prayed for our meal we would pray for them. What a lasting good memory that I hope more people would do.

Julie Lee - February 27, 2018 at 07:58 AM

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“ Dr. Bloom and Margaret were my DS in MN. For the last 50+years, we’ve kept in touch. He always shown everyone what living a holy life was. My life is richer because of his influence. He loved me unconditionally, even when this PK wasn’t too lovable!

Dr. Connie Duke - February 26, 2018 at 11:53 PM

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“ I met Dr. Bloom (grandpa), as my kids affectionately would call him years later, when I came to Olivet in 1988 to visit the campus and decide if I wanted to attend. My mom and sister (and daughter) accompanied me and while there we went to visit Dr. Linford Marquart. As we were going in, Dr. Bloom was coming out. He noticed we had a flat tire and offered to help. We told him we had called the tow truck to come change the tire and we were waiting on them. He asked who we were there to see, where we were from and offered to wait with us. We told him Mr. Marquart, and he mentioned that he had just left his old friends’ room. Needless to say that struck up another conversation while we waited. After the tow truck came and had changed the tire, by pulling a nail out of it, and patching the hole, Dr. Bloom said “isn’t it amazing how the same nail that saved us through His grace also brought us together”! Well, that my dear friends became known as “the nail story” and he and I have told it to many over our 30 years of friendship! He was always there with a positive word in any situation regardless of what he was going through. He truly was an extension of the Father in every way. He left a living and everlasting legacy that many will remember and share for years to come! As sure as I am writing this tribute to such a godly man, he received the highest commendation from our Father in Heaven and heard the words we all desire to hear when we face our maker, “Well done good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many. Come and share in your Masters’ happiness”! Rejoice in Heaven with your maker Grampa Bloom! We love you and we will miss you.

Sarah Vile - February 26, 2018 at 11:45 PM

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**Sarah Vile** - February 26, 2018 at 11:31 PM