



# Rev. Martha Cornwall

NOV 14, 2014



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 5



## **Rev. Martha Cornwall**

NOV 14, 2014

**T**he Rev. Dr. Faith Martha Cornwall, 96, passed away November 13, 2014 at McKendree Village Retirement Home in Hermitage, TN. She was born in Rupert, Idaho but moved to Florida when she was 11 where she received her call to the ministry at an evangelistic service. At 14 Faith was teaching Sunday school class and visiting shut-ins for her Methodist Church. In college she pursued a social studies degree because at that time Methodist Churches were not ready to ordain women. She attended Scarritt College, where she received a Masters in Christian Education and Vanderbilt Divinity School where she received a Masters in Divinity and later a Doctorate in Divinity. She worked her way through seminary in the mental health unit at Vanderbilt hospital where she was chaplain and later became Director of Pastoral Services. She was a member of the Association of Mental Health Clergy and of the Board of the Nashville Mental Health Association.

Faith was ordained an elder in the Methodist Church in 1973, and the first woman to be ordained in the Tennessee Conference. One of the highlights of her career was in 1980 when she was invited to be one of the chaplains for the Winter Olympics at Lake Placid, NY. Another was when she was invited to preach at the chapel at West Point Military Academy. Before retiring she was appointed pastor of a three-point charge in Summertown, TN.

She was preceded in death by her father, Chester Orlando Cornwall, her mother, Grace Boyer Cornwall, her brother, Chester William Cornwall, and a nephew Chester William Cornwall, Jr. Faith is survived by her nephew, Col. Charles Cornwall and Jeannie, niece, Cheryl Cornwall Burwell and Tom, Great nephews, Mike Cornwall and Ashley, Thomas Burwell, Jr. and Camille, Todd Burwell and Kelly, Great niece Tami Cornwall and Aaron, Great-great nephews Keegan Burwell and Braden Burwell and Great-great niece McKenna Burwell, and lifelong friend Joanne Keyes.



## Obituary

**Rev. Martha Cornwall**

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James Funeral Home of Huntersville, NC is serving the family of Dr. Cornwall and online condolences can be made to [www.jamesfuneralhomelkn.com](http://www.jamesfuneralhomelkn.com)



## Tribute Wall

Rev. Martha Cornwall

RM

**Ray Mcdonald** posted:

I served as associate pastor under Faith for her last year at Summertown. She was a great influence and help for me. I will never forget that year of service with her. Faith was a great Christian and lived her faith every day. I am saddened by her passing.

November 17 at 3:01 PM

SA

**Skip Armistead** posted:

Dear Family of St. Faith, As a young pastor coming out of seminary in 1975, Faith became one of those role models for me, especially at the Mental Health Institute. As a friend, she was always the perfect listener. The one quality I admired most about her was that when she listened, it was as if she was really valuing me (or whomever) as a child of God. I have a feeling Faith is enjoying the kingdom of heaven now. I'm happy for her. May Christ's grace and peace always flow in and through her. Pastor Skip Armistead (I just retired myself this past summer.)

November 17 at 1:50 PM

JS

**Janis Slade** posted:

To my dear friend Cheryl Cornwall Burwell, God needed for her to come home. I remember that each time I'd had the privilege to be with your Aunt Faith there was such a peaceful presence about her. I know that her passing leaves a void in your extended family, but she is whole and happy once again and forever more. Janis

November 16 at 3:20 PM

MU

**Marty Uttley** posted:

Faith was a wonderful, compassionate woman who touched every life she touched. She will be greatly missed and greatly loved forever. She made Chester jr feel totally loved and accepted. She did much to encourage his faith.

November 15 at 6:42 AM



# **Memories only last if you share them**

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