



## Gene Phillips

January 7, 1935 - September 3, 2020

Gene Allen Phillips, 85, of Huntersville, NC and formerly High Point, NC died on September 3, 2020 at his home surrounded by family and friends. He was born in Murray, KY on January 7, 1935 to the late Fred and Eurah (Parks) Phillips. Gene was an ordained minister and served in the ministry all of his life, including as a College Minister at Meredith College, Raleigh, NC; Associate Pastor, Forest Hills Baptist Church, Raleigh, NC; an Associate with the NC Baptist State Convention; Pastor of the Guildford Baptist Church, Greensboro, NC; and the Hebron Baptist Church, KY.

In addition to serving in various ministerial capacities in the U.S., Gene and his late wife Jackie served as missionaries in France for 25 years where they learned French and built a church in Bordeaux, France which continues to serve the community today. Upon his return from France, he worked with senior adults at Green Street Baptist Church of High Point, NC and Huntersville Baptist Church, Huntersville, NC.

Gene enjoyed helping others and tried to bring joy to all those that he encountered. He was quick with a smile, had a sunny disposition and never met a stranger. During his time at Green Street Baptist Church alone, he worked with 750 senior adults and made over 1,300 hospital visits and many visits to nursing homes and the homebound. In France, Gene and Jackie worked with and helped thousands of people. He performed countless weddings, baptisms and services throughout his years. Everywhere he went, he tried to make a difference in people's lives.

Survivors include their sons Steve Phillips and wife Susan of Alexandria, VA, Stan Phillips and his wife Valerie of Davidson, NC and Getachew Giorgis and wife Abeba of Raleigh, NC; his brother David Phillips and wife Pam of Gulfshores, Alabama; and grandchildren Alyssa and Kristina.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the First Baptist Church of Huntersville (in the name of the Jackie and Gene Phillips Youth Scholarship Fund) 119 N. Old Statesville Rd., Huntersville, NC 28078. The scholarship will be awarded to high school seniors

pursuing higher education who have demonstrated a dedication to serving others or mission work. Memorials may also be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 4600 Park Road, Suite 250, Charlotte, NC 28209.

A private service will be held at 3:30 PM Saturday, September 5 in the chapel of James Funeral Home with burial following at First Baptist Church-Huntersville. Masks are required for those in attendance at the private service.

For those not attending, it will be streamed live on the James Funeral Home Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/JamesFuneralHome>

James Funeral Home of Huntersville is serving the family.

# Cemetery

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## **First Baptist Church Huntersville**

119 North Old Statesville Road

Huntersville, NC, 28078

# Comments

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“ Stan and Steve,  
I am sending my condolences as I learned of your dad's passing.  
At the same time I am most grateful for memories and missionary moments we shared together as you furloughed at Hayes Barton Baptist in Raleigh.  
I treasure the time Jackie and I shared as friends and our love of missions.  
I have a fond memory of you fellows and Gene coming to Hayes Barton for a Sunday luncheon. We listened to the Korean Baptist Choir sing and tell of their Christian journey. I appreciated your visit. It was a joy to see you.

It is my prayer, a special memory will bring comfort to each one.  
Nancy Langford

**Nancy Langford** - September 07, 2020 at 08:56 AM

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“ Judy and Bill McCall send heartfelt condolences as we remember how God blessed many through Gene's service to our Lord.  
When I, Bill, arrived in France in 1976 for language study before going on to Togo, I received a phone call from Gene. He asked if everyone in our group had arrived, to which I responded "Yes." He then started through the list of specific couples. To each I responded that they had arrived. He said, "That is a relief." He then related to me that the passport of a missionary in our group had been found in the New York airport where a bomb had gone off. Needless to say, Gene was relieved to hear that the missionary had arrived safely in France. The passport found was an old one that had been lost and replaced, but was later found and had been in a briefcase inadvertently left on a plane in NY. The briefcase had been found and placed in the area where the bomb went off. I saw Gene and Jackie later when I took my car to Bordeaux to be shipped to Togo. They were always gracious and helpful.

**Bill McCall** - September 06, 2020 at 12:33 PM

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“ Al & I are so sorry for your loss. Gene married us in 2001. Your dad was a great man & we greatly missed him when he left Green Street Baptist Church. Again, we're so sorry for your loss.  
Al & Martha Slay  
High Point, NC

**Martha Slay** - September 05, 2020 at 09:05 PM

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“ Some of us who still attend Forest Hills in Raleigh remember Gene as our wonderful minister to college students. My first mission trip to Washington DC when I was a sophomore at State was under his leadership. I'm so glad I had the privilege to know the Phillips. They truly helped make my college days happy ones! Prayers are with his family!

Frances Paul Stroup - September 05, 2020 at 08:18 PM

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“ I was very grateful to care for Gene for a few years. We shared many good times and laughter. He wanted to be on the move and talk to people. He will always have a special place in my heart. Thank you Gene for the fine memories. Rest in Eternity with Jesus.

Bonnie Solesby - September 05, 2020 at 03:26 PM

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“ We served alongside Gene during his years of missionary service in France, and will always be grateful for his living example of Christ's love, mercy and passion for sharing the Good News of salvation with the lost. We offer our sincere condolences to those family members grieving his departure, but we rejoice for Gene as he has entered into the glory of his eternal home, having received the words from his Savior, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

George and Sheryl Gera (40 years IMB missionaries in France)

George and Sheryl Gera - September 05, 2020 at 03:29 AM

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“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gene Phillips.



September 04, 2020 at 01:26 PM

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“ RIP PRAYERS TO THE PHILLIPS FAMILY DURING YOUR TIME OF BEREVEMENT MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

PAM GREEN, SLENT



**PAMELA GREEN** - September 04, 2020 at 01:19 PM



“ Thank you Lord for Gene and Jackie Phillips. They were wonderful servants for the France-Belgium missionaries as administrators. Gene and I had the same birthday on the prayer calendar each year. I pray the family to be comforted by the Holy Spirit and rejoice for a fine Christian man.

**Jo Ann Beduerftig** - September 04, 2020 at 05:12 PM



“ What a precious servant of the Lord, always with a smile and a sweet greeting

**Jackie McClure** - September 05, 2020 at 12:43 AM



“ It was an honor to serve along side Gene and Jackie in France. They were loved by the people there.

Annette Hall

**Annette Hall** - September 05, 2020 at 03:58 PM



“ It was with profound sadness that we learned of Gene's passing. We would like to extend our condolence to his family, especially Steve and Stan whom we remember well. In 1973, when they arrived in France as new missionaries, we welcomed them personally at the airport. We rejoiced to see their wonderful ministry with pioneer churches and especially the church in Bordeaux. Our love and prayers are with you. Hal and Lou Ann Lee, Emeriti missionaries, IMB.

**Hal Lee** - September 05, 2020 at 07:23 PM



“ Please accept my deepest condolences. I knew Gene and Jackie when they were living in Paris and I had moved here to France as a missionary from The Philippines. Gene was one of our first missionary contacts. He was such a kind, caring person. It was a joy to serve with both him and Jackie.

Pamela Gorecki (Nancy France)

**pamela gorecki** - September 06, 2020 at 03:08 AM