



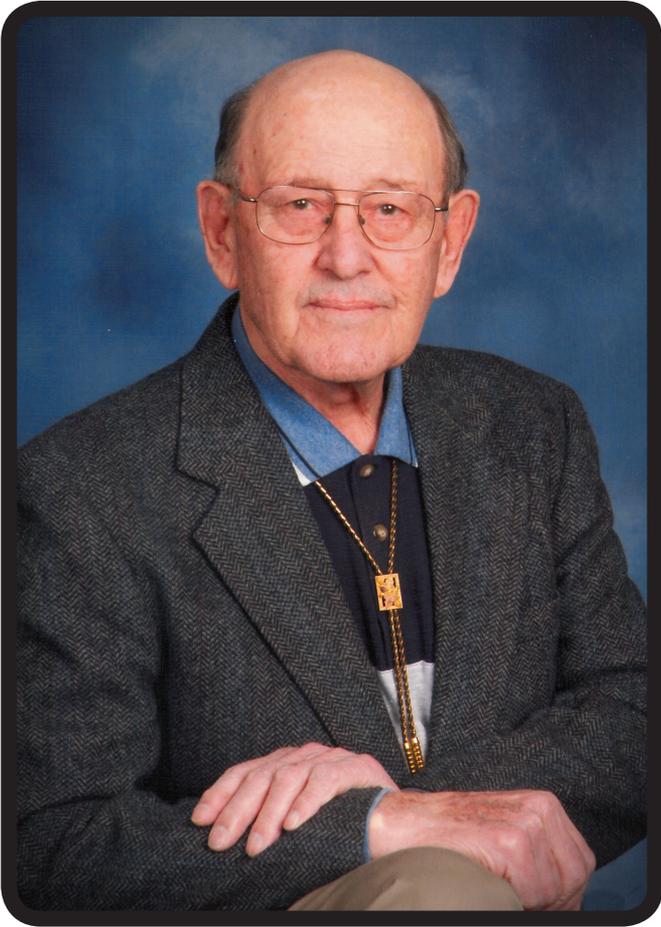
*A Celebration of the Life of*

**Merrill Bennett Stenberg**

October 28, 1930 – June 25, 2020



*In Loving Memory Of*



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## Isaiah 41:13

*I am holding you by your right hand  
I the Lord your God. And I say to you  
Do not be afraid I am here to help you.*

## Galatians 5:22-23

*But when the Holy Spirit controls  
our lives, He will produce this kind of  
fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,  
goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.*

## Psalms 30:5

*His anger lasts for a moment, but  
His favor lasts for a lifetime, weeping  
may go on all night, but joy comes  
with the morning.*

## Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken like the first morning  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird  
Praise for the singing  
Praise for the morning  
Praise for them springing fresh from the world

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven  
Like the first dew fall on the first grass  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden  
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass

Mine is the sunlight  
Mine is the morning  
Born of the one light Eden saw play  
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning  
God's recreation of the new day

## Abide With Me

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide,  
The darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee  
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away  
Change and decay in all around I see  
O Thou who changest not, abide with me

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless  
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies  
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me

## Beneath The Cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand,  
the shadow of a mighty rock  
within a weary land;  
A home within the wilderness,  
a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat,  
and the burden of the day.

There lies beneath its shadow,  
but on the further side,  
the darkness of an open grave  
that gapes both deep and wide;  
and there between us stands the cross,  
two arms outstretched to save,  
like watchman set to guard the way  
from that eternal grave.

## Amazing Grace

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now am found  
Was blind but now I see

Was Grace that taught my heart to fear  
And Grace, my fears relieved  
How precious did that Grace appear  
The hour I first believed

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
We have already come  
T'was Grace that brought us safe thus far  
And Grace will lead us home

## Merrill Bennett Stenberg

M. B. Stenberg, (Bennett) 89, of Greensboro, Georgia passed away on Thursday, June 25, 2020 after a long fight with throat cancer. A Celebration of Life at the grave site in Lawrenceburg, KY will be held for the family.

Bennett was born October 28, 1930, the fourth son of Ove and Alma Stenberg, of Colman, South Dakota. Loving cattle he worked hard on the farm but particularly liked playing his trombone, playing basketball and just having a lot of good old Danish fashion post-depression fun. He was a graduate of Egan High School in 1948 and then joined the Navy Reserve serving on the Great Lakes Saint Lawrence waterways.

Bennett and Darlene Lee Jacobsen were married on December 10, 1950 and went onto raise four children. God works in mysterious ways and after a divorce he married Doris Erikson Jessen. In dad's later years he said "I've had two great wives."

Bennett and Darlene moved off the farm in 1960 and he began his career and passion trading cattle, managing and owning stockyards. He attributes a lot of success to his mentor Roy Frankman of Oleson Frankman Livestock Commission Firm in the Sioux Falls, South Dakota stockyards. He went onto build a solid and successful business in Sioux Falls with Dakota Livestock and Adam's & Daugherty. The challenges grew bigger in 1969 Bennett and Darlene moved the family to Louisville, Kentucky where he was named the Executive VP of the Bourbon Stockyards. He was known as the Vince Lombardi of Livestock marketing, also managed the Cincinnati Union Stockyards as well as owning the Somerset, Ky Yards and the Clay Wachs stockyards in Lexington. In fact, he changed livestock marketing for ever in the South from a weigh in market to a weigh out market. He was recognized for his accomplishments by the Commonwealth of Kentucky's Governor Louis B. Nunn and Bennett was appointed a Kentucky Colonel.

He was always active in his church and always sought out the most

senior and accountable minister to hold him straight. Pastor Gravidal of First Lutheran is but one example. Trading cattle was done by word of mouth, on a handshake, your word and integrity had to be non-wavering.

After retiring from cattle trading, he enjoyed his horse farm near Salvisa, Kentucky, breeding mares, fouling, saving his favorite to run on the track. He bought the old Salvisa Hardware store from old man Dickerson and later moved it out on the big highway, (127) where for nearly thirty years he was in business with his son Paul. An occasional round of golf, a weekend on the house boat at Lake Cumberland, a UK basketball & football game, he loved the Cincinnati Reds or a day at Keeneland with friends like Dan Brooks, Bennett always had a way to make things fun. That's not to say he was not tough; he could be Danish firm and darn right bull headed at times. He always taught his children not to play games with God and "never ever knock the rain."

Bennett is preceded in death by his parents Ove and Alma, brothers DeVere, Virgil, Bob, and sister Elizabeth, and his second wife Doris.

He is survived by his daughters Cynthia Tingle (Warren), DeAnn Clark (Jim), sons Larry (Melissa), Paul (Debbie) his brother David, sister Arlene Lelleid; five grandchildren, seven great grandchildren; many nieces and nephews. Stepchildren Linda Sexton, Chuck Jessen, Scott Jessen, 2 granddaughters, and 3 great-grandchildren.

Any memorials may be made to Hebron Cemetery, 1008 Forest Hill Drive, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342. McCommons Funeral Home, 109 W. Broad St., Greensboro, GA, (706) 453-2626, is in charge of arrangements. Visit us at [www.mccommonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.mccommonsfuneralhome.com) to sign the online guest register.



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