

NEIL D. JACKSON
August 4, 1932 - May 5, 2001 (Age 68)



ARLINGTON ~ Neil D. Jackson, 68, passed away Saturday, May 5, 2001 in Fort Worth.

Funeral: 10 a.m. Tuesday at Temple Baptist Church, 6824 Randol Mill Road, Fort Worth, Texas 16120.

Burial: Lakeside Cemetery in Port Huron, Mich.

Visitation: The family will be receiving friends from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday at Shannon Rose Hill Funeral Chapel.

Neil D. Jackson was promoted to Glory May 5, 2001, following a prolonged illness. Neil was born to Floyd and Wave Jackson in Sanilac County, Mich. He was a Navy veteran. In 1962, he felt a call to the mission field of Brazil. He moved his family to Arlington to attend the Bible Baptist Seminary and he and his wife, Phyllis, graduated in 1965. Under the auspices of the World Baptist Fellowship, Neil and Phyllis spent the next 31 years spreading the Gospel of Jesus to the lost in Brazil.

When his physical condition required that he return to the States permanently, Neil continued to work with Portuguese-speaking people and started the Igreja Templo Batista, which serves Tarrant and Dallas counties. Having never lost his zeal to preach the Gospel, Neil preached his final sermon to the Portuguese-speaking congregation shortly before his death. His rewards are not of this earth, but of a world beyond this one. We know today that Neil is standing before his God unashamed, having fought the good fight.

Neil was preceded in death by a son, Kent Owen Jackson.

Survivors: Beloved wife, Phyllis of Arlington; daughters, Julie and Debbie; son, Dave; daughter-in-law, Adriana; sons-in-laws, Dick and Les; grandchildren, Liz, Kim, Christy, Vanessa, Katie, David, Dennis, Carolyn, Kandi, Kelly, Kevin, Lee, Erik, Michael and Rachel; and several nieces and nephews.

Shannon Rose Hill Funeral Chapel, 7301 E. Lancaster, (817) 451-3333

Bro. Neil Jackson at Home with The Lord

Taken from "The Fundamentalist" May/June 2001 written by Brother Tommy Raley

Early on Saturday morning, May 5, 2001, Bro. Neil Jackson was called into the presence of the Lord. Neil had struggled mightily with a number of serious health problems for the past few years. Until the very last, he maintained his good sense of humor and his desire to serve the Lord.

Neil was born on August 4, 1932 in Sanilac County, Michigan. He was saved in 1949 at a small Baptist church in Port Huron, Michigan. He was married to Miss Phyllis Jean Smith on March 21, 1950.

Neil and Phyllis felt a call of God to the mission field in 1962 and enrolled at the Bible Baptist Seminary in Arlington, Texas. They both graduated from the Seminary in 1965 and were sent out by the Covenant Baptist Church of Sterling Heights, Michigan and approved that same year as World Baptist Fellowship missionaries to Brazil. After a year of deputation, they arrived on the field in 1966. For many years they worked on the upper Rio Negro River in Brazil and saw churches established in Tapurucuara and San Gabriel. They were also involved in evangelistic work at preaching points along the Rio Negro. After more than 17 years in northern Brazil, they made the move to the city of Salvador, Bahia where they spent their last 11 years in the country. Neil and Phyllis were instrumental in the founding of the Independent Baptist Bible Institute of Salvador and headed the school for ten years. During their years in Bahia they also worked with Frank and Darla Brim to help establish the First Baptist Church of Arembepe.

In the early 1980's Neil was diagnosed with Polymyositis, which is somewhat similar to Muscular Dystrophy. Aggressive treatment of the disease brought on the onset of diabetes and heart problems as well. Due to his deteriorating health, Neil was confined to a wheelchair for his last few years on the field, but he never let that deter him from doing the work which God had laid on his heart to do.

In 1995, due to his continuing illness, Neil and Phyllis returned to the U.S. where they continued in their efforts to reach Brazilians for Christ by beginning a Portuguese Literature ministry. They also were instrumental in reaching Brazilians in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area with the Gospel and helped in the founding of a Brazilian Independent Baptist Church in Ft. Worth, Texas.

Neil was a regular contributor to the Fundamentalist, writing a column entitled, "Elder Saints Among Us", in which he interviewed and featured many of the elder statesmen of the World Baptist Fellowship.

I have often stated that even though Bro. Jackson's legs gave out on him, his heart never did. You could not talk with him more than a few minutes without the conversation turning to Brazil. He loved Brazil and the Brazilian people and long after most men would have given up the work, he continued to do all he could to reach precious souls with the Gospel.

Please remember Phyllis and the family in your prayers that God's grace will meet every need during this time. Phyllis will continue to work with the literature ministry and would like to spend time back on the field in Brazil as the Lord leads and gives opportunity. She will continue to depend on the Lord and His faithful churches for her financial support. Please pray for her and please continue to support her in her efforts as a servant of the Lord to the Brazilian people. She has been a faithful missionary for 36 years and will continue to be faithful in her service for the Lord.