

# In Loving Memory



**Rev. R.E. Helsley**  
1932-2025



R.E. Helsley, son of Raymond Elbert and Eve E. (Lakey) Helsley, was born December 11, 1932, in Wright County, Missouri, near Hartville and passed peacefully into Heaven on July 27, 2025. He was 92 years, 7 months, and 16 days.

Early in 1952, a beautiful young lady started attending church, and R.E. said she was more beautiful than any flower he had ever seen. On their first date March 1st, 1952, he knew he had met the one God had for him. Just three months and one week later, R.E. was united in marriage to Rose Faye Young on June 8, 1952. In April 1953, God blessed them with a baby girl named Kathy, and seven years later God gave them a son named Mark. They brought them great joy and they loved them dearly.

In 1951, R.E. was offered a job with good wages in Kansas. He would often tell how he was very tempted to take it, but the job would require him to work on Sundays and he knew he would get out of church. He never regretted his decision to turn that job down. R.E. went home to be employed at Se-Ma-No Electric for 23 years before he left to become a full time pastor in 1979.

R.E. was saved as a young man and was a member of the Wolf Creek Free Will Baptist Church. He answered the call to preach and preached his first sermon Dec. 31st, 1961. He was ordained December 16th, 1962, at Wolf Creek Free Will Baptist Church. Throughout his 50 years of ministry, Rose stood faithfully by his side. He pastored four Free Will Baptist churches: Union Grove (Caudle), New Home, Wolf Creek, and Oak Grove. During his 50 years of ministry, he officiated 724 funerals, preached 385 revivals, and 60 weddings. Even after he officially retired, he went on to influence many lives, most recently witnessing to the workers and residents in the nursing home where he resided the past three years of his life. Countless souls were saved, touched, and lives changed throughout his ministry.

R.E. was a godly man of great faith. He was humble, kind, and cared a great deal about others.

Besides his parents, R.E. was preceded in death by his wife Rose; four siblings, Oka and Manie Calhoun, Dorothy and Vance McGaw, Otis and Jean Helsley, and Howard Helsey; and one niece, Glenda Keith.

R.E. is survived by one daughter, Kathy Garrison and her husband, Roger, of Mansfield, Missouri, one son, Mark Helsley and wife, Tresa of Mansfield, Missouri; three grandsons, Steven Garrison and his wife, Heather, Jeremy Garrison and his wife, Rachelle, and Joseph Garrison and his wife, Kelli; seven great-grandchildren, Kaliesha, Kayla, Carter, Kiersten, Aiden, Brandon, and Lukas; and four great-great-grandchildren, Olivia, Katherine, Mac, and Graham.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wolf Creek Cemetery.

To order memorial trees or send flowers to the family in memory of Rev. RE Helsley, please visit our flower store.

## **Visitation**

Thursday, July 31, 2025  
Wolf Creek FWB Church  
Hwy 5, Mansfield, MO 65704

## **Funeral Service**

Friday, August 1, 2025  
Wolf Creek FWB Church

## **Burial**

Wolf Creek Cemetery