



## Frederick W. Marsh

January 29, 1916 - December 1, 2013

Rev. Frederick W. Marsh

Rev. Frederick W. Marsh, age 97, born in Oklahoma and late of Houston and Huntsville, Texas, died on Sunday night, December 1, following his first beloved, Dorothy Niewenhous Marsh, by 16 years, and his second beloved, Bernece Gaines Riley Marsh, by two years.

Frederick Marsh served as a Methodist minister from 1943 to 1986 and as a US Navy Chaplain from 1943 to 1946. Called up to active duty on July 1, 1943, Frederick served on ship and shore, finishing his duty on the USS Telfair, a troop transport, in the Pacific Theatre. It was on his way toward discharge, while on layover in Manila, the Philippines, that Frederick met his first wife, Dorothy Niewenhous, who was on her way to Occupied Japan to serve in the American Red Cross.

After discharge, Rev. Marsh established Bellaire Methodist Church and served as its first pastor. He and Dorothy married in Washington, DC after her return from Japan. Later church assignments included Port Arthur and Tyler, Texas.

From 1962 through 1986, Frederick served as Associate Pastor of First United Methodist Church, Houston, as an early specialist in pastoral care. Known for his calming presence, Rev. Marsh imparted comfort each time he entered a

hospital room or other gathering of distressed souls.

In 1972, Frederick launched what would become his favorite hobby, world travel, by leading a large group on a tour of the Holy Land. This began a 20-year avocation of touring that took Frederick, Dorothy, and later Bernece, to at least 25 countries on six continents.

Above all, Dad was a loving father, attentive husband and man of humor, grace and spirit. He will be missed.

Frederick Marsh is survived by children Marjory Schwartz and Peter and John Marsh; by Bernece's daughter Barbara Floyd; by grandchildren Samuel, Catharine, Caroline, William and Clara Marsh, and children-in-law Martin Schwartz, Laura and Susan Marsh; and by Barbara's children Robin, Megan and Riley, and their children.

Memorial service will be held Saturday, December 7, 2013, 10:00 a.m., at First United Methodist Church, 1320 Main Street, Houston, 77002.

Mr. Marsh will lie in state at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Huntsville, Texas on Saturday, December 7, 2013 from 12:00 noon till 3:00 p.m. Family will receive friends from 2:00-3:00 p.m. for anyone that may want to stop and pay their respects. The family will lay to rest Mr. Marsh in Mayes Addition of Oakwood Cemetery with a family burial following visitation.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to: United Methodist Committee On Relief – currently very busy in the Philippines – at [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org); or the Southern Poverty Law Center, [www.splcenter.org/](http://www.splcenter.org/), fighting hate, prejudice, violence and poverty since 1971.

Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at ww

[w.shmfh.com](http://w.shmfh.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Frederick W. Marsh*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Fred Marsh baptized me as an infant. As a child I remember growing up in that war surplus building that he helped erect in Bellaire as the Bellaire Methodist Church. And I recall my parents speaking with reverence about the Reverend Marsh whose leadership guided the explosive growth of that church. Gone, but not forgotten. I should say 'God bless Fred Marsh', but actually God blessed us with Fred Marsh.*

**Paul Eschenfelder** - December 09, 2013 at 12:28 PM



“ *Although I never knew Rev. Marsh, my parents were close to Bernece at Elkins Lake, and my mother, Ruth Greer, spoke so very highly of him. My husband and I were at Southwestern University with Barbara and knew her children when they visited at Elkins Lake at the same time that our family would be there to see the Greers. Great memories,*

*Thinking of you all at this time of loss, joy, and remembrance.*

*Diane Sandberg*

**Diane Greer Sandberg** - December 07, 2013 at 02:42 PM

JR

“ Frederick never stopped being an agent of pastoral care. I will be forever grateful for the ministry he provided my parents as my father, James Lee Riley, was under hospice care at home in Elkins Lake. Every morning, Fred came to my parents home to share with them the Upper Room and to share in scripture and prayer. He knew how to bring life and light into the darkness.

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**John Riley** - December 06, 2013 at 04:38 PM

GM

“ We send our love and sympathy to John, Sue, William, and Clara and to honor the memory of a great pastor.

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**Gary Patterson & Jeff Meadows** - December 06, 2013 at 09:50 AM

JM

“ We have such wonderful memories of the times we spent with Frederick and Berniece in our travels with them and the AARP group, including the many meals we ate together on those trips. He told such wonderful stories of his travels and his life experiences. We were so honored to be guests at Frederick's 90th birthday celebration.

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**Joyce and Jimmy Merchant** - December 04, 2013 at 05:38 PM

TH

“ Just wanted you to know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Take care.

Love,  
Tom and Lynda Henry

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**Tom & Lynda Henry** - December 03, 2013 at 09:11 AM