



Dr. Ross D. Lyon

December 28, 2023

Dr. Ross D. Lyon, 86, of Schnecksville, died Thursday, December 28, 2023, at Lehigh Valley Hospital – Cedar Crest, Allentown. He was the loving husband of Carolyn J. (Bass) Lyon.

Ross was born January 29, 1937, in Poughkeepsie, NY. He was the son of the late LeRoy F. and Grace (Stone) Lyon.

Ross had a heart for preaching and teaching. He received his undergraduate degree from Columbia College. He continued his education to prepare for the pastorate by attending Covenant Seminary. He began his ministry as a young pastor in New Jersey. It was during his second pastorate in Ontario, Canada, that he obtained his degree to become a chiropractor. His desire was to always have a vocation that could support church planting if necessary. Loving to learn and to gain more knowledge, he continued his education by obtaining his Doctor of Divinity in the late 1980s.

Ross returned to the United States to practice chiropractic care in Illinois. Still having a passion for preaching, he eventually came to the Lehigh Valley where he became the head pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Allentown. During this time, he became quite involved in the beginning development of Lehigh Christian Academy. He served as Bible teacher, Dean of Students, and board member for many years in conjunction with his preaching duties at the church.

In 1983, Ross felt led to start a church, Grace Community Church of Allentown.

From the 1990s until his retirement, Ross started and worked at ABE Chiropractic Center, Whitehall. He continued to speak at local churches during this period. After retirement, he remained very active in ministry by leading many Bible studies and Sunday School classes at First Baptist Church, 19th Street until about 2019. In the beginning of 2023, Ross returned to Grace Community Church and became a member again shortly before his passing.

Ross loved to travel and camp. He continued to camp even into his 80s. He was talented in drawing and would often doodle cartoons for his children and grandchildren. His main desire was that many people would understand the Bible, so he wrote several short guides to help the average reader. He wanted to always minister to people. He often went to nursing homes and to people's homes to visit, encourage, and explain what he loved, the Bible. He loved people and longed to see them know, love, and serve Jesus Christ. He never wavered in that and continued faithfully to the very end.

Surviving with his wife are his children, Vicki Schaffer (Ron) of Pennsburg, Cathy Crilley (David) of Schnecksville, Elizabeth Hauser (James) of Breinigsville, David Lyon (Lori) of Coopersburg, and Joanna West of Center Valley; grandchildren, Sandy Crilley, Janelle Kurtz, John Hauser, Kayla Black, Jacob Hauser, Matthew Schaffer, Maria Crilley, Alyssa Lyon, Jenna Crilley, Alexander Lyon, Dejah West, Aaron Lyon, Mark Hauser, Dorian West, and Amber Lyon; great grandchildren, Rowan Kurtz, Sutton Black, and Greyson Kurtz.

Services will be held at 11:00 AM, Friday, January 5th at Grace Community Church, 1290 Minesite Rd., Allentown. Friends and family are invited to call from 9:30-11:00 AM prior to the service at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the church.

Previous Events

Calling

JAN 5. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Grace Community Church
1290 Minesite Rd.
Allentown, PA 18103

Service

JAN 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Grace Community Church
1290 Minesite Rd.
Allentown, PA 18103

Tribute Wall



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Ross D. Lyon.* ”



January 04, 2024 at 12:23 PM



“ *Carolyn, I'll be praying for you and your whole family. Remember that Ross is with our Christ in heaven.* ”

Mike Horning - January 02, 2024 at 09:19 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Ross D. Lyon.* ”



January 02, 2024 at 07:16 PM



“ *With deepest sympathy & many prayers for Mrs. Lyon, Vicki, Ron, & The Lyon Family on your tremendous loss. Dr. Lyon was always very kind.* ”



Joan Lockwood Smith - January 02, 2024 at 01:45 PM

AN

“ The few times I had the opportunity to speak to Rev. Lyon, he amazed me with his knowledge of Scripture and his servant’s heart. What a blessing he was! Prayers to his family at this time.

Anonymous - January 02, 2024 at 01:48 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Ross D. Lyon.



January 01, 2024 at 12:28 PM

DF

“ Danny Bass and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rev. Ross D. Lyon.

Danny Bass and Family - January 01, 2024 at 12:28 PM

AA

“ Dear Carolyn and family, We were shocked to hear of Ross's promotion to glory. We are sad yet hopeful about our eventual reunion. I was privileged to be one of the teachers of Ross's adult Sunday school class, and we had some fun theological conversations. One thing is for sure: I'm sure he's glad he won't be around for the upcoming elections! Love in Christ, Alan and Lynda Allegra

Alan Allegra - December 31, 2023 at 09:52 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Dr. Ross D. Lyon.



December 30, 2023 at 04:13 PM



“ We're gratefully remembering Pastor Ross and Caroline's faithful service to the Lord in the Lehigh Valley. When we moved to Allentown in 1986, we found Grace Community Church. At Grace, we connected with many who have been life-long friends. Pastor Ross led with enthusiasm and commitment for the mission of Christ and his church. Caroline overflowed with kindness and love for everyone she met. Looking forward to seeing Pastor Ross again, because our eternal hope in Christ is real and certain. Praying for Caroline and the family in this time of loss.
With love, Dave and Sue Burt

David Burt - December 30, 2023 at 09:32 AM



As a family friend, there are so many fond memories of Ross to behold and remember and delighted at the privilege to be close to this family under such a beloved patriarch and vital part of the community and Kingdom.

He leaves a legacy seen in every person he touched, (physically and spiritually 😊) and his testimony lives on as such as much as it did in a parallel fashion with his literature.

Thanks be to the Father for blessing his life and all of us who were affected by him, and I grieve alongside and pray comfort to all others who grieve him, and rejoice with all of the saints who see this also as a celebration as he is promoted to his eternal home.

See you soon Brother Ross! 🙏

Angie (and Jay) Scott

Angie Scott - January 05, 2024 at 12:57 AM

CH

So sorry for your loss, Carolyn and the rest of Ross' family. I am sure Ross was welcomed into Heaven warmly. He was a great man and will be missed in this world.

Chuck Hixson - January 05, 2024 at 12:06 PM

RS

I'm sorry to hear about your loss. I knew Ross from another church. He was a man of god.

Richard S Jensen Sr - February 04, 2024 at 02:53 PM

DB

I had a desire to reach out to some who I had known back in the 60's. So I checked the internet with no results late last year. So, I tried again today. Carolyn only to be brought to grief to find that Ross is now with Lord Jesus Christ. I can remember the many times he was at my childhood home in Stamford with those others who had come to Faith in Christ. I remember his riding with my bother Charles and his wife Carol after their wedding to help take chairs back. I offer my deepest sympathy. May God's great promises bring comfort and even joy to your heart as you consider Ross's place of abode now, that City for which we, in Christ, are all heading. Get hold of Al Martin's book on Solace and Grief. He wrote after Mickey's death some years ago. Don Barnhart herbsson@comcast.net

Donald Barnhart - May 03, 2024 at 02:20 PM