



## Rev. Donald McElwee

July 15, 1934 - March 30, 2019

Rev. Donald Eugene McElwee, age 84, passed away on Saturday, March 30, 2019. He was born on July 15, 1934, in South Fork, Pennsylvania. He was the only child of Harry McElwee, Jr. and Hazel Jaunita (Peele) McElwee. At the age of nine, he moved to Cleveland, Ohio, and later graduated from East Tech High School where he played football and was part of the swimming team. After High School, Don briefly attended Nyack Missionary Training Institute from 1954-55 before he met his wife Delores L. (Evans) McElwee at Beulah Beach Christian Camp. They were married on September 24, 1955. Don then served in the United States Army from 1955-57 before answering God's calling into full time ministry. He graduated from St. Paul Bible College in 1965 and accepted his first pastorate in Hawley, Minnesota and later pastored churches in Lansing, Michigan, Osage, Iowa, and Louisville, Kentucky. In 1982 he moved his family to Hamilton, Ohio where he served as Senior Pastor of Bethel Community Church until his retirement in 2002 after 37 years of ministry in the Christian Missionary Alliance. Don was a devoted family man. He leaves behind his loving, dedicated wife and soulmate Delores and their six children, Don (Cindie), Donna, David (Barbie), Deanna (Scott), Darla and Dan (Holly). He was blessed to have 16 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren and loved spending time with them whenever he could. Don enjoyed using technology and loved spending time editing pictures on his computer and making personalized greeting cards for his kids and grandkids. Don was also an avid football fan and loved to cheer on the Cleveland Browns

and the Ohio State Buckeyes. Don's love of for his family was only rivaled by his love for God. His deepest desire was for others to know the overwhelming, amazing love of his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He loved to be in church and enjoyed singing songs of praise and worship. His life's verse was Psalm 32:8, "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way that thou shalt go. I will guide thee with mine eye." He would often tell his family and friends that God had fulfilled that promise to him many times throughout his life. Don leaves behind an amazing legacy, and while he will be missed by his loved ones, they rest in the assurance that they will see him again in Heaven. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at Bethel Community Church, 2015 N. W. Washington Blvd. with his son, Rev. Donald Ray McElwee officiating. Visitation will be Wednesday from 4:00 p.m. to time of the services. Burial will be in Whitehaven Park Cemetery in Mayfield Village, Cleveland, Ohio. Memorials may be directed to The Great Commission Fund for The Christian Missionary Alliance, <https://secure.cmaalliance.org/give/> Online condolences are available at [www.weigelfuneralhome.com](http://www.weigelfuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 3. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Bethel Community Church  
2015 N. W. Washington Blvd.  
HAMILTON, OH

## Service

APR 3. 7:00 PM - 7:45 PM (ET)

Bethel Community Church  
2015 N. W. Washington Blvd.  
HAMILTON, OH

# Tribute Wall

RD

“ May God comfort your hearts during these days. It won't be long until the reunion in the sky. I still have great memories of Don and my trip to Alliance Council in Cleveland. What a great time spending those days with Don's parents. Bob Dutton

Robert E Dutton - April 06, 2019 at 02:38 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Rev. Donald McElwee.



April 03, 2019 at 12:27 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. Donald McElwee.



April 02, 2019 at 06:26 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Rev. Donald McElwee.



April 02, 2019 at 01:11 PM

KC

“ *I remember your dad well he was a sweet man.*

kim croyle - April 01, 2019 at 07:11 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Rev. Donald McElwee.*



April 01, 2019 at 04:20 PM

VT

“ *Dan and Family,*

*I am very sorry for the loss of your father. Faith in the Almighty God gives us comfort to know that joy, peace, understanding and acceptance is HIS gift to us just for the asking.*

*As you journey through this difficult time,  
"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; and lean not unto your own understandings. In all your ways acknowledge HIM, and he shall direct thy paths." Proverbs 3:5-6*

Vernon & Debra McIntosh / Memphis, TN - April 01, 2019 at 12:26 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Rev. Donald McElwee.*



April 01, 2019 at 12:21 PM

WF

“ *With Love, Your Matrix Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Rev. Donald McElwee.*



---

**With Love, Your Matrix Family** - April 01, 2019 at 10:46 AM

YT

“ *Your Friends from the CSSTNA Tech. Services Team purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Rev. Donald McElwee.*



---

**Your Friends from the CSSTNA Tech. Services Team** - April 01, 2019 at 09:43 AM

JO

“ *Our dear brother and friend was welcomed by our blessed Lord Jesus and then he ran over streets of gold with two legs. Our prayers are now for Delores and all six children, Don, Donna, David, Deanna, Darla and Dan. Delores was absolutely his guardian angel and was the helpmate that blessed him with her superb care. Will miss Don, but he is rejoicing in the presence of the Lord Jesus who he proclaimed and loved. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!*

---

**James O'Hara** - April 01, 2019 at 09:43 AM

CT

“ *Cargill ECTL Team purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Rev. Donald McElwee.*



---

**Cargill ECTL Team** - April 01, 2019 at 09:39 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Rev. Donald McElwee.



---

March 31, 2019 at 09:33 PM



“ *Serene Retreat* was purchased for the family of Rev. Donald McElwee.



---

March 31, 2019 at 08:28 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes* was purchased for the family of Rev. Donald McElwee.



---

March 31, 2019 at 08:10 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams* was purchased for the family of Rev. Donald McElwee.



---

March 31, 2019 at 07:57 PM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Rev. Donald McElwee.*



---

March 31, 2019 at 07:20 PM



“ *WHAT AN AMAZING MAN. HE WAS A JOY TO BE AROUND AND WE WILL MISS HIM AND HIS LOVE FOR LIFE AND GOD. KEEP A SPOT FOR ME AND I'LL SEE YOU SOON DONALD. OPAL*

---

**Opal Doyle** - March 31, 2019 at 05:31 PM



“ *I have know Don and his family since I was a child. We spent so much time together on family outings, while we lived in Minnesota and Michigan. I always loved giving him a hard time being a Browns fan, since i was a Steelers fan. I remember talking to him just a few weeks ago on the phone when he and Delores were visiting my Mom and Dad at Winter Haven,FL. I love you Delores so very much and your family. You are in my Prayers.*

---

**Colleen Stephens** - March 31, 2019 at 05:27 PM



*Thank you Colleen*

---

**Donna** - March 31, 2019 at 06:26 PM