



## Dr. William H. Philips

December 22, 2025

Dr. William Harvey Philips, 92, of Monroe, Ohio was born to missionary parents in Egypt. He graduated from high school in Salem, NY after the family returned from Egypt during World War II. He graduated from Muskingum College and was ordained a Presbyterian minister after graduating with honors from Pittsburgh Seminary in 1957. He served his first pastorate in Rochester, PA, and then moved to his second position in Glade Run, PA. He left this church to pursue graduate study where he worked under Professor William Barclay at the University of Glasgow, Scotland, and with Oscar Kullman and Karl Barth at the University of Switzerland. In 1968, he was awarded a PhD degree from Glasgow University. He and his family moved back to the United States where he served a seven year pastorate in New Wilmington, PA. Bill then moved to Hamilton, OH to serve a 19 year pastorate at The Presbyterian Church. His last appointments were eight interim pastorates in churches throughout the Miami Presbytery. He retired when he turned 80.

During his eventful pastorate in Hamilton, working with Dan Sherman, the former Front Street and the former First United Churches joined forces to become The Presbyterian Church. A successful Stephen Ministry program was established; the largest day care and preschool in the city were maintained; Presby House was developed as a ministry to homeless men; the number of worship services grew to three. Dr. Philips' weekly Bible Study was

broadcast over WMOH and served as an inspiration to many regular listeners. Bill was also active in Rotary, served on the board of Senior Citizens, was a member and chairperson of the Hamilton Mental Health Center, and served two terms as chairperson of the Butler County Mental Health Board.

Bill is survived by his wife of 61 years, Lois Gibbs, and by three of his four daughters: Amy (Douglass) Brindley, Christine (John) Sinnette, and Jennifer (Paul) South. His daughter Carolyn (Robert "Mic") Briede preceded him in death. Bill is survived by 9 grandchildren: Corwin (Sarah) Brindley, Mackenzie (Connor) Golden, Kassidy (Caleb) Clay, Noah (Victoria) Brindley, William (Katie) Sinnette, Maddyson (Sam) Sinnette, Kayla (Dalton) South, Logan (Jaylynn) South, Brady (Aubrey) South, and Stephen South. He also leaves 10 cherished great-children: Aubrey, Quinn, Emilia, Eleanor, Nora, Nolan, Teddy, Haisley, Kashton, and Kade.

Upon retirement, Bill and Lois moved to Ohio Living Mount Pleasant Retirement Village where they stayed active in the community activities.

Bill was a Biblical scholar and teacher whose life was guided by two special scriptures: Isaiah 30:21- "This is the way, walk in it" and John 14:6- "I am the true and living way." His life was dedicated to sharing those truths with others. Bill was a loving husband, father, and grandfather and his family were richly blessed by his tender care for them.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Mary Kittridge Chapel at 225 Britton Lane in Monroe on Monday, December 29, 2025. Friends may gather over coffee with the family before the service from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The service will follow at 12:00 p.m. Burial will be at the Goshen Township Cemetery at a later date. Memorials may be directed to Pittsburgh Theological Seminary at pts.edu or 616 North Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206. Online condolences are available at [www.weigelfuneralhome.com](http://www.weigelfuneralhome.com)



# Tribute Wall

AC

“ Bill Phillips was the pastor who married us in the New Wilmington Presbyterian Church in 1973. We remember him with fondness and gratitude. We send our sincerest sympathies to Lois and to the family. Bill and Anne (McKee) Craft

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**Anne Craft** - January 23 at 10:47 PM

JH

“ While a junior high school student attending a summer week at Camp Lambec on Lake Erie, when my dad - Dr. Joe Hopkins - was director for those 6 days, he had Bill Philips & Lois Gibbs from Gibsonia on staff. What a blessing when he soon officiated their wedding & my parents even attended their 50th anniversary as well! Bill was the pastor I best remember growing up in New Wilmington UP. His sermons influenced several of us toward seminary training for the Christian ministry. Now 50 years after graduating from Fuller Seminary, I am grateful to serve as pastor at Grace Presbyterian in Kittanning, PA, not far from where Bill served in Glade Run. Our Hopkins extended family sends love, sympathy, and our Father God's comfort in Christ to Lois & her family! John Hopkins with brother, Brooke, and sister, Elaine

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**John Hopkins** - January 23 at 11:07 AM

DM

“ I was a student at Westminster College during years Bill preached there. In 1972, we were together when I was a 'Youth Advisory Delegate' to the Presbyterian Church General Assembly in Denver; and Bill was a commissioner from Shenango Presbytery. He was the epitome of a 'scholarly pastor'--who was totally dedicated to the Lord's service in the church. Heaven will now have a great 'bass voice' for the 'heavenly host'!

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**Donald K. McKim** - January 21 at 02:30 PM

BG

“ Byron, Sarah, Suzanne, and Sharon Gibbs planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. William H. Philips.

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**Byron, Sarah, Suzanne, and Sharon Gibbs** - December 25, 2025 at 05:58 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Dr. William H. Philips.



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December 25, 2025 at 05:58 PM