



## Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett

September 16, 1925 - October 26, 2014

Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett, son of the late Pryor Harrison and Anna Belle (Waller) Prewett, was born September 16, 1925 in Carthage, Missouri. As a small child, Pryor Ray and the family moved to Dixon, Missouri where he grew up and attended grade school.

During Pryor Ray's high school years, the family moved to Richland, Missouri and it was there that he met his high school sweetheart, Eunice Mae Crick. They were wed on July 22, 1943 in Waynesville, Missouri and shared the next 71 years of marriage together. Pryor Ray and Mae were blessed with two children, Johnny Ray and Tamarah.

On May 21, 1943, Pryor Ray entered the United States Navy and served his country faithfully until his honorable discharge in 1947.

In 1948 while on the Gasconade River under the Hwy 133 bridge, the Lord spoke to Pryor Ray and he accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. That September, Pryor Ray was baptized in Sellers Creek by Bro. J.O. Brown.

In 1951, Pryor Ray surrendered to the call to preach the Gospel. After he was ordained by First Baptist Church of Richland, he pastored several churches in this area - Deerlick, Swedeborg, Pisgah and Eureka. He was used greatly by God to bring people to Him and to help Christians to have a deeper walk with

God.

Pryor Ray was a bi-vocational pastor and served as a higher level Math teacher in the Richland School System for 30+ years. As stated by one of his former students, "the way he tied algebraic rules to Creation was inspirational. He was a man of God first and math teacher a close second. The generations that did not have the opportunity to experience him in class missed out. Those of us that had the privilege will be forever blessed and will miss the man of math". He made an impression on his students and they respect him to this day.

In his spare time, Pryor Ray liked being outdoors enjoying God's nature. He loved to hunt, fish, trap, raise chickens and work in his vegetable garden. If you were to ask him what he had been up to, you would probably hear a story or two about what he had just trapped or caught while on the river.

Pryor Ray loved his family and loved spending time with them. He was proud of every accomplishment they obtained, but his true love for the Lord was evident in the way that he treated his family. He was a great man and will be greatly missed.

Pryor Ray went home to be with his Lord Sunday, October 26, 2014 in the Lake Regional Hospital, Osage Beach, Missouri having attained the age of 89 years, 1 month and 10 days

Pryor Ray leaves to cherish his memory, his wife, Mae of the home; two children: Johnny Ray Prewett and his wife, Margaret of Richland, MO and Tamarah Newell and her husband, Richard of Richland, MO; 2 grandchildren: Travis Prewett and his wife Olivia of Richland, MO, and Kasie Lercher and her husband, Brock of Richland, MO; 2 great grandchildren: Brooklynn Lercher and Sylvia Prewett; one sister: Berneice Brackett of Richland, MO; a number

of nieces, nephews, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Known for his ability to love and care deeply for those in his life, Pryor Ray's memory will be carried on through stories and laughter that will not easily be forgotten.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, October 26, 2014 in the First Baptist Church of Richland with Rev. Bob Lilly and Rev. Doug Jacobsen officiating. Soloist Charla Baker sang "At Calvary" and "One Day At A Time." Serving as escorts were Mike Keelling, Troy York, Mark Tallant, Jim Stoumbaugh, James Newell and Don Newell. Honorary escorts included Cleamont Sheeley, Bill Coffman and Tim Hardesty. Burial followed in the Oaklawn Cemetery of Richland, MO.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett to the Backpack Children's Ministry, or The World Hunger Program, through the Eureka Baptist Church, and may be left at the Memorial Chapel of Richland.

Online condolences may be left at [www.richlandmemorialchapel.com](http://www.richlandmemorialchapel.com)

# Cemetery Details

## **Oaklawn Cemetery**

Richland, MO 65556

# Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



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**Memorial Chapels and Crematory** - November 07, 2014 at 05:46 PM



“ *Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*

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January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *I learned so much from Mr. Prewett and 40 some years later still use some of the methods he taught us in my own teaching. Whenever anyone asks my favorite teachers Mr Prewett heads that list. My thought and prayers are with your family during this difficult time for you. May God bless.*

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**Lila (Wyant) Holt** - November 11, 2014 at 08:51 PM



“ *Dawn Gan lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



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**Dawn Gan** - November 11, 2014 at 10:47 AM

LB

“ Larry Bowling lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett



Larry Bowling - November 10, 2014 at 09:42 AM

JT

“ I am so proud to say that I had Mr. Prewett as one of my teachers. His class room was always open if you need extra help with understanding your assignments. Or, in my case getting caught up after being in the hospital. With deepest heartfelt sympathy to his family. Jeanie Trunkenbolz (class of 1965)



Jeanie Trunkenbolz - November 08, 2014 at 08:37 PM

CF

“ I struggled with geometry and he worked me through it but I loved Algebra 2 and Trig and thank goodness I took them. Didn't have to have any math in college! I will never forget the time he and Bill Fulbright had a pie made for Mr. Noe. Mr. Noe thought it came from someone else and they had quite the laugh about it. That's all the detail I'm going to give about that incident. It was really funny.

Charlotte Payne Folsom - November 04, 2014 at 08:42 PM

AP

“ *Al Powers lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



**Al Powers** - November 01, 2014 at 03:45 PM

PF

“ *Pat And Earl Posten And Family lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



**Pat and Earl Posten and family** - October 31, 2014 at 08:35 AM

SF

“ *Steve,Sheila Baranowski And Family lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



**Steve,Sheila Baranowski and family** - October 31, 2014 at 08:13 AM

JR

“ *Jacqueline Payne Rice lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



**Jacqueline Payne Rice** - October 31, 2014 at 06:54 AM

CS

“ *Cindy Henderson Snead lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



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**Cindy Henderson Snead** - October 30, 2014 at 04:45 PM

CS

“ *Pryor was a great mentor to me and always supported the Richland girls' athletic teams. He will be greatly missed. He touched many lives.*  
*Coach Cindy Henderson Snead*

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**Cindy Henderson Snead** - October 30, 2014 at 04:40 PM

MB

“ *Millie Howlett Brotherton lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



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**Millie Howlett Brotherton** - October 30, 2014 at 02:59 PM

MR

“ *one of the great teachers and friends always there for everyone Dale and Virginia Raines*

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**melvin raines** - October 30, 2014 at 02:28 PM

MT

“ I have some very good memories of Mr. Prewitt. He was a good man and a good math teacher. He was the minister for both of my parents funerals. He will be missed.

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**Myra Thornsberry** - October 30, 2014 at 01:14 PM

SJ

“ One of my first childhood memories of Pryor Ray was being in church and the congregation singing "Bringing in the Cheese". I think I was four or so at the time, and the congregation was really singing "Bringing in the Sheaves". Pryor Ray was there to speak to me after the service because I thought I messed the whole church up, but he assured me I didn't. That was his way.

Later, he was also my math teacher and he really, really tried to teach me math even though he had his work cut out for him because I just didn't get numbers. He laughed a lot and somehow was able to get through to kids like me who hated numbers. He was like that.

The last time I saw Pryor Ray he was full of smiles, quick to laugh and share a story. Even during a tough time, he could find a silver lining. Just like always, he was like that.

It's been quite a while since I have seen Pryor Ray and I know he was dearly loved will be greatly missed. Mimi, Johnny and Margaret, Tamarah and Richard, we will keep all of you in our prayers.

God bless you,

David & Susan Jett

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**Susan Jett** - October 30, 2014 at 11:58 AM

SJ

“ Susan Jett lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett



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**Susan Jett** - October 30, 2014 at 11:14 AM

TM

“ It was such a great blessing knowing Pryor, he was a great inspiration to all of his students and staff in school. He truly loved teaching math and helped us all learn. He will be greatly missed and loved. Our prayers, love, and great respect for him and to his family. We love you all.



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**Terry/Dian Mitschele** - October 30, 2014 at 07:40 AM

JR

“ Thinking of you at this time of loss, Mrs. Prewett, Tammy and Johnny Rae. He taught math with all he had and sometimes jolted the learning into you. I remember the loud "Payne" he would utter when he thought I wasn't paying enough attention in class. I wouldn't have missed that experience for the world.  
Jacqueline "Payne" Rice



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**Jacqueline Rice** - October 30, 2014 at 07:00 AM

KL

“ *Kelli Parker Lockhart lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



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**Kelli Parker Lockhart** - October 29, 2014 at 09:27 PM

DG

“ *Our sympathy and prayers are with your family at this time.  
Steve, Donna, and Bryanna Grzyb*



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**Donna Grzyb** - October 29, 2014 at 05:48 PM

DP

“ *Dale Pasley lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



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**Dale Pasley** - October 29, 2014 at 04:20 PM

AC

“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to you, family members and friends, of this faithful servant of Jesus Christ. May it comfort you to be reminded that for all who know Brother Prewett's Savior, that we will join him around that "great cloud of witnesses" one Day. He influenced me positively in High School (probably unknowingly) with his patience, grace and discipline at a difficult time in my life. His rewards are surely following him into Eternity.*

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**Allen Carnes** - October 29, 2014 at 04:03 PM

TB

“ There will never be another like Pryor Ray Prewett. He was the best teacher I have ever known. My sisters and I have run into him over the years and he still remembered who we were. He was just amazing like that. He will be sorely missed but our loss is Heaven's gain. Love and sympathy to the family.

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**Telina (Patterson) Bohannon** - October 29, 2014 at 12:37 PM

LB

“ Dear Pryor, he thought I was good at math, but I was only good for a very short time after I had his class! I kid about him even now. I get made fun of in my office because I got the tap on the shoulder that I should go on to take the next math class and my colleague would not have gotten "The Tap". Another favorite memory that my colleagues find quite funny is when I forgot the words to the solo I was singing at Janet Brackett's wedding and wanted the earth to open up and just swallow me. Pryor came and told me how nice I looked!! That's about all he could say!! :) As I write this I realize that I have a lot of memories about Pryor, which is very unusual for me, because I don't seem to remember anything, so my family says, but he told me my senior picture made me look about 20 years old. I think he was a very special man to me because he thought I was special! I asked him to marry Stuart and I. I don't know if I'll forgive him for that one!! :)

*But he did hold a special place in my heart as well as his beautiful wife, and his son and daughter. You all take care and please know you are all in my thoughts and prayers*

*I hope he went peacefully and know he is with his Lord and Savior. We'll all be there soon to say hello and laugh again.*

*Love to you all.*

*Lisa Burns*

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**Lisa Burns** - October 29, 2014 at 11:13 AM

JW

“ *My condolences to the family. Pryor Ray will be missed as greatly as he was loved and respected.*  
*Judy Walters*



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**Judy Walters** - October 29, 2014 at 10:10 AM

MK

“ *Mr. Prewett taught me to love math and inspired me to be a math teacher. I did get my degree and became a math teacher. My career was short but I did love it. He was also a family friend and was the minister for my dads funeral. Rest in peace my mentor and friend. Til we meet again. I'm praying for your family.*  
*Miriam Halter Kerns*

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**Miriam Halter Kerns** - October 29, 2014 at 08:45 AM

TW

“ *Thresa Wheat lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



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**Thresa Wheat** - October 29, 2014 at 07:00 AM

JM

“ *James Magee lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



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**james magee** - October 29, 2014 at 02:38 AM

SJ

“ *Sara Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



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**Sara Jones** - October 29, 2014 at 02:11 AM

MW

“ *Our hearts are heavy at the loss of this smiling face in the midst of our worship services at First Baptist Church. Pryor Ray always had a smile for you, but always asked for prayers for "His Mae". Praying now for Mrs. Mae, and for all his family, friends, former students, and all who knew him...for If you knew him, you loved him. We rejoice at his home-going. I feel that Pryor Ray is sitting right now at the feet of his loving Savior.*

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**Martin and Georgia White** - October 28, 2014 at 10:50 PM

TH

“ *Ted Helms sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



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**Ted Helms** - October 28, 2014 at 08:34 PM

TH

*Lord welcomed Brother Prewett home. There was rejoicing in Heaven as he was welcomed by many family and friend!*

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**Ted Helms** - October 28, 2014 at 08:38 PM

FP

“ I remember Pryor Rays math classes very well. I liked when he would put a problem on the board and would say, "this problem will seperate the mice from the men." Or "this problem will make your head swim.." He was a great teacher and a wonderful inspiration for many of his students!  
*Frank Pemberton*



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**Frank Pemberton** - October 28, 2014 at 08:25 PM

JM

“ Our sincerest sympathy. He will be missed

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**James and Tana Mitschele** - October 28, 2014 at 03:41 PM

JA

“ I am truly sorry for your loss. A lot of fun memories as our class sponsor.  
*John callahan class of 1962.*

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**john allahan** - October 28, 2014 at 12:30 PM

DH

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

*Boyd, Donna and A.J. Hendrix*

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**Donna Hendrix** - October 28, 2014 at 12:24 PM

TI

“ Sending our deepest thoughts and prayers to Pryor's family. He touched so many lives not only in our family, but each and every person he came in contact with. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him. May God be with each member of his family during this tragic time.

*Sue Pentecost*

*Marie, Jimmie and Richard*

*Kenneth and Dalene McDaniel*

*Kim, Kasondra, Kristie, Amanda and Tiffannie*

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**Tiffannie** - October 28, 2014 at 08:56 AM

BA

“ To Johnny Ray, Mae, Tamarah, and the rest of the family we send our thoughts and prayers. I had a lot of respect for Pryor Ray as a teacher and as a man. I will miss him.

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**Bill and Sue Anderson** - October 28, 2014 at 08:50 AM

AU

“ Bryce will miss his "Mister" as he called you, Thank you for being the kind of man you were and for leaving us with precious memories of you. We will all miss you Pryor. <3



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**Amanda and Bryce Uber** - October 28, 2014 at 08:37 AM

SH

“ Shanna Henry lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett



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**Shanna Henry** - October 28, 2014 at 07:52 AM

MM

“ Sorry for your loss. I have pleasant memories of Pryor Ray and Mae. God bless and comfort all of you. Mary Morgan

Mary Morgan - October 28, 2014 at 07:21 AM



“ Shonda Atterberry Harland sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett



Shonda Atterberry Harland - October 27, 2014 at 10:23 PM



“ It has always been said that as long as Pryor Ray taught, there would be prayer in public schools. I only hope that the legacy I leave behind is half of his. It is hard to follow him and try to fill his shoes. My grandfather, Norman Sanders, thought a lot about Pryor Ray. I know they are comparing sermon notes now and just waiting for the rest of us to join them. Until we meet again.



Shonda Atterberry Harland - October 27, 2014 at 10:23 PM

NW

“ So sorry to hear of Pryor Ray's passing. Though I didn't get to experience the teaching of Pryor Ray, I always enjoyed speaking with him. He was Neal's teacher, as well as both of our children. He will truly brighten the classroom of heaven and be a blessing to all.

Neal and Vicki Woody - October 27, 2014 at 08:46 PM

BR

“ I loved you Mr. Prewett, even if you didn't tap me on the head with the yard stick as quality material for Algebra II! That's what I get for being a "pep jumper". I still use the phrase "this will separate the mice from the men". Thank you for pouring into my life and for making college mathematics courses a breeze. You were a great role model in many ways to LaVan and I. Our prayers are with the family as they grieve your passing. Becki and LaVan Ruggles

Becki and LaVan Ruggles - October 27, 2014 at 08:34 PM

MS

“ So very sorry for your loss. Mr Prewett was my high school math teacher all four years and that was before calculators...I learned so much from him. Mitzi Bohannon Scott

Mitzi Bohannon Scott - October 27, 2014 at 07:21 PM

TB

“ Just heard today about Pryor Ray!!! My prayers are with May, Tammy, Johnny Ray and kids! Many memories growing up in Eureka Church!!! Love to you all!!! Traci Brown

Traci Brown - October 27, 2014 at 06:03 PM

NJ

“ Nell Jackson lit a candle in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett



Nell Jackson - October 27, 2014 at 05:59 PM

MW

“ We have come to love Pryor Ray and Mae since moving to Richland. They have always been the epitome of love and grace. May God wrap His loving arms around Mae and the rest of the family in the loss of this fine Christian man who is so dear to so many. What a home-going he is having today with his Lord and King. We will remember his teachings and his kindness to us.

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**Martin and Georgia White** - October 27, 2014 at 05:10 PM

MH

“ So sorry for your loss. He made me think I was good at math. Will always remember the fish he brought to my folks through the years. He conducted my dad's funeral and made it so personal and special. Bless you all. Marta Halter

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**marta halter** - October 27, 2014 at 04:59 PM

MK

“ He was my high school math teacher. I learned to love math and decided to pursue a career as a math teacher. I earned a degree in secondary education with a major in mathematics. I taught one year. Then we moved around a bit and started a family so I mostly did substitute teacher, usually in math. I didn't get to inspire many as he did as when I was ready to work full time I did something else.

*I also remember at my Dad's funeral, we asked him to do the service. He said he would always think of times he was somewhere and people would say, "Here come Bill and Gladys." and that now they would be saying that in heaven. So I hope they were right there to say "Here comes Pryor Ray."*

*Rest in peace my teacher, mentor and friend.*

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**Miriam Kerns** - October 27, 2014 at 04:45 PM

ND

“ Pryor Ray was one of the Greats! He made all things MATH come alive for me. Loved his "Whole Hog or None" and "Who'da Think It!" Still amaze my kids with the last one when they come of age for their own algebra courses. The way he tied algebraic rules to Creation was inspirational. He was a man of God first and math teacher a close second. The generations that did not have the opportunity to experience him in class...missed out. Those of us that had the privilege, will be forever blessed and will miss the man of math. Love & respect you, Pryor Ray. Nathan & Sarah Day

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**Nathan & Sarah Day** - October 27, 2014 at 03:51 PM

TM

“ Mr. Prewitt was a man and teacher like no other. Really enjoyed knowing him and having him as a teacher at Richland High School so many years ago. Our thoughts are with his family as they go through this loss.

*Tammy and Tom Murray*

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**Tammy Murray** - October 27, 2014 at 02:38 PM

ML

*Pryor Ray was as good a man as I ever met, a pillar of truth, and the teacher who made me love math. He would tell you what was what, whether you wanted to hear it or not. I admired him, enjoyed his company, derived pleasure just by knowing he was there, and I miss him already. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone who knew and loved him.*

*Mike and Betty Lagree*

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**Mike Lagree** - October 29, 2014 at 07:56 AM

MS

“ *MARLIN STEVENS sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev. Pryor Ray Prewett*



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**MARLIN STEVENS** - October 27, 2014 at 01:35 PM

MR

*Pryor Ray prewett was a special teacher and a great friend will always be remember was great friend of our family Dale and Virginia Raines*

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**melvin raines** - October 30, 2014 at 01:55 PM