



Donald W. Hafner

July 4, 2011

The Rev. Donald W. Hafner, 84

Long-time St. Petersburg resident Donald Hafner, 84, died July 4, 2011, surrounded by his loving family, at his home in St. Petersburg, Florida.

A private committal service will be held on Friday, July 8, 2011. A memorial service celebrating his life will be held on Saturday, August 20, 2011, the date of what would have been his 61st wedding anniversary, at the Trinity United Church of Christ (4900 11th Avenue North, St. Petersburg), the church he pastored for twenty-one years. The service will be at 5:00 p.m. with a reception to follow.

Rev. Hafner was born May 28, 1927, in Dayton, Ohio, to Paul and Dorothea Hafner. He served in the U.S. Navy. He received a Bachelor of Arts from Elmhurst College in Illinois, a Master of Divinity Degree from Eden Theological Seminary in Missouri, and a Master of Science from Butler University in Indiana.

He was ordained into the Christian ministry on June 28, 1953 in his home church, St. Luke

Tribute Wall



“ *The family of Donald W. Hafner uploaded a photo*

August 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM



“ *Maria - Friend of his granddaughter posted a condolence Dear Mrs.Hafner I am very sorry for your husbands passing. I've met you only a few times but you and your husband were very friendly people and it was a pleasure meeting you both and from reading over his obituary he seemed like a wonderful person I'm sorry I didn't get to know him better. I went through something similar earlier this year and I will try to be there for your family the same way they were for me and my family. again I'm sorry for your loss and God bless you Maria*

Maria - Friend of his granddaughter - August 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Fred & Jeanette Campbell - Friend posted a condolence Dear Colleen and family; Please know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers at this time. Looking forward to seeing you soon. Jeanette and Fred*

Fred & Jeanette Campbell - Friend - July 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Aileen & Bob Dohm - classmates posted a condolence Dear Colleen: Please accept our deepest Christian Sympathy. Don was indeed a committed Christian and a great friend. In Christian love, Aileen and Bob*

Aileen & Bob Dohm - classmates - July 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Laurie Riggs - Friend posted a condolence I am sorry to hear of the death of Don. I heard of the news from Bob Dohm. I know how lonely you feel as I have gone through the same grieving. John passed away Feb. 5, 2011. He had cancer, kidney failure and lastly a stroke. We can rest assured that they are in the arms of their Heavenly Father.

Laurie Riggs - Friend - July 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ Susan DiAmicis & Women's Fellowship of Union Congregational UCC, West Palm Beach - Friend of Colleen posted a condolence We share the weight of your loss and know God is there to comfort you. Your wisdom has been sorely missed at gatherings but we understand that God and Family are priorities in ones life. Prayers for your strength and peace.

Susan DiAmicis & Women's Fellowship of Union Congregational UCC, West Palm Beach - Friend of Colleen - July 12, 2011 at 12:00 AM

R1

“ Richard and Susie Harkins - Rev. Hafner married us on January 3, 1970 posted a condolence Colleen and family, My parents, Josephine and Wallace Derry and us three girls were one of your first families at Trinity years ago. Rev. Hafner married Rick and I on January 3, 1970. We have been married 42years this coming January. We had two children and are raising our grandchildren. Rev. Hafner made a tremendous impact on our family because he was such a warm loving man and he loved his family and gave all of us an example of what family means. He will always be in our hearts as well as you and your family. Bless all of you with love, Rick and Susie Harkins

Richard and Susie Harkins - Rev. Hafner married us on January 3, 1970 - July 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ Gay Shewmaker-Van Fleet - friend, Trinity member posted a condolence Dear Mrs. Hafner, Laurie, Laurin, Lars and family, Thank you for sharing such a wonderful soul with so many people. Pastor Hafner was, and always will be a special person in my life. Through my baptism, confirmation, marriage, my sons' births, my father's illness and death, all his wonderful sermons, life's lessons and his comforting ways, he will always have a positive impact on my life. My condolences and prayers to you all. Missed, but always remembered.

Gay Shewmaker-Van Fleet - friend, Trinity member - July 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Sharon (Vander Veen) Vincent - Friend posted a condolence I was a member of Zion United Church of Christ 1965 Confirmation Class. Through Rev. Hafner's teaching, I came to know Jesus Christ personally. I will be eternally grateful to him for not only his teaching, but also for his example of a godly life. I shall never forget Rev. Hafner and you are all in my prayers.

Sharon (Vander Veen) Vincent - Friend - July 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ John Burness - Was my pastor posted a condolence Our family remembers Pastor Hafner with great fondness. We are sorry for his loss.

John Burness - Was my pastor - July 11, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Susan Gilbert - Church Friend posted a condolence Colleen, Bob and I want to express our deepest sympathy for your loss. You and your whole family are in our prayers. Pastor Hafner means the world to Trinity and so do you. His legacy will live on in our church and in our hearts. God Bless and keep you.

Susan Gilbert - Church Friend - July 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BI

“ Bill Main and Marty Synnott - Friends from Church of the Isles posted a condolence Dear Colleen and family, Don will always hold a special place in the hearts of those whose lives he touched at Church of the Isles. Our prayers and sympathy are with you all as you remember his wonderful life. Marty Synnott and Bill Main

Bill Main and Marty Synnott - Friends from Church of the Isles - July 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

W9

“ Wen & Ruth Hockersmith - Minister who married us 9/26/1970 posted a condolence Rev. Hafner united us in wedlock in the chapel of Trinity UCC. We have such fond memories of him and that special day. We send our sympathies to all the family and will keep you in our thoughts and prayers.

Wen & Ruth Hockersmith - Minister who married us 9/26/1970 - July 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MU

“ *Marty Johnson - friend, former parishioner at Trinity UCC posted a condolence Dear Colleen & Family, I was sad to learn of Rev. Hafner's transition and am thinking of you all, with my condolences. We will miss his engaging physical presence, I'm sure. Yet his was a life well lived! And he influenced so many lives in such a positive way. Of all the ministers I've heard speak in my life, I think his sermons were the most profound. He ended them in a way that kept one thinking, long after he spoke. His gentle presence was always comforting and uplifting. Of this, I imagine he was unaware! I'll always remember him very fondly. I hope your own fond memories will sustain you through this period of transition. Warm regards, Marty Johnson, San Jose, Costa Rica*

Marty Johnson - friend, former parishioner at Trinity UCC - July 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *Jane Trocheck Walker - Friend and Admirer posted a condolence My Dearest Colleen, My heart and prayers are with you, Lars and all of your family. It was always a joy and inspiration to see you together. Your love, respect and commitment to each other always looked as natural as breathing. With much love and sympathy, Jane*

Jane Trocheck Walker - Friend and Admirer - July 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

OF

“ *Olli Larson - Friend posted a condolence Dear Colleen: Love and Prayers*

Olli Larson - Friend - July 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ *Cookie Boss - Friend posted a condolence We are very sorry to learn of Rev. Hafner's passing. We always respected and liked him so. When Jim had cancer surgery 16 years ago, he spent time with our family in the waiting room providing support and strength which were among his many gifts. We send our sympathies and prayers to Colleen and family. We thank both Rev. Hafner and Colleen for all the many years of service and kindness to so many people. Fondly, Cookie & Jim Boss Largo, FL*

Cookie Boss - Friend - July 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

HJ

“ *Howard and Janet Knapp - Friend of Lars and Jackie posted a condolence Janet and I send our deepest sympathies to the Hafner family in this time of loss. You will be in our thoughts and prayers. We lived across the street from Lars and Jackie for a few years before they moved to Brandenton. God bless your family. Howard & Janet Knapp*

Howard and Janet Knapp - Friend of Lars and Jackie - July 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM

NH

“ *Norm Bungard - Habitat for Humanity posted a condolence Rev Hafner forged a partnership in the early years of Pinellas Habitat for Humanity. Trinity United Church of Christ provided office space, gratis, for several years. I met him at a Dedication ceremony and son (Dr.) Lars later at a Midtown Home Dedication ceremony. His legacy lives in so many ways, including Habitat homes. To the family, please accept my condolences.*

Norm Bungard - Habitat for Humanity - July 10, 2011 at 12:00 AM