



Dennis Higgins

NOV 7, 1948 - JAN 6, 2021



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Dennis Higgins, 72 of Centerville, passed away on January 6, 2021 at Iowa Methodist Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa. Dennis Lee Higgins was born to Edgar Lee and Wilma Imogene (Neill) Higgins on November 7, 1948 in Estherville, Iowa. Dennis grew up with three sisters, Vicki Jean, Nancy Rae, and Deborah Kay. He graduated from Holden, Missouri High School in the top 10% of his class in 1966 where he was involved in football, baseball and track, receiving athletic awards in every sport. When Dennis was younger, he had dreams of becoming a math teacher and a football coach; however, the Lord had other plans, leading Dennis down the path of ministry. In high school, he had received a scholarship to William Jewell College where he obtained his Bachelor's in Theology. He then went on to attain his Master of Divinity degree at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. Dennis's proudest career accomplishments as a pastor were helping people to understand the joy that came with giving their hearts to Christ and falling in love with God. As a dad and as a husband, he loved watching his family grow in their walks with God and lead wonderful Christian lives. Dennis was currently the Senior Pastor at the First Baptist Church in Centerville, Iowa, serving God and a congregation that he loved dearly. In his spare time, Dennis could be found playing golf and taking photos of wildlife and landscapes. He was deeply invested in finding his daily quiet time with God, studying his bible and growing more in his spiritual walk each day. Dennis will be remembered for always being full of happiness and smiles, enjoying life. He truly was a friend to all and sincerely cared for those around him. Whether he knew you or not, Dennis would find a way to bring light and laughter into the conversation, and he would always end his time with you by saying, "God bless you." Dennis is survived by his loving wife, Renea Higgins, his children Heather Lynn Heater, Amy Denise Pope (David) and Angela Dawn Altman (Reuben), Shaun Wubben (Angela), and Stephanie Varese, his grandchild Jordyn Lynn



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Houseman, grandchildren Mateo Varese and Ivy and Eva Wubben and numerous extended family and friends. He is preceded in death by his parents. Services for Dennis will be held at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at the First Baptist Church in Centerville with family present one hour prior to service. An open visitation will be held at Thomas Funeral Home on Monday, January 11, 2021 from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM with no family present. Memorials may be made to the family which will be designated at a later time to a Covid foundation and also to My Angel Foundation. Condolences can be shared at www.thomasfh.com or www.facebook.com/thomasfuneralhome. "And we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." ~ Romans 8:28 To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Dennis Higgins please visit our Sympathy Store. Visitation (family not present) JAN 11. 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM (CST) Thomas Funeral Home - Centerville 501 North 18th Street Centerville, IA 52544 Visitation with family present JAN 12. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CST) First Baptist Church 603 W. State St. Centerville, IA 52544 Funeral Service JAN 12. 2:00 PM (CST) First Baptist Church 603 W. State St. Centerville, IA 52544



Tribute Wall

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Thomas Funeral Home posted:

October 21 at 2:10 PM



Thomas Funeral Home shared an album called **Obituary Wall**.



October 13 at 2:16 PM



Monty L. Monson & Family posted:

Monty L. Monson & Family purchased the White Sympathy Standing Spray for the family of Dennis Higgins.

January 10 at 7:00 PM



Classic Sympathy Dish Garden posted:

Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dennis Higgins.

January 9 at 7:00 PM



John Neill posted:

Dennis was my first cousin. We had not been in contact for many years. Last August I watched online one of his sermons on Top Ten reasons to go to Heaven. After we exchanged messages on Facebook, he sent me the outline for his next sermon which was on reason number 6, 'A place to meet Saints'. Last week the Saints got to add another one to it's number. I bet he met them with his natural grin and sparkling eyes. John Neill

January 9 at 7:00 PM



Karen Hinote posted:

Renae, so sorry to hear about Dennis. Been out of touch since moving in with my daughter in Pennsylvania over a year ago. RIP Dennis. Prayers to you and families. heartprayskin-tone-2prayskin-tone-2prayskin-tone-2

January 9 at 7:00 PM



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EG

European Sympathy Dish Garden posted:

European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Dennis Higgins.

January 9 at 7:00 PM

FS

Floor Plant For Sympathy posted:

Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Dennis Higgins.

January 9 at 7:00 PM

WM

With Love From Brent, Daphne And Charlotte Monson posted:

With love from Brent, Daphne and Charlotte Monson purchased the Healing Tears - All White for the family of Dennis Higgins.

January 8 at 7:00 PM

CC

Connie Cochran posted:

The first time I went to Baptist church after leaving my home church after 50 years. Him and the whole congregation made me feel very welcome, and I knew that is where I belonged. Someone is going to have big shoes to fill. Pastor Higgins will be missed very much.

January 8 at 7:00 PM

SI

Solid Rock Church Of God, Centerville Iowa posted:

Solid Rock Church of God, Centerville Iowa purchased the Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White for the family of Dennis Higgins.

January 8 at 7:00 PM

PW

Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue And White posted:

Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Dennis Higgins.

January 8 at 7:00 PM



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DH

Don Hillsman posted:

Jesse, I just saw your comment and I don't know you but I went to high school with Dennis so I thought it might help to know what kind of person Dennis was during his younger years. He was on the football team, left tackle, I was the right tackle, he pretty much gave all he did his best effort. He didn't drink alcohol, he didn't smoke. He hollered at me one night from the back seat of my car and woke me up as I was running off the road and about to hit a concrete bridge which probably would have killed all four people in the car. I don't know anyone who didn't think highly of him, even in high school. When he became a Pastor it felt Right. Dennis was true to his faith and a privilege to know. Please feel free to share this with anyone you think it might help. Dennis was Loved by many including me. Jesus welcomed His servant home. Don Hillsman, formerly from Holden, Missouri.

January 8 at 7:00 PM

LD

Linda (Mcdowell) Danforth posted:

I also attended high school with Dennis, although a couple of years behind him. My brother, Larry, was in his class and everyone who knew him felt exactly the same way.....he was loved and respected. Although my brother is no longer here, I know the two of them are celebrating his homecoming today in Heaven! Loving thoughts and prayers for his family and may they have peace in the Lord. With love, Linda (McDowell) Danforth

January 8 at 7:00 PM

JE

Jesse posted:

Pastor Dennis always seemed like an energetic and compassionate man. The first time I met him was shortly after the birth of my second daughter. He drove up from centerville to ottumwa to be there for the occasion. He always had time for anyone who needed it. He will be sorely missed

January 7 at 7:00 PM



Media

Dennis Higgins

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Thomas Funeral Home shared 2 photos to the **Obituary Wall** album.

October 13 at 2:16 PM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Dennis by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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