



Pastor Charles Lee Kirby

October 13, 1937 - September 19, 2024

Pastor Charles Lee Kirby passed away at his home while in Hospice care on September 19, 2024, at 9:22 am.

Charles Kirby was a pastor for all people. He was a dynamic speaker, motivator, and church builder all across the nation. He spoke at hundreds of revivals from the West Coast to the East Coast! He hosted Saturday Nights in Lakeland for more than 20 years. Pastor Kirby led many people to Christ and has inspired preachers and laymen in commitment to spreading the Gospel.

Charles is survived by his wife Bess; his son Charles Kirby, Jr.; and daughter Micki Luetkemeyer. He has four grandsons, Kyle Kirby, Michael Kirby, Cody Luetkemeyer and Chase Luetkemeyer. Micki, her husband Bob and Chase Luetkemeyer all reside in Melbourne, FL. Cody lives in Colorado Springs with his wife, Chantel. Charles Kirby, Jr. lives in Lakeland, FL. His son, Kyle and wife Samantha live in South Carolina. His son, Michael serves in the Navy and is stationed in Jacksonville, FL. Pastor Kirby is also survived by his sister Diane Kirby Altes who resides in Plano, TX.

Funeral Services will be held at Lake Gibson Church of the Nazarene in Lakeland, FL on Tuesday, September 24th at 11 am. Visitation will be from 10-11 am. The service will be livestreamed. You can click the following link to view the service on Tuesday: <https://vimeo.com/event/243907>

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Winter Haven Church of the Nazarene, Attention: Kirby Community Center, 235 Avenue F SW, Winter Haven, FL 33880. Phone number: 863-293-0690.

The family would be honored with your presence.

Cemetery Details

Serenity Gardens

3350 Mall Hill Drive
Lakeland, FL 33810

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **24.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Lake Gibson Church of the Nazarene
6868 N. Socrum Loop Road
Lakeland, FL

Funeral Service

SEP **24.** 11:00 AM (ET)

Lake Gibson Church of the Nazarene
6868 N. Socrum Loop Road
Lakeland, FL

Tribute Wall



“ Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Pastor Charles Lee Kirby



Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - September 23, 2024 at 01:35 PM



“ Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Pastor Charles Lee Kirby



Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes - September 23, 2024 at 01:15 PM



Pastor Kirby started a bus ministry at Cedar Lane Church if the Nazarene in Mabelvale, AR. It was because of that ministry I heard about Jesus and surrendered my life to Him. I have been following Jesus for over 50 years.

Jeanette Ivey Lucas - January 31, 2025 at 01:43 PM

GM

“ 1 file added to the album Funeral Service Recording



Gentry Morrison - September 27, 2024 at 08:19 AM

RS

“ *Monica and I were able to sit under the last eight years of his ministry at Lake Gibson. We were drawn to the church by the friendliness of the people and Saturday nights at Lakeland. Pastor Kirby was a people's pastor, he loved the Saturday nights and we were able to part of that program and enjoyed it immensely. Pastor stood firm in his beliefs and was not afraid to express them. I served on the church board for six of those years and was able to have a more personal relationships and to see more of his personal side. I respected him for his convictions and standing firm in his commitment. Thank you Pastor Kirby for being my friend and my Pastor. Prayers for Ms Bess and the family.*

ronald Strahley - September 23, 2024 at 11:56 AM

SG

“ *When we attended Lake Gibson Nazarene, Pastor Kirby was our wonderful Pastor, and he was so loved and appreciated by all! His Saturday Nights in Lakeland with all the great Southern Gospel quartets was filled to capacity every week. He will be greatly missed, but welcomed by his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. With much love, Bob and Sandy Greener.*

Sandra Greener - September 22, 2024 at 04:03 PM

RH

“ *Pastor Kirby was our pastor at Tidewater Central Nazarene Church in Va. Beach, we had a bus ministry that brought in many Souls,lots of children, Those were exciting years,but the best memory was when He and Bess took us to the Holy Land,I have been on many trips in my life but none can even begin to compare .I have never been the same spirituality. I wish everyone could take that trip.I pray God will comfort,protect and fill.your heart with joy,we will see Pastor again.Sending prayers and lots of love to the Kirby family.He was one of the best,*

Rose Howard - September 22, 2024 at 03:34 PM