

Perkins Partnership Ministry

"The way to live your life is to consider your Eulogy, and work backwards from there..." quoted by *Stephanie Lowe* as she spoke at her grandmothers home going service, Mrs. Joyce Bishop. Mrs. Bishop is mother to Linda Hughes, and mother-in-law to Board Member Glynn Hughes

A Quarterly Newsletter

Spring- Summer 2019

SHIRLEY ELAINE PERKINS

12/01/1936-12/23/2018



My beautiful Mother Drawn by a street artist in Pigeon Ford in 2015

How do you even begin to write about the impact someone has had on one's life? For me, writing about my mother, the matriarch of the family, the NaNa to my kids, the one who not only brought me into this world, she taught me right from wrong and was quick to call me on it, or complement me for it. She loved me unconditionally, shared selflessly, encouraged relentlessly. It is simply an impossibility, but, I don't have too. You all knew her in the same way. But to me, she was, and will always be known, and carry the full weight and rights to be called, "momma".

To kiss her cheek, hear her voice, eat her biscuits or fried chicken, feed her birds, put up one of her many Christmas trees, wash her car, take care of her big dog, Hoss, and a thousand other things to honor her, I would walk through fire. But for now, there is only light and songs of praise where she is waiting and watching. So instead, I will defer to some who speak much better than I. Starting with our dear friend, *David Lane* of American Renewal-

Dale and Shirley Perkins formed the singing group Classic Praise, which is made up mostly of their children and grandchildren. They have traveled America with the American Renewal Project and its Pastors and Pews events since 2005. With their love of



the Lord, they have donated their time and musical talents to these events. Classic Praise contributes even more by taking its own vacation days and time off to travel and sing to the Lord as they bring biblical values to the public square.

After 64 years of marriage, Dale's wife, Shirley, passed from this earth for a better home on Dec. 23, 2018. She will be dearly missed. Jesus made a sure-fire promise to believers, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, yet shall he live" (John 11:25b).

My friend Dale Perkins asked me to say a few words at Shirley's funeral on Dec. 28. I have recorded them below:

Solomon advised, "*An excellent wife is the crown of her husband*". With Shirley, Dale won big. God provided a beauty. The Hebrew word "*excellent*" stands for "*virtuous and noble*."

The most prominent adornment on a man is his godly wife. It wasn't Shirley's physical beauty, although she was beautiful, but her steadfast, flint-like character.

Proverbs 12:4 (NKNV) states that "*An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, but she who causes shame is like rotteness in his bones.*"

Aaron Perkins, Amber Riggs, Alese Odom Celebrate their NaNa by singing for her celebration



Being the crown denotes that [Shirley] was her husband's most prominent social adornment and symbolizes her empowering him to rule. That a wife causing shame is like rotteness in the husband's bones tells us that marriage is no light matter. The wife either makes or breaks a man in his home and in the community.

The proverb likewise assumes that the husband [Dale] is himself pious and prayerful, wise and righteous, kind and generous, sacrificing himself for her good and not self-serving.

Solomon, in Proverbs 31, spoke to Shirley's daughters, daughters-in-law and granddaughters.

In verse 10 (KJV), Solomon asks: "*Who can find a virtuous wife? For her price is far above rubies.*"

Shirley was the role model. Wise daughters and granddaughters should aspire to be like her. To her sons and grandsons: wise men seek to marry her [the virtuous wife].

Shirley was reliable. As verse 11 says, "*The heart of her husband safely trust[ed] in her, so that he [had] no lack of gain.*"

On Friday, Dec. 14, Dale texted me, writing:

"My Beloved is now in Hospice. As of yesterday no communication. David, it's by far the toughest thing I've ever encountered. 64 years of marriage and 3 years dating. The most perfect Lady I've ever known. Not one word of gossip has ever exited her mouth; loved her Saviour without limits; her family was her life next to Jesus; totally unselfish with others always first! Don't know how I'm gonna make it without my precious one!!"

As it says in verse 12, Shirley did "*him good and not evil all the days of her life.*"

Her commitment to Dale's well-being [was] true, not false; constant, not temperamental; reliable, not fickle and [my, was she wise and] discerning.

Shirley Perkins is here no longer. She's gone, and to us, King David gave the precept, '*[But now she is dead], I shall go to [her], but [she] shall not return to me.*' (2 Sam.12:23).

A few friends sent their condolences to Dale:

Dale and Shirley are choice servants of the kingdom, and it tears at my heart that they have been temporarily separated by Shirley's death. I love this couple and am comforted that they will be together again. Dale has no enemies, only friends, and we all join together to surround him with our love and prayers. —**Mike Huckabee**

I came to know Shirley and Dale through their family music ministry, and through our trip together to the Holy Land of Israel. I will always remember them leading our group in song, their voices leading us in "How

Momma worked along side Daddy to establish PPM in June 2008. She served on various committees for events, traveled on mission trips, served at ShadeTree, traveled with Classic Praise and served at Hwy 80 Mission. Through all of her illness, she would always proclaim that "God is so good, and He's been so good to me".

Great Thou Art." Shirley was a woman of God, and she is no doubt home with her Lord now. I offer my prayers for Dale and their family in this difficult time." —**Senator Rand Paul**

"Jesus promised, '*In my Father's house are many mansions, if it were not so, I would have told you. I have prepared a place for you. [I will keep my Word]*'" (John 14:2).

We will see Shirley again, but not in this lifetime. But to her husband of 64 years—Dale Perkins—because of Jesus, she will meet you at the eastern gate. What a wonderful Savior.

David Lane



This was written in 2010 by Alan Johnson -Prophetic and Pertinent (Reflections as I was witnessing inside the walls with PPM at Angola Prison – Once the bloodiest prison in America.)

Laney Alan Johnson

Dear Perkins Partners,

It's a hazy Sunday morning – I am no longer incarcerated – physically or spiritually.

I sit instead in a fine rocker made of pine. The bones of the man who crafted it will likely be buried one day on these very premises in a box hewn of a similar wood. My vista includes several square miles of rich farm and cattle lands, the muddy Mississippi River and acres of Autumn forest; yet my gaze settles upon winding rows of white square stones in the distance. We consider the men whose decaying bones lay beneath those stones – 6' south.

6 – on the 6th day God created man. Man grows to a height of 6'. Man's bones lie at the bottom of a 6' hole.

7 – on the 7th day God rested – the 7th year – Jubilee

But the souls – what of the souls of these men?

Did they die in the 6 of their own humanity or did they rise in the 7 of God's Rest and Jubilee?

At the onset of my incarceration in 2008, my father, with Brother Dale at his right hand, continued in loving ministry to Longview. As I began to more clearly hear God's voice, I know, in God's time, my nar-forgotten mentor would once again instruct me in the ways of our Lord. Only the God of the indefinable cosmos, however, could have so supernaturally ordered our steps. As I began my journey through the Texas Department of Corrections, my daddy carefully reminded me *"Your witness, son, may well be the difference between heaven and hell for the men around you."*

handcrafted boxes here on the grounds of Angola Prison.

We are family – Perkins Partnership Ministries – Angola souls.

Pastors in Restoration – Shade Tree Fellowship – Longview missions – Classic Praise – Friends – He has knit us together in the wombs of both Godly and heathen generations to form a chosen people. The peace of the Almighty – His warm, relentless love would often occupy me on my little steel bunk. God gave me glimpses of drawing alongside Brother Dale and his boys. Forty (40) blessed years our fathers labored in Christ love together. Praise God these men were not



This morning I set my gaze upon the white tombstones on the horizon and hear his words echo. They speak beyond my incarceration and into our present as **Perkins Partnership Ministries** and to the future of the men's souls whose bones will one day occupy those

leading us wandering in the wilderness for those four (4) decades but rather beyond the banks of the Jordan and in to the certain eternal victory of the cross!

The wind is now whispering through the trees – the sun's rays

dice the horizon, the hounds bay in the distance. The wind of the Holy Spirit has blown PPM to the ripe fields of Angola for a Jubilee Harvest of Souls. Yes, THE SON has cut a clear path to heaven – its form – The Cross; Yet, the hounds – the hounds of hell howl and battle for their

dead vengeance.

Thank you, Perkins Friends and Family – for holding the hounds at bay with your prayers and “Praying in the Spirit at all times with all kinds of prayers and requests” (Eph. 6:18)

But the souls – What of the Souls of these men?

I Thes. 4:16-17 – read it!

Thank you, Dear Sister – Dear Brother – Dear Ambassador in the cause of the Cross for praying,

Tuesday's Hour of Power



Prayer Warriors ---- using a phrase **Steve Hemphill** (world renowned author of many books and speaker) used this past Tuesday in our prayer gathering... **"You just can't make this up!"** Dale said, *"I received a text from Dr. David Gass this morning. It reads like this..."*

"Wednesday, the day after PPM prayed so fervently to our Heavenly Father, was Donna's best day in a very long time. Praise the Lord! Thank you."

And, I want to thank each of you for your faithfulness. There is nothing more powerful than when we gather to pray in His Name. We had twenty prayer warriors present this past

Tuesday. What a blessing to be in His Presence alongside you each and every week at PPM. Dale

PPM is flooded with prayer requests from literally all over the country. We would love for you to join us during this time of prayer each Tuesday at 6:30 PM at the PPM office. There is much need for communication with the Creator and Savior. Everyone has needs, Everyone has hurts, Everyone has praises. Why not share your burden or joy with those who love you

and want to intercede on your behalf. It would be a privilege and honor to be gathered as a family, seeking God's face. Make this a priority! A young lady said this past Tuesday following the prayer time. "I have never been here before and I sure did need this tonight, Oh, how I needed this".

The words of the old hymn still ring true-

I need Thee every hour,
Most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine,
Can peace afford.
I need Thee, O I need Thee,
Every hour I need Thee!
O bless me now, Savior,
I come to Thee.
I need Thee every hour,
Stay Thou near by;
Temptations lose their power,
When Thou art nigh.
I need Thee, O I need Thee;
Every hour I need Thee!
O bless me now, my Savior,
I come to Thee.

you are a part -(ner)

through **P**rayer, **P**articipation, or **P**artnering with us in carrying the financial responsibilities, we want to give you a heartfelt **THANK YOU** and may our Lord richly bless you.

Left: Stacy and Carly Perkins sing for the men at Hwy 80 before sharing a great meal for the men in the program and then for the guests. The meal is prayed over before it's prepared, before it's served and then we pray for the men after we finish. Our prayer is the Lord will fill them more spiritually than physically, and we know they're full physically!

This young man came to Jesus Burger by accident. He was on his way to get his hair cut, but instead, met Jesus!



Jeff Thomas mixes the salad and Dale Perkins gives "instruction" as one of the program men helps out. Jeff works with the Gideons and handed out over 75 New Testaments to the men. These are just the guys that asked for the Word,

Governor Inauguration (Right)

We had the pleasure of being invited to the Inauguration for Gov Gregg Abbott. We attended the prayer service prior to the Inaugural Ceremony on the Capital grounds. Please continue to pray for those in authority. Beginning with the President, down to dog catcher. They all need the counsel of the most high. Pictured are from left to right; Adam, Aaron Dale II, Mignon, Dale Sr., Clay Perkins



Joyce Bishop

Oct 3, 1935- April 27, 2019

Mother-in-Law of Board of Director member, *Glynn Hughes*. He and his wife *Linda*, have been faithful supporters of Perkins Partnership Ministry for over a decade. Mrs. Bishop left a tremendous legacy for her children and grandchildren. She was a servant at heart and it was carried out through her actions and efforts in service to her Lord. One of her greatest joys was being a Mimi to her nine grandchildren. She taught them strong morals and life skills. She created many, many lifelong memories they will carry forever. She will be missed greatly by all that knew her. Pray for this great family as they adjust to living life without this precious Saint of God.

PPM Board of Directors

- Charles Crumpler — Chairman**
- Hank Boswell — Treasurer**
- Renee' Hamilton — Secretary**
- Glynn Hughes — Larry Frase -David Gass**

PPMhasit@gmail.com- email

PPMhasit.org- website

1125 Judson Plaza Ste 182

Longview, TX 75601