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Pastor Denny Peterson, 70

Aug. 31, 1935 - Jan. 14, 2006

MINDEN — Pastor Denny Carl Peterson, the son of Carl and Marguerite (Carlson) Peterson, was born Aug. 31, 1935, in Lecompton, KS and was the second of three sons. Denny was baptized in the United Methodist Church at age 14. He attended school at Ottawa, KS, graduating in 1953. He worked in the family business as a brick and stone mason, first as an apprentice and then as a journeyman bricklayer, learning the "tricks of the trade" from his father.

Denny married Rosalie Macy in September of 1955, at the Baptist Church in Ottawa, KS. They were the parents of two daughters, Kristina and Stacy. He began his ministerial career as a licensed lay pastor in 1963. In 1968, while serving two churches, he attended Baker University in Baldwin City, KS and was a member of the graduating class of 1972 with a BA in psychology. He then attended St. Paul Seminary in Kansas City and was ordained in the United Methodist Church in 1973. Through many hardships and the death of his wife, Rosalle, in 1989, Denny continued to serve many churches in the Kansas and Missouri areas. In 1992, Denny supervised the building of an addition to the St. Peter's Indian Mission School at Bapchule, AZ, a project that he was very proud of. He continued to work as a painter, sandblaster, bricklayer and all around handyman until 2001 when God called him to serve as Pastor of the Minden United Church of Christ.

It was after coming to Minden that he met and married Lynn Kadel of Minden June 1. 2002, at the Minden United Church of Christ. He was "servant/pastor" of the church until his retirement Easter Sunday in March of 2005, after being diagnosed with cancer. He died Jan. 14, 2006, at his home south of Minden at age 70 years, four months and 14 days.

In addition to his parents, Denny was preceded in death by his first wife, Rosalie; his two brothers, Jimmy and Donny; and a grandson, Ross A. Milliman. Survivors include his wife, Lynn Peterson of Minden; his daughters, Kristina Peterson of Ottawa, KS; Stacy (Johnnie) Milliman of Quenemo, KS; two stepdaughters, Kathy (Brian) Fox of Colorado Springs, CO; Suzanne (James) Watson of Council Bluffs; two grandsons, Scott and Cole Milliman; five step-grandchildren. Emily and Benjamin Fox, and Jonathan, Alexander, and Gabriel Watson; two sisters-in-law, Golden and Saundra Peterson of Ottawa, KS and other relatives.

Funeral services were held Jan. 18, 2006, at the Minden United Church of Christ with Pastor Brian Wohlhuter and Rev. Kenny E. Briggs officiating. Pauley Jones Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.