



## Rev. Robert D. Belew

October 23, 1940 - June 18, 2017

On June 18, 2017 in Greensboro, NC, Rev. Robert D. Belew passed into the light and peace of Jesus Christ. He was born to the late Hearl A. Belew and the late Reba Hollingsworth Belew on October 23, 1940 in Tom Bean, TX. Robert grew up in Sherman, TX with his parents and his brother, the late Phillip Belew. He was a member of Key Memorial Methodist Church in Sherman. Robert was a graduate of Austin College, where he earned a Bachelor of Religion and Philosophy. After a year at Boston School of Theology, he transferred to Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth, TX, where he met his beloved wife, Mary Yonker Belew. They were married on September 3, 1966 at Hamilton Christian Church in St. Louis, MO. After graduating with a Master of Divinity degree, Robert was ordained alongside Mary as a minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) at Hamilton Christian Church in June of 1968. In 2016, he and Mary celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

His life was one of joy and faithful service in the ministry. He pastored congregations in Texas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Kansas and Illinois. 'Pastor Robert' was loved by his parishioners for his gentle and respectful nature, his great sense of humor, and his steady guidance. He was a wonderful husband and father, and all who were touched by his presence felt the love of Jesus Christ. Robert truly lived Micah 6:8—What does the Lord require of you? To seek justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with your God.

Of the many things Robert took delight in, visiting our country's national parks was at the top of the list, particularly Shenandoah National Park in Virginia. He also enjoyed working on genealogy, planning trips (usually with a Rand-McNally atlas), and spending time with his grandchildren: Veda, Abby and Henry.

He is survived by his wife, Mary, of High Point, NC, a daughter, Laura (Belew) Simcox, her husband Patrick and their son Henry, also of High Point, and a son, William Belew, his wife Rachel, and their daughters Veda and Abigail, of Quincy, IL. Also surviving are three brothers-in-law and a sister-in-law and their spouses, and seven nieces and nephews and their spouses. Visitation will be at 12:30 pm on Friday, June 30 at James and Gahr Mortuary in Salem, MO. The funeral, also at James and Gahr, will take place at 2 pm. Interment will follow at Cedar Grove Cemetery in Salem. Officiating will be Rev. Dr. John J. Yonker, Robert's brother-in-law, and Rev. David Yonker, Robert's nephew. Memorial contributions—to help ministers in need—may be sent to The Pension Fund of the Christian Church, P.O. Box 6251, Indianapolis, IN, 46206-6251 or via [www.pensionfund.org](http://www.pensionfund.org)

# Cemetery Details

## Cedar Grove Cemetery

Salem, MO

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 30. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Salem  
103 West Center  
Salem, MO 65560  
(573) 729-3117  
jgsalemmo@hotmail.com  
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

## Service

JUN 30. 2:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Salem  
103 West Center  
Salem, MO 65560  
(573) 729-3117  
jgsalemmo@hotmail.com  
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rev. Robert D. Belew*

January 30, 2023 at 04:37 AM



“ *Rev. Robert D. Belew*

January 30, 2023 at 02:54 AM



“ *Sympathy and prayers to Mary, Laura, Will and your family.*

**Cheryl Tinsley** - July 23, 2017 at 07:37 PM



“ *Robert was our favorite pastor at Harrisonville Christian Church. He and Mary were friends my family and I will not forget..*

*Carole Raynes and family*

**Carole Raynes** - July 20, 2017 at 11:00 AM



“ *Just finding out and am so sorry. He was a wonderful caring soul and so kind to my family during his few years in Harrisonville. Kindness for even a short time lasts forever. God bless his family and everyone that knew him.*

**Lisa Raynes** - July 19, 2017 at 10:07 PM

JP

“ *Jim Patton lit a candle in memory of Rev. Robert D. Belew*



---

**Jim Patton** - June 27, 2017 at 01:51 PM

JP

“ *Dear Mary & family,  
What a joy to work with Pastor Robert and you at First Christian in Mt. Sterling. Always a smile and a kind word for everyone he met.  
Love & Prayers to you all. Jim & Mary Patton*

---

**Jim Patton** - June 27, 2017 at 01:50 PM