



## Dr. John Kennedy

November 19, 1921 - September 12, 2011

KENNEDY, DR. JOHN - Dr. John Kennedy, 89 of Tucker, GA went to be with the Lord on Monday, September 12, 2011. He is survived by his loving Wife of 28 years: Rillie Mae Kennedy, Tucker; Children: David E. & Sonja Kennedy, Apsley, Australia; Ruth Kennedy, Shire, Ethiopia; Stephen & Penny Kennedy, Horsham, England; Step-Children: Valerie Blaise, Clarkston; David & Joyce Leach, Lawrenceville; Cindy & Glenn Bowman, Greenville, NC; Brother: Alexander Kennedy, Glasgow, Scotland; Sisters: Anne MacArthur, Isle of Tiree, Scotland; Marion Collins, Glasgow, Scotland; Sister-in-law: Wil Kennedy, Dunfermline, Scotland; 10 Grandchildren; 5 Great Grandchildren; Several Nieces & Nephews. Almost 90 years ago John Kennedy was born near Glasgow, Scotland. He grew up in one of the many tenement buildings with his numerous siblings until he went away to work on a farm in order to send money back to his "Mam". At age 22 he accepted Christ as his personal Savior and decided to serve his Lord and Master. He attended Bible College where he met and married Catherine MacArthur of the Western Isle of Tiree. Together they went to work in low income neighborhoods of Sao Paulo, Brazil. They ministered to many as churches were started and lives were changed for God's glory. After serving for 23 years they returned to the UK where they served in Basingstroke, Hampshire. There God took Catherine home on September 1, 1981. John returned to his birthplace, Scotland, and began to work amongst hurting people there. He met his "Georgia Peach", Rillie Mae Leach while in the states. They married and worked together in Kilwinning and

Troon, Scotland and in Limerick and Galway, Ireland. Upon retirement they returned to Tucker, Georgia. He learned Spanish and served for a time as Chaplain to the Spanish speaking prisoners in the Dekalb County jail. Ill health limited his physical movement but he remained steadfast in sharing the Word of God. Eventually, as his health declined, he moved into Rosemont Nursing Home in Stone Mountain, GA. He could be found, Bible in hand, wheeling around the halls talking, ministering to and encouraging his fellow residents. On June 15, 2011, Dr. Kennedy was awarded The William C. Haas Lifetime Service Award from the General Council of Baptist Mid-Missions. After serving 22 years with another agency, he became lead missionary for Baptist Mid-Missions in the United Kingdom. He launched nine churches over 44 years, sometimes planting two churches simultaneously. During his lifetime, he served in five nations on three continents. Dr. Kennedy will be dearly missed by his family, friends and all those whom he touched over his life. Funeral Services will be held 11:30 AM Friday, September 16, 2011 at Forrest Hills @ Mountain View Baptist Church, 2849 Mountain View Road, Snellville, GA 30078. Dr. Ray Warren and Dr. Gary Anderson will officiate. Burial to follow at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church Cemetery, Lawrenceville. Flowers accepted or memorial may be made to: Baptist Mid-Missions in memory of John Kennedy for Church Planting Ministry in Great Britain, P.O. Box 308011, Cleveland, OH, 44130. Family will receive friends from 2-4 & 6-8 PM Thursday, September 15, 2011 at Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 300 Simonton Road, SW, Lawrenceville, GA 30046. 770-962-3100. Please sign the online guest registry at [www.stewartfh.com](http://www.stewartfh.com)

# Previous Events

## Service

SEP **16**. 11:30 AM (ET)

Forrest Hills @ Mountainview Baptist Church  
2849 Mountain View Road  
Snellville, GA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. John Kennedy*

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October 08, 2022 at 11:31 AM



“ *To the Family of Dr. Kennedy,*

*Thank you for allowing me to be a part of caring for this beloved man of God. I appreciate the many stories you shared with me about his life and ministry. May God comfort you all in this time of grief and loss. You will be in my thoughts and prayers.*

*God Bless,*

*Doug Watson*

*Chaplain*

*Crossroads Hospice##imported-begin##Doug Watson##imported-end##*

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September 16, 2011 at 11:09 AM