



Edward Thomas Vann

August 24, 1936 - November 28, 2024

Rev. Edward Thomas Vann, a retired pastor in The United Methodist Church, graduated from this life to the Church Triumphant on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 2024. He was 88 years old.

Services will be held at First United Methodist Church, Columbia, Tennessee, on December 5 at 1:00 p.m. with Rev. Dr. Davis Chappell, Bro. Bill McDonald, and Rev. Jim Edwards officiating. Visitation will be held at McDonald Funeral Home, Centerville, Tennessee, on December 4 from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and December 5 beginning at 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service at Columbia First United Methodist Church.

Born in Huntland, Tennessee, on August 24, 1936, he was the only son of a blacksmith, Thomas Edward Vann, and homemaker and share crop farmer, Lucy Rorax Vann. He graduated from Huntland High School where he played basketball and football with Johnny Majors when Shirley Majors coached the Hornets. He graduated from Martin College in 1959 and met and married the love of his life, Peggy Waters, who preceded him in death. He furthered his education graduating from Scarritt College for Christian Workers in Nashville and Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta. He began preaching at age 18 and served 27 churches in middle Tennessee for 66 years. He upholstered furniture and sewed custom draperies to supplement his income in the early days of his ministry. Brother Vann, as most folks called

him, was a gregarious, fun-loving, quick-witted, and passionate defender of the marginalized and poor. He had a fruitful healing ministry and often carried anointing oil with him. He was a masterful storyteller and a powerful preacher. Most importantly, he was a devoted father and friend to his family.

He is survived by his sons, Rev. Tommy (Claire) Vann, Keith (Tracy) Vann; grandchildren, Madison (Anthony) Hutchinson, Hunter (Kara) Vann, Scott (Tammy) Vann, Bryant (Kayla) Vann; great-grandchildren, Taylor Hutchinson, Brennon Newsom, Khloe Fuller, Sara Fuller, Ryan Hutchinson, Morgan Hutchinson, Daphne Vann, Briggs Vann, and Griffen Vann; and several nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his sisters, Billie Jo Bryant and Becky Sansom.

Pallbearers will be Hunter Vann, Scott Vann, Bryant Vann, Anthony Hutchinson, Taylor Hutchinson, Brennon Newsom, Ryan Hutchinson, Morgan Hutchinson, Greg Barrett, and Rev. Jeff Jacob. Honorary pallbearers are Curtis Jackson and Jeff Minor. The family wishes to thank his life-long friend and colleague in ministry, Rev. Frank Smith, and special caregiver, Pauletta Epley.

The family suggests memorials be directed to UMCOR (The United Methodist Committee on Relief, <https://umcmmission.org/give-to-umcor/>) or any ministry that helps the marginalized.

Cemetery Details

Charles L Nickell Memorial Park

Centerville, TN 37033

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 4. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Hickman County
102 West End Ave.
Centerville, TN 37033
(931) 729-3561

Visitation

DEC 5. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
222 W 7th Street
Columbia, TN 38401

Funeral Service

DEC 5. 1:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
222 W 7th Street
Columbia, TN 38401

Tribute Wall

CB

“ Tommy, I'm saddened to hear of your beloved father's passing. my prayers and thoughts for the family. May God bless you all with love peace and comfort. My love to you all 🙏🙏❤️ Callie

Callie Braden - February 10, 2025 at 02:57 PM

LD

“ He was a patient of ours and our office was next to church in Columbia, what a JOY it was when Rev. Vann or Peggy came in. Will always remember them with a smile on face and you could see that they LOVED the Lord.

Linda Duncan - December 07, 2024 at 10:19 AM

NH

“ He made such a great impact on Luke and I. He was very important in getting us involved at TrinityUMC. Great family. Prayers for all. Nancy and Luke Hendrix

Nancy Hendrix - December 05, 2024 at 01:17 PM

MP

“ Tommy and Keith our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families. We were blessed to have him as our pastor at Craft and have many precious memories. Mike and Diane Patterson

Michael Patterson - December 04, 2024 at 09:13 PM

MW

“ We are so sorry to hear this. You all are such beautiful and kind folks, God bless you all. Our love and prayers-always!

Mark and Jackie Williams - December 04, 2024 at 03:57 PM

HJ

“ Brother Thomas married us 62 years ago. We were all young back then. He and Peggy attended our 50th anniversary celebration. Their life and their legacy touched our life in a special way. Our prayers and sympathy to his family and all who loved him. We certainly did.

Herb & Barbara Nichols Jones - December 04, 2024 at 10:26 AM

MC

“ Michaëlle Crowley lit a candle in memory of Edward Vann



Michaëlle Crowley - December 04, 2024 at 07:28 AM

MB

“ Brother Vann ,was an awesome man of God and my pastor at one time. He would always tease me and give me a hard time but I knew he cared and loved me. I loved him, his sweet wife and his two sons.I am praying for you Tommy, Keith and your families. Love you guys

Mark Bailey - December 03, 2024 at 12:39 PM

JM

“ Prayers and thoughts to Tommy and Keith and your families. He was one of a kind and a jewel.

Jackie Moore - December 02, 2024 at 05:53 PM

RP

Keith and Bryant, I am so sorry for the loss of your father. Richard and I send prayers for peace and comfort to your entire family❤️

Robbie Pickle - December 03, 2024 at 12:55 PM

GH

“ Thomas was married to my first cousin Peggy Waters. I met Thomas when Peggy and I attended Martin Junior College in Pulaski, TN at the same time. Sending sympathy to all of the family. Glenda Holland Hiemstra. Platte , SD

Glenda Holland Hiemstra - December 02, 2024 at 04:39 PM

PB

“ Praying that God will bring comfort to this family .

Patsy Bauer - December 02, 2024 at 04:08 PM

SG

“ Stanley & Judy Gordon lit a candle in memory of Edward Vann



Stanley & Judy Gordon - December 02, 2024 at 01:05 PM

CS

“ Charlotte M Staggs sent a virtual gift in memory of Edward Vann



Charlotte M Staggs - December 02, 2024 at 12:40 PM

MH

“ Melinda Cook Hickman



Melinda Hickman - December 01, 2024 at 01:59 PM

KF

“ Kilpatrick Family lit a candle in memory of Edward Thomas Vann



Kilpatrick Family - December 01, 2024 at 12:35 PM

SA

“ So Hate to hear this ! Loved this man dearly Always Caring and asking about Family He will be Very Missed ❤️🙏❤️ Thoughts and many Prayers for this Sweet Dear Family



Susan and Steve Anglin - December 01, 2024 at 09:43 AM

RG

“ *Ronald Gammons lit a candle in memory of Edward Thomas Vann*



Ronald Gammons - December 01, 2024 at 08:48 AM

DD

“ *I remember Thomas in school, Huntland High School. Very nice young man. If memory serves we may have gone to same Church Sunday School.*

Dolores Duncan - November 30, 2024 at 08:52 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire family 🙏*



James Arthur (Tank) and Dana Atkinson - November 30, 2024 at 05:23 PM

SA

“ *Steve A Atkinson lit a candle in memory of Edward Thomas Vann*



Steve A Atkinson - November 30, 2024 at 04:54 PM

MB

“ *MICHAEL BATES sent a virtual gift in memory of Edward Thomas Vann*



MICHAEL BATES - November 30, 2024 at 04:04 PM

RS

“ *We both are thinking of u.*

Regina & Martha Shelton - November 30, 2024 at 02:38 PM

RH

“ *We are thinking of u.*

Ruby & Rex Horner - November 30, 2024 at 02:37 PM