



Missionaries Walter Stevens

“Taking the Gospel to the Roma and Marginalized Peoples of the World”

P.O. Box 7695 Jacksonville, FL 32238/ gypsies77@juno.com/ 954-261-7535/ www.gypsies77.com

Special Report

Dearest Precious Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It has recently been brought to my attention that not all of our friends and supporters do email or even facebook, I regret that you have not been kept informed concerning Dolly's home going, graduation on July 11 at 3:15 PM. Please forgive me.

On Friday it had become very evident that Dolly was about to cross the threshold into the arms of her awaiting Saviour. I contacted our children from Ohio and others nearby, that mom was going away and for them to come and say their “good byes” (really just “see you later”). With all of us around mom's hospital bed in our home, with tears streaming down our faces, we read scripture to Mom and each other from Ps. 90, Luke 16 and I Thess. 4. We wanted mom (I called her mom too), to know that we were releasing her into the arms of her Lord (they say that the hearing is the last to go). A dear brother from our church just walked in at that very moment (he and his precious wife were bringing us a meal), I said “Jim, come quickly mama is about to pass, come and sing some songs about heaven”. Oh what a time we shared at that very moment as she departed her earthly tabernacle and put on a robe of pure white. Her suffering and toil from this life is over. No more pain, doctors, treatments and medicine. SHE IS HEALED and MADE WHOLE! Glory to God!



Though many of the funeral arrangements were prearranged, there was still much to do to celebrate Dolly's life and her memory. With such a great affinity with Bible Baptist church in Bradenton we felt a strong leading to have a memorial service at the church for our brothers and sisters in Christ, who had encouraged Dolly and I so very much through our journey with their prayers, cards, pats on the back and so much more. So on Friday, July 14th we had an open casket memorial service. With the help of Pastor Yannizzi and the BBC staff what a wonderful service it was. Some said afterward, “it was like a revival service”. Many had come to celebrate with us; the brother who sang in our home sang one of the songs he sang the day of her passing. We had several Roma families attend and one brother even sang a song in the Roma language. The highlight was when our son brought the message. He took us on a roller coaster ride of emotion; he took us up the mountain with laughter and then brought us down into the valley with tears. Christ was honored as we honored His own.

Since all of Dolly's family is buried in Barberton, OH, we had prepared for her interment there. Dolly was from Youngstown, OH and so we utilized a funeral home that her mother used when she passed a few years ago. I could not begin to tell you how many had come throughout the day as the visitation was from 2 PM unto 7 PM. The facilities chapel is a good sized auditorium, (almost the size of a small church). It looked like every pew was full. Again God blessed our celebration of Christ and His servant Dolly. Dr. Roger Green and his wife Brenda participated as well as Bro. and Sis. Rusnacko from Euclid, OH. Michael brought the same eulogy and once again God used it in a great way.





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One of the highlights was a couple from Troy Baptist Temple who are great friends with Dolly and I. I had asked Nathan and Linda Morris to come and sing at Dolly’s memorial. Oh, how they blessed us and glorified their Saviour! They sang 2 songs, “I’ve Just Seen Jesus” and “The Via Dolorosa”.

At the cemetery we experienced one of the sweetest grave site services we had ever participated in. Family members testified of Dolly’s Godly life, the man who led us to Christ spoke of her grace and beauty. Pastor Ghitsa Fekete along with Mirci Pricop, surprised us by coming all the way from Romania to come and honor their dear sister and her husband.

Finally, we suggested that if there were those who would rather send a financial gift in lieu of flowers could do so, by sending their gifts to R.O.M.A. (see letter head). All funds received will be used to help subsidize R.O.M.A. missionaries. Please earmark your gift, Dolly’s Memorial Fund.

Though I miss her immensely, I am glad that she is not suffering anymore and that we will be reunited in eternity. To God be the Glory!

I am ready to return back to full time ministry. I am planning a trip to Eastern Europe this coming fall. If you need me to report or present our new mission agency R.O.M.A. please don’t hesitate to call or write.

My Mama Is With Jesus Now

She was always such a loving mom
Until the very end.
She was the best Mama that God
Could ever send.

She treated us with so much love.
We are so very blessed.
Then came a time in 2004
She was given her most difficult test.

She passed the test every day
She gave it her best shot.
A word unkind, a deed of hate, a mean look she gave not.

Every time we would see her
Even though her body full of ache.
She would do her best to sit and time with us she'd take.

God, thank you that she is home
Healed, Healthy oh wow!
She is no longer here with us
For my mama is with Jesus now!

Michael Stevens



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