



Dr. F. Marlin Connelly Jr.

APR 18, 1935 - APR 10, 2020



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Dr. F. Marlin Connelly Jr.

APR 18, 1935 - APR 10, 2020

Dr. Marlin Connelly, Jr., 84, of Nashville, TN, went to be with the Lord on April 10, 2020. He was born in Columbia, TN on April 18, 1935. He was preceded in death by his parents, Marlin and Inez Gidcomb Connelly, and brother, Thomas Lawrence Connelly. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Williamson Connelly, and three children: Philip Marlin Connelly, Pamela Connelly Walker (Daniel), and Andrew William Connelly (Janna). He was loved by his grandchildren Kate Mason (Josh), Victoria Connelly (Matt), Burton Walker (Abby), Shannon Connelly, Drew Connelly, and Will Connelly, and great-grandsons Silas and Levi Mason. He is also survived by his brother, William Edward Connelly.

Marlin graduated from David Lipscomb High School in 1953 and David Lipscomb College in 1957. He relished athletics, running track in high school and playing basketball for his high school and college teams. Later as a professor, Marlin especially enjoyed vigorous basketball competition with his students, nearly reaching his goal of playing until he was 65. His debate team experience in high school steered him to continued debating in college and further work in intercollegiate speech tournaments. His commitment to academic work led to becoming valedictorian of his high school class and salutatorian of his college class. During that time he met the love of his life, Nancy Williamson. They married in 1956, and God blessed them with 63 years of happiness. Marlin often commented, "I made the living, and she made the living worthwhile." They were a devoted team.

At heart, he was a scholar. He loved learning and effectively communicating what he learned to others. To this end, Marlin earned his Master's degree in Speech Communication from Temple University in 1964 and his PhD from Ohio State University in 1967. Returning to Nashville, he served at Lipscomb as a professor of Speech Communication from 1967 to 2000, spending 12 of those years as Department Chair and 6 years as the Baxter Chair of Preaching. During his 33-year tenure, Marlin also taught a large freshman Bible class every quarter and coached the college debate team for many years.



Obituary

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This quality of scholarship showed itself in another path he traveled--preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ. This became his most cherished work, continuing faithfully for 60 years. He firmly believed that it was not in his own labors, but in the power of the Word, that lives could be molded for the kingdom of God. Marlin served churches of Christ in Georgia, New Jersey, and Ohio, before returning to Nashville to preach 26 years for the Bellevue church of Christ and 10 years for the Hillsboro church of Christ. In both of these congregations he continued to work on staff after retiring from full-time preaching.

From 1972 to 2008, Marlin traveled extensively to the Middle East and to Mediterranean countries, leading groups to the Bible lands, including 25 visits to Israel. It gave him great joy to communicate what he absorbed on those trips to make the scriptures come alive in his preaching and teaching.

Marlin loved to fish. Whether in small ponds, from ocean piers, or on deep-sea charter boats, he never did anything halfway, lining up and 'minding' multiple poles. For him, it also provided a distinct opportunity to connect with his fellow fishermen. Another special connection he had was with the young children of the congregation. Conducting a Sunday night 'Chalk Talk' time with them before the service, he drew cartoon pictures on a chalkboard to illustrate child-level spiritual truths. Marlin used all avenues to communicate to all ages, encouraging them, in his words, "to learn fully, and live faithfully".

A private graveside service will be held Thursday, April 16, 2020 at Spring Hill Cemetery in Nashville, TN. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorial gifts may be made to The Marlin and Nancy Connelly Preaching Scholarship at Freed-Hardeman University, World Christian Broadcasting, and Winchester Christian Academy.

Arrangements entrusted to Spring Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery, a Nashville landmark since 1785 "Where Nashville Comes to Remember"



Events

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Cemetery Details

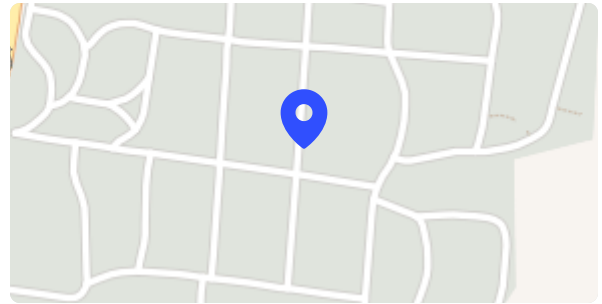


Spring Hill Cemetery

5110 Gallatin Pike S, Nashville TN 37216



615-866-1419





Tribute Wall

Dr. F. Marlin Connelly Jr.

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JR

John Rucker posted:

Marlin was our friend. I was too near his age to have him as a teacher. Only visited at congregations where he preached. Never-the-less our family vacationed with the Connelly's and Marlin and Nancy came to New Jersey often over the years where we enjoyed great fellowship and the best of fishing, shopping and eating! I knew what an impact he was having at Lipscomb. I knew he was an outstanding preacher. But above all I knew he was a man of God who loved his family, his fellow Christians, our school and the students. What a blessing it will be to meet him again ... as we sing and shout the Victory! John and Mae Rucker

August 19 at 6:54 PM

JA

John Aaron posted:

A great Christian Bible professor, I enjoyed his lectures in McFarland Hall. Aaron Holt

April 25 at 9:51 AM

AL

Alan posted:

May God bless the Connelly family, his memory, and his work! I was blessed on a few, but not enough occasions to hear Bro. Marlin open God's Word, and we followed as he dug deep into the treasures contained therein. May the comfort and hope of his rest sustain you until you can join him in the eternal city!

April 20 at 6:33 AM

JR

Jay And Denise Reynolds lit a candle in honor of F..



April 19 at 9:39 AM

DO

Docr posted:

I have fond memories of Dr. Marvin Connelly, who baptized me at Indian Springs in May 1964. When I was considering DLC in 1967, we flew TWA from Columbus to Nashville, TN. I will never forget his taking me to their library and showing me all of the resources what would be available to me if I ever needed them. I will never forget him; prayers for his family in these difficult times....Dr. John V. Richardson Jr, UCLA Professor Emeritus

April 17 at 12:56 PM



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BR

Bobby E Ricks posted:

Marlin did a gospel meeting at the Richmond, Ky Church of Christ years past. I had the opportunity to spend some one on one time with him, and I still use some of the material he related to me. He was a tireless man in the image of Christ, who saw the people suffering and wanted to do something about it. My prayers go out to his family and friends in his passing on to glory.

April 17 at 8:33 AM

SB

Shay Dillard Bingham posted:

I'm so thankful for Marlin & Nancy because they were very instrumental in establishing the church where I grew up in Calhoun, GA. Through the years I have heard many stories of his family. I was too young to remember him at Calhoun, but I know from all the stories you was a highly respected man. Plus, I owe him a debt of gratitude, he baptized my father.

April 17 at 6:24 AM

KB

Kenny Barfield posted:

As one of Marlin's debaters, I was blessed to see him "behind the scenes" in addition to his public persona as teacher and minister. If ever a person lived true to his teaching it was Marlin. I was abundantly blessed to have known him as a mentor, friend, student, and "coach." He taught young men how to deliver sermons in the most effective way imaginable. And he practiced what he taught in the pulpit. I always enjoyed the "depth and simplicity" of his sermons. They were appropriate for both scholars and children. Many memories of my time at Lipscomb involve traveling with him to debate tournaments, sitting in his classes, or just going by his office to visit. He was an imposing gentleman, but the shadow he cast was far greater. To Nancy and the family go my sincerest prayers. He meant so much to so many. May God's richest blessings be with you as you remember, with fondness, a giant of a man, husband, and father. Kenny Barfield Class of 1969

April 16 at 5:52 PM



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Lori Ross posted:

My earliest memories of Marlin were his Chalk Talks at Indian Spring Church of Christ. He later performed my brother Mike's wedding ceremony. I remember during the rehearsal, I stood in for Mary Ann. When it came time to pronounce the couple, he pronounced us brother and sister. I came to Lipscomb in 1981 as a sophomore transfer from OVC. I came out to Bellevue for church that first semester. I also had him for Speech Communications that semester too. I remember the first time he addressed me as Lindee. I had a few teachers in high school that had taught both of us but he was the only one to mix up our names (she is 12 years my senior). Just the other day Tom and I were reminiscing about former Indian Springs people. We were wondering how you were doing in this day in time with the pandemic. So sorry to hear of Marlin's passing. I'm sure that he was greeted by Neil, Eleanor and Mike Miller and Earl and Jane Ross. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Love, Lori (Miller) and Tom Ross

April 16 at 12:11 PM



Allison Heffington posted:

A scholar he was! As a DLU 1992 Graduate and a Speech Communications Major, I enjoyed his speech classes and his guidance in my major study. He was one of the best! Allison Williams Heffington

April 16 at 10:26 AM



Patty Moon posted:

My first Freshman Bible class at David Lipscomb College in 1968-69, was after lunch at 1:00 under Dr. Connelly. It was Early Hebrew History. But even sleep deprived, I never went to sleep in his class because he was so interesting and filled with the Spirit. I continued to take his Bible classes for the next 2 quarters and then my Junior year took Speech class with him. About 20 years ago, Jimmy and I moved to Bellevue and eventually moved our church membership to Bellevue Church of Christ. It was such a joy when he and Nancy came back to Bellevue. We then got to know them personally and greatly enjoyed his wonderful sermons he occasionally preached and the classes we were able to attend. Our hearts and love go out to the family with prayers of comfort and peace. Brother Marlin, GREAT is your reward for your service to Him.

April 16 at 7:31 AM



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MF

Mark French posted:

Dear Andy and Family, I'm very sorry for your loss. Marlin was a wonderful person and I have many fond memories of both him and all of you. Mark

April 15 at 9:13 AM

DL

Dennis Loyd posted:

Nancy and the family--Shirley and I want to share with you the profound sorrow we feel in the death of Marlin. He and I go back back 70 years where we met at DLHS. Although he was one year ahead of me, we were in forensics together for three years. In his senior year, he asked me to work with him on the Backlog. He was the high school editor. At the end of the year, he made some arrangement for me to be editor the next years. That was when we were able to get our own yearbook, the Mizpah. I credit him with setting me up to edit that book and four years later my Backlog. We have enjoyed working together at Lipsomb all these years, traveling together, and shopping together at Kroger's. He has made a significant impact on the students he taught, young and old alike, at school and churches where he preached. To say we will miss him is an understatement. God bless you and your family. Love, Denny

April 15 at 6:32 AM

MM

Mallory Marlin posted:

Marlin Connelly delivered to me and my family the Word of God. He believed what he preached by living what he taught. He had the conviction, courage and talent to communicate God's message. Marlin's courage has always inspired and encouraged me to turn to the Bible when there are questions or issues. My wife and I had the opportunity to visit with Marlin and Nancy several times in the past year. I am thankful for the chance to tell him he is one of my heroes. Wayne Marlin

April 14 at 7:41 AM

TR

Tim Ragan posted:

I am truly sorry for your loss. Next to my own father, Dr Connelly was one of the most influential men in my life. His perspective and understanding of life carried me through many challenges. His "Chalk Talks" were classic and intriguing. He will never leave us. Tim Ragan

April 14 at 5:02 AM



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JH

Jeff Harris posted:

A Prince has fallen in Israel. I had Brother Connelly for Life of Christ in the fall of 1985. I remember he taught that the Sadducees denied the resurrection of Christ so they were "sad, you see". He will be missed. May God grant you comfort in his great life and influence for Christ. Jeff Harris

April 13 at 11:13 AM

LH

Lynn Harrell posted:

I am sorry for your loss. Marlin was a great bible scholar and I learned a lot through his teachings. I will always treasure the our group trip to Israel with him. My prayers are with the family. Lynn Harrell

April 13 at 10:05 AM

RF

Randy Fuqua posted:

We are sorry for your loss. I am thankful that you had him for 85 years, I wish it could have been longer. Randy Fuqua - Elder, Rivergate Church of Christ.

April 13 at 9:01 AM

DA

Danyork posted:

I only had one class at Lipscomb with Bro. Marlin---upstairs in the Burton building top floor closest to the baseball diamond in the between 1986-1988 probably. In the Spring, and at the "cling" of an aluminum bat the lecture would stop, just for an instant as his eyes veered off the classroom and towards the field and depending on who was at bat and the result of the swing---the pause would last 1-6 seconds! Hope this recollection makes the family smile. Hate not being able to see you in person. --Dan York

April 13 at 8:38 AM



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DH

Daniel Haislip posted:

Brother Connelly trully loved the Word of God and his ministry. I took Brother Connelly speech and Bible classes back in the 70s and 80s. Dr Connelly was truly a word smith and will be missed by the church family.

April 13 at 8:12 AM

MS

Molly Swindell April 20 at 2:15 PM

Bob loved Marlin and Nancy. I am so glad I got to know you both. Molly Swindell

DC

Diane Caldwell April 16 at 4:55 PM

A life well lived!! A shining light in a world of darkness--he will be missed by all who knew him!!! My sympathy to Nancy and family Love, Diane C aldwell

BP

Brenda Penman April 13 at 10:14 AM

Sorry for your loss

GF

Gregory Frazier posted:

Outside of my own parents, I know of no one who had a greater influence on my life. He will be missed and not forgotten. My heart is with the Connelly family.

April 13 at 6:39 AM

PS

Paul Springer posted:

I had him for Early Hebrew History as a Freshman in the Fall of 81. Before the first test, he told the lecture hall of about 200 if they could answer this question they would get 2 bonus points on the test. He asked, "How long did Cain hate his brother?" My hand, being a preacher's kid, shot up immediately, and it was the only one... he pointed to me and I said "As long as he was Able!" and he said "That's right" and all the others in class let out a big grooooooannnn. Good teacher, good man, did many great things for God.Paul Springer

April 13 at 6:35 AM

PR

Presley Ramsey April 13 at 4:17 PM

Dr. Connelly was one of my favorite people. He was such a great teacher, preacher, speaker, and Christian man! I have always felt honored to have known him personally. I will miss him.
Presley Ramsey



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PM

Pam Wilson Miller posted:

Dr. Connelly was my bible teacher when I attended Lipscomb in 1970. My prayers are with the family during this time.

April 13 at 6:21 AM

JS

Jeff Smith posted:

Brother Connelly was a bright spot for me when I attended Lipscomb. His approach to speaking, with illustration, and memory helps was very useful. Knowing his love for preaching was encouraging. I was thrilled to hear some of his later lectures at the FHU lectureships. They were fantastic and it was good to re-connect with him. I am grateful for his life, his faith, his love of preaching. May his family have a special measure of God's grace at this time. His death represents great loss for us, but a great victory in Christ for him. Jeff W. Smith, Shelbyville, TN

April 13 at 5:33 AM

KL

Kenneth London posted:

He baptized me when he was preaching at Philip many years ago. He and Nancy ate many Sunday dinners at our house. He once told my daddy, Brother London, when I walk by your casket I will expect you to raise up and say "hold on, there is one more thing that i want to tell you." Marlin was a great gup. Rest in peace, brother.

April 13 at 5:25 AM

TG

Todd Gregory posted:

I know the entire Connelly family, in fact Pam was in my class of DLHS '81. I had Marlin for Bible and Speech classes. I remember how he used to casually stroll up to the pulpit, with no notes or Bible in hand, and at the time, I thought it was arrogant, but then he always delivered the most well-prepared sermon, and quoted fluently from God's Word. I enjoyed his "chalk-talks" which he did for many years, and influenced children. I'm glad he and Nancy were at Crieve Hall Church of Christ in their latter years, I'm praying for the entire Connelly family in their great loss. We will all miss him greatly.

April 13 at 5:18 AM



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KB

Kyle Butt posted:

I loved to hear brother Connelly preach. He is a man of God and will be welcomed home, and I know you will miss him greatly. May the God of all comfort, comfort you and your family.

April 13 at 5:07 AM

ET

Ellen Thomas posted:

Andy,Your family is in my prayers. He was such a wonderful, godly man. I hope this brings some comfort during this difficult time.Ellen (Eggleton) Thomas

April 13 at 4:16 AM

LL

Lynn Lemmons posted:

He was one of the most popular teachers at Lipscomb. He was very knowledgeable about the Bible and he always made his classes interesting with humor mixed in. Well done, good and faithful servant!

April 13 at 3:53 AM

GH

Gary C. Hampton posted:

Brother Connelly was always kind when I met him. His lessons were well thought out and presented in a way that gave me better understanding of the text he was exposing. I am thankful the Lord gave me some time with his servant.Gary C. Hampton

April 13 at 3:16 AM

SW

Stella Walker posted:

DR. CONNELLY was a wonderful man.I had him for two Bible classes at Lipscomb. He has "fought the good fight",so we know where he is! Stella Walker

April 13 at 1:52 AM



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DJ

Dale Jenkins posted:

Brother Connelly, a gentle giant of a man. This quiet humble brilliant servant will be missed. His love for the Word of God and service to the People of God marked his life. I love he and his family so very much. To Nancy, Phillip, Pam, and Andy our prayers are with you, your spouses and children. Thank you for allowing him to be shared with us and thank your for allowing his influence to live on in you.

April 13 at 1:42 AM

DD

Dan DeLoach posted:

Forever to be remembered for his stabilizing influence and sense of humor. As students we all heard about the famous "Tarzan" tape. We had our doubts that it existed but at the speech banquet in 1970 we actually played it. It is true he followed the beating of jungle drums and a hearty Tarzan yell with the words, "Hello, I am Dr. Marlin Connelly with the .." A great Bible and Speech teacher. A good friend. A wonderful brother. Dan & Pam DeLoach Class of June 1970

April 12 at 7:31 PM

SB

Susan Boyd Beasley posted:

I had Dr. Connelly for my 1st semester of my Junior Bible class at Lipscomb in 1976. It was an 8 o'clock class which was always challenging for some. I will never forget the day he came in with a red clown nose on, acting like nothing was different. He got everyone laughing as he called roll. He always made the lessons lively and kept attention. I feel blessed to have had him for a teacher. God bless his family with comfort and sweet memories.

April 12 at 6:19 PM

TK

Tracy Rose Kline posted:

I had Dr Connelly for Bible in the '80's at DLU. I am so sorry for your loss.

April 12 at 6:09 PM



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LS

Lorraine Smith posted:

Brother Marlin baptized my dad while he was working in Calhoun Georgia. My dad was a strict Baptist, but Marlin would not give up. My dad raised chickens. Marlin helped my dad clean out the chicken houses, shoveling chicken litter in his white shirt and tie, all the while teaching my dad. Dad was baptized because Marlin cared and would not give up. Dad went on to serve 45 years as Elder for the Calhoun congregation. My Dad loved Brother Marlin dearly and so did our family. My Dad is Sale Weaver. The Connelly family is in out prayers. Thank you, Lorraine Weaver Smith

April 12 at 5:22 PM

JH

J. Greg Hardeman posted:

He was a wonderful mentor to me during my college years. I marveled at his powerful intellect as he worked with the college debate team at Lipscomb. He continued to be a valued friend after my college years. I am privileged to count him as a friend. He " fought the good fight and has now finished the course".Greg Hardeman

April 12 at 4:49 PM

DW

Dan Winkler posted:

If asked to summarize the life of Marlin Connelly, "faithful husband," "loving father," "caring grandfather," "accomplished educator," "tremendous communicator," "gospel preacher," "silent encourager" and "humble servant" could be employed. But, personally, "Christlike" is the best word to encapsulate his quiet spirit and the wonder of his life.

April 12 at 4:48 PM

CL

Chad Loveless posted:

Chalk Talk - Amazing mind - God's soldier

April 12 at 4:17 PM

TM

Tonja Mcradly posted:

We loved him greatly! He and his family both have been blessings in our lives and to the Kingdom! We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers. Love, the McRadys

April 12 at 4:10 PM



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WP

Walter & Belvia Pruitt posted:

Walter and I were blessed to have Dr. Conley for both Bible and speech classes at David Lipscomb College. Later we attended Bellevue and our two sons enjoyed his cartoon Sunday night Bible lessons while we treasured his sermons. He was indeed one of the most talented and brilliant scholars we were privileged to know. May each of family members find comfort in knowing how appreciated this man was to those seeking to learn more about God's word. Heaven just became another reason for all of us to look forward to getting there! With Christian Love, Walter & Belvia Pruitt

April 12 at 4:09 PM

KM

Kevin Montgomery posted:

Dr. Connelly was my favorite professor in college. I was blessed to have him for numerous Bible and speech classes. After college, he became more of a friend and mentor and one of the most influential people in my spiritual life for decades to come. I learned so much from him. To this day, his sermons and classes continue to be guideposts for me. My deepest condolences to the entire Connelly family. I will forever miss Dr. Connelly, and I thank God for the influence he had on my life and thousands more during his ministry.

April 12 at 3:20 PM

JB

Joe Bohannon posted:

Thank you for always putting Jesus Christ first. For teaching the fine art of communication and preaching the word of truth. My heartfelt condolences to your family and many, many friends. May God Bless them (us) all as he blessed the world with Marlin Connelly's walk through it! -Joe Bohannon

April 12 at 2:52 PM

RN

Randy Neal posted:

Marlin and Nancy went way back with our family when he preached at Philippi during his college years. He performed the wedding of my mom and dad as well as my older sister and her husband. I heard that Marlin was speaking at a lectureship a few years back and I went to hear him. After he spoke, I walked up to him and asked if he knew who I was (had not seen him in years). He told me, I don't know your first name, but I know you're a Neal. I was talking with mom about his passing and then realized - he passed away on "Good Friday." I don't know if there was any significance to be made there, but it did remind me of the many study trips he made to Israel! Marlin has crossed the Spiritual Jordan over into the eternal Promise Land!

April 12 at 2:08 PM



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JB

John Bufford posted:

Andy your Dad was one of the great men that I looked up to. You know I would be at the funeral if the circumstances were different. I remember his classes that I attended and have learned he raised a fine son. Love you and your family. You are in my prayers. John Bufford

April 12 at 1:48 PM

RM

Rhiannon Brazzell Mccain posted:

I had the privilege of having Dr. Connelly for both Bible and speech at Lipscomb University. He quickly became one of my favorite professors and was just a wealth of knowledge as well as an awesome person to be around. I often saw him playing basketball in the Athletic Center and he always said hi and called me by name. That meant a lot to me. He showed me what it meant to truly study my Bible and I could never repay that gift. Heaven is truly sweeter today. Prayers for all of his family.

April 12 at 1:35 PM

RK

Russ King posted:

Like hundreds of other students, I had Dr. Connelly for freshman Bible. I was immediately enthralled with his teaching ability. In those days he used chalk on a board to sketch pictures as he taught. It really helped keep attention. I had transferred to Lipscomb from a state university. At my former university, on the first day of class one professor made it very clear that he was busy and for us not to stop by his office to "chit-chat." On the first day of class with Dr. Connelly he said, "Feel free to stop by my office anytime to talk. It does not have to just be about this class. I'm here to help." The difference was striking. In addition to his caring side, he also had a joking/mischievous side. One snowy January morning a student fell asleep in class. Dr. Connelly kept on talking. Without breaking stride, in the middle of talking about the Israelites, he said, "And somebody go get me a snowball." We thought, "What did he say?" A moment later, he again said, "Somebody go get me a snowball" and he kept on talking. A student went outside and scooped up a handful of snow, then handed it to the professor. Dr. Connelly did not stop talking, packing the snow into a somewhat mushy ball as he headed toward the sleeping student. Splat! He tossed the snowball onto the back of the sleeping student's head. We all busted out laughing! I don't think that kid ever slept in class again. Of course, I never understood how anyone could go to sleep when listening to Dr. Connelly. He is deeply missed and fondly remembered. He was a great servant in the Kingdom.

April 12 at 1:17 PM



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TH

Tony Hoover posted:

Andy, my sincere prayers are with you and your family during this season of mourning. Kindest regards, Tony Hoover

April 12 at 1:14 PM

RW

Ron Williams posted:

Our deepest sympathy to all of you on Brother Marlin's passing. I was blessed to hear him on several occasions and so many of my middle TN friends were blessed so often to know and love him. Our losses are Paradise's gain yet still we will miss our loved ones here on this earth. Ron Williams, Lincoln Church of Christ, Huntsville, AL

April 12 at 1:01 PM



Anonymous sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Connelly family.



April 12 at 12:51 PM

PS

Paul Stovall posted:

Absolutely the best Bible teacher. I had him all 3 quarters of my freshman year. 39 years later, I still use things I learned from him. You know a teacher had an impact when you can say that.

April 12 at 11:46 AM

RF

Randy Foster posted:

Condolences to Mrs. Connelly, Phillip, Pam, and Andy. I was privileged to "sit at the feet" of Marlin for years, and he undoubtedly shaped my own love of biblical scholarship. I am grateful.

April 12 at 11:32 AM



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WB

Woody Biggs posted:

Dr. Connelly was my favorite teacher at Lipscomb. I took every class I could from him and was privileged to go to Israel with him. The lessons he taught me I still use in ministry today. The most nervous I ever was preaching was when I preached at Bellevue with him in the audience. But as usual he was gracious and encouraging. I even remember sitting in his chalk talks as a child when he would come to my home congregation for a gospel meeting. He was a great blessing to my life.

April 12 at 11:16 AM

CG

Carlus Gupton posted:

When I became a student at Lipscomb in 1978, no teacher was more welcoming than Dr. Connelly. His way of communicating deep truth understandably became a model for me. To this day, I regard him as one of the finest teachers I have ever known.

April 12 at 11:03 AM

DM

David Morris posted:

Marlin Connelly introduced me to the wonders of Matthew's Gospel as a freshman at Lipscomb. From that moment on, I was determined to take every Bible class Dr Connelly taught. As the years progressed and I decided to become a preacher, I made sure to get his sermon tapes sent to me every week so I could study his lessons and learn from a master preacher. My wife and I attended Hillsboro and we were very thankful for his ministry there. He also graciously welcomed me into his office many times for my green questions and always answered them so very well. He had the gift of taking the complex and making it understandable. He held his last Gospel meeting at our congregation. Marlin Connelly was a mentor to me and I will never, ever find the end of my thankfulness for his teaching and Christian example.

April 12 at 10:36 AM

MB

Mary Lee Merritt-Boyd posted:

It was my greatest pleasure to sit in his freshman Bible class! I always wanted to go to a Christian school! He was wonderful and I learned to cherish his Biblical alignment of truth! Prayers to you all as you keep memories close. Know that your precious husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather left quite a family legacy!

April 12 at 9:32 AM



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FH

Frank Harrell posted:

I have simply never known a man who lived what he believed more than my friend Marlin Connelly. One of the pillars of the church and of Lipscomb University.

April 12 at 9:14 AM

PK

Paul T Kidwell Jr posted:

A man who did more to instill joy in learning for me than any other. His ability was at first intimidating, when I was first his student, and later confidence building as we shared a friendship through the years. I looked forward to every opportunity to hear him and spend time with him. Heaven's gain leaves a void for those who cherished him. May God bless his family and all those for whom he provided understanding. Paul T, Kidwell, Jr.

April 12 at 9:13 AM

CB

Cindy Bailey posted:

When my dad "Jere" was in his final hours he requested to speak with Mr. Connelly. After their conversation he was at peace as was our whole family. May it bring you peace to know that the two of them are now reunited again in Heaven. Cindy Bailey

April 11 at 9:58 AM

BJ

Buddy Johnson posted:

When my wife and I started college at Lipscomb in the fall of 1997, Dr. Marlin Connelly taught our freshman Bible class Luke-Acts. What a great blessing to sit at his feet and learn about God's Word! We would often attend worship at Hillsboro where he was preaching. I took every class he taught during my years at Lipscomb. He taught me how to preach and, more importantly, how to live a Christian life. I want to thank his wife and family for sharing him with us. I look forward to seeing him again in heaven! "Well done, good and faithful servant."

April 11 at 9:26 AM

JD

John Dale posted:

When I signed a contract to teach at Lipscomb in 1980, Dr. Connelly was gracious in welcoming me. When I considered Bellevue's offer to preach, again he was kind and affirming. The entire family are in my prayers. A good and faithful servant is welcomed home!! 🙏

April 11 at 7:39 AM



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