



Herman Karl Wentzel

July 2, 1926 - September 28, 2023

Herman Karl Wentzel, the son of the Rev. Karl F. and Magdalena (Quindel) Wentzel, was born in Craigmyle, Alberta, Canada, on July 2, 1926, as the second of six children. In 1931, the family moved to North Dakota, where Herman grew up and attended public schools. He married Ruth Schwanz on July 24, 1949, at St. John's Lutheran Church, South Branch, MN.

Herman attended Concordia Teachers College in River Forest, IL (B.S. in Education), the University of Minnesota (M.A.), and Columbia University in New York City (Ed.D.). He was also awarded an honorary doctorate (LL.D.) by Concordia College in Bronxville, NY.

For sixteen years, Herman served as a teacher and principal in Lutheran elementary schools in Kansas and Missouri. He also served as a professor and administrator for thirty-one years in Lutheran colleges in Missouri, New York, and Minnesota. His administrative positions in colleges ranged from resident dormitory counselor to various vice presidencies to college presidency. In churches in the cities where he taught, he also served as a church organist for over thirty years. His other activities included serving as congregation president and on many congregation committees, as well as on various committees and task forces of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. He enjoyed golf, hunting, woodworking, reading, and various musical endeavors.

Herman was preceded in death by his parents, son James; two brothers and one sister. He is survived by his wife, Ruth; son, Steven (Vicki) of Napoleon,

OH; daughters, Kathryn of Kensington, MD; and Karen of Palo Alto, CA; seven grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren; two sisters, Donna (Don) Bresemann of Coeur D'Alene, ID, and Doris Burns of Troy, MO; sisters-in-law, Irene Wentzel of Collinsville, IL, and brothers-in-law, George (Mary Jo) Schwanz of Blaine, MN, as well as many nieces and nephews.

During his lifetime, Herman was blessed with the loving support of Ruth, his wife of 74 years, and his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He passed away on September 28, 2023, at the age of 97.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, October 4th, 2023, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Napoleon, Ohio. Interment will follow at Glenwood Cemetery in Napoleon, Ohio.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday from 3 – 7 p.m. at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home in Napoleon and on Wednesday from 10-11 a.m. at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are to be designated to St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.rodenbergergray.com.

Cemetery Details

Glenwood Cemetery

Napoleon, OH 43545

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 4. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Funeral Service

OCT 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul Lutheran Church
1075 Glenwood Ave
Napoleon, OH 43545

Tribute Wall

RJ

“ *The peace of Christ be with you all upon this time of grief and then also, the certain hope in the resurrection of all on the last day where Jesus is our bridegroom to take us graciously as His bride and as the children of God at the lamb’s high feast!*

Dr. Wentzel, was a wonderful Educator teaching thousands of students to form lessons to teach the Christian faith and all Christian Education with responsibility of the students meeting the goals set by the objectives written in lesson plan’s that were specific, measurable, etc.... But the unique issue I’ll never forget in teaching the faith, Dr. Wentzel asked, How can one measure faith in a lesson plan and be Lutheran. Yes! How? By seeing the Holy Spirit change a persons life through the teaching, not by a grad on a test. I thank the Lord for Dr. Wentzel and our class that were many DCE’s, Pre-sem, early childhood, elem. to high school, and public school college students to bless thousands as well as Dr. Wentzel did us! History and Philosophy of Education another amazing class he taught to help us know the value and purpose of being educators in the church and community and to have written our own philosophy of education to mirror the greatest doctor’s of teachers, Jesus! Thank you and all praise and glory to God for His humble servant Dr. Wentzel, Herman our brother in Christ!

Rev. James Jobst - October 11, 2023 at 12:01 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Herman Karl Wentzel.*



October 02, 2023 at 05:47 PM

PH

“ Herman was a wise, competent, steady presence on the faculty of Concordia -St. Paul for many years. I always appreciated his steady, no-nonsense, thoughtful way of conducting himself.

Paul Hillmer - October 02, 2023 at 12:18 PM

DM

“ I remember Herman was the interim President at CSP who interviewed me in 1989. I had never met him, but he impressed me in that short meeting as a thoughtful, professional, and kind man of God. His baptism in Christ is now fulfilled. Peace and comfort to the Wentzel family.

David Mennicke - October 02, 2023 at 11:27 AM

EJ

Our thoughts and prayers are with Ruth and the rest of the family. Herman was a dear friend loved by an almighty God and us.

Edie Jpnes - October 06, 2023 at 02:28 PM

ET

“ Our deepest sympathies to your family. What a memorable life full of Christian love. We will always cherish the "Wentzel Book". Please share our love with the family. Bob and Eunice Wentzel Timm

Eunice Wentzel Timm - October 01, 2023 at 05:20 PM