



Rev. Norman Henry Imbrock

September 18, 1930 - November 29, 2019

Norman Imbrock, third child born to Henry and Helen Imbrock (Cordes), born on the farm Sept. 18, 1930, baptized Oct. 3, 1930 at St. Paul's Napoleon TWP, died peacefully at the Lutheran Home in Napoleon at 2:16 am November 29, 2019.

Norm graduated from Napoleon High school in 1948. He attended Capital University, Columbus OH where he completed his Bachelor's degree and went on to study at the Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Columbus OH.

Norman met Bernice Purdon while studying at Capital University. They were married August 8, 1954. The marriage was solemnized at St. John's Lutheran Church, New Baltimore, MI with Pastors George Daschner and George Hueter presiding.

The newly married couple moved to St. Mark's Lutheran church in Butler, PA, for a year of internship before returning to their final year of training for the ministry.

Norm graduated from the seminary and received his call from The Board of Foreign Missions on May 10 and was ordained Sept 30, 1956. Prior to travelling overseas, to Papua New Guinea, they both studied linguistics for 8 weeks in Grand Forks, ND with Summer Institute of Linguistics in association with Wycliffe Bible Translators.

Norm and Bernie travelled to Papua New Guinea in 1956 and served there as a missionary team with the ELC - PNG until 1987 when they returned to the U.S. While on Sabbatical in 1980 Norm completed a Master's Thesis on the

Significance of the two Kingdom's doctrine for third world churches. Together they served Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Patchogue, Long Island, NY. From 1987 to 1997 together they served at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Patchogue, Long Island, NY. Norm retired from full-time ministry and moved back to CrissCross Farm Napoleon, OH in Sept 2000.

The couple was blessed with the birth of two sons and two daughters; Mathew and Valerie (Fry) Imbrock of Cowiche, WA, Timothy and Carol (Finley) Imbrock of Nampa, ID, Naomi and David Radke of Brisbane, Queensland – Australia, and Joanna and Chris Peters of Woodbury, MN.

Norm is survived by his sister-in-law, Patricia (Purdon) and Jim Hamby of Indianapolis IN, his 4 children, 10 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. Preceding Norm in death was his older sister, Lucille Dishop, older brother, Eldon Imbrock, both of Napoleon, OH and one grandchild Trevor Imbrock of Ely MN.

Visitation will be from 1:00 pm until 7:00 pm at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, 1010 Westmoreland Avenue, Napoleon, OH on December 17, 2019. The funeral service will be held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 02499 Adam's Ridge Rd. Defiance, OH, at 11:00 am on December 18, 2019 with one hour of visitation prior to services. Burial will follow at the cemetery of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Napoleon TWP.

Memorials may be given in Memory of Norman Imbrock to; MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship P.O. Box 47 Nampa, ID 83653) or to Bethlehem Lutheran Church (02499 Adam's Ridge Rd. Defiance, OH). If you chose to send a card, please send it in care of the funeral home.

Norm's ordination bible verse sums up his Life!

“Do not be ashamed therefore of testifying to our Lord... who saved us and called us with a holy calling... not by virtue of our works... but by grace given us through Jesus Christ who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel.” (2 Timothy 1:8-10)

Online condolences can be made at www.rodenbergergray.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Napoleon Twp.

16976 County Road Q1
Napoleon, OH 43545

Previous Events

Public Viewing

DEC 17. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Napoleon Funeral Home
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545
(419) 592-2333
help@rodenbergergray.com

Public Viewing

DEC 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery - Adams Ridge Road
02499 Adams Ridge Road
Defiance, OH 43512

Funeral Service

DEC 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethlehem Lutheran Cemetery - Adams Ridge Road
02499 Adams Ridge Road
Defiance, OH 43512

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Tribute Video*



Rodenberger Funeral Home - January 02, 2020 at 04:17 PM

BA

“ *It is sad to learn of Norm (and Bernice a few years earlier) having left us -- but they are home now, where they belong, and together again. I have had the honour and pleasure meeting both in NJ in 1993 and again a few years later, after having hiked in 1992 in their footsteps through the hills of the Wabi Valley in the Southern Highlands PNG, where Bernice and Norm worked as missionaries. There I also met one of his first Niugini lay missionaries, Pastor Amakua Totokile who has also left us many years ago. Both of them had a deep influence upon me.*

Norm was initially reluctant to talk with me, then a stranger, about his experiences as a missionary, but then opened up, and I did learn quite a lot from him in these two short visits. Many thanks, Norm and Bernice.

And rest in peace! God bless.

Gerhard R

baluo - December 27, 2019 at 07:34 AM

RY

I'm from Usa village , few miles after Wabi valley . The Imbrocks are a popular name in this part of highlands in PNG. He's commitment and dedication to teaching gospel and developing remote Kagua has now seen many educated elites ...Rest in Peace champ

Robert Yomo - May 11, 2020 at 10:55 PM

EW

“ Norm never forgot a name and he really was so proud of each of his children. It was a blessing to accompany him to his doctors visits.

George and Elaine Wells

Elaine Well - December 18, 2019 at 04:39 PM

PS

“ Paul and Marie send our deepest sympathies to the Imbrock family. We fondly remember Norm and Bernie. They were dedicated to serving Christ and the people of Papua New Guinea. I specifically remember Norm being very competent in everything he did. Specifically he seemed competent as a teacher, musician, piano player, communion wine maker, and communicator. He was a gifted letter writer, lecturer and personal organizationalist.

Bernie was also an effective administrator. She took over the secretarial work for the Lutheran hostel at Ukarumpa.

After we retired in 1997, we lived in Stonewall Texas and Norm and Bernie came to visit us some years later (along with the Manzurs).

God's agape love and our love and sympathy to you all.

In Christ,

Love Paul and Marie (missionaries in Raipinka/Kainantu (1964 - 1993, Ogelbeng 1993 - 1997.

paul senff - December 15, 2019 at 04:25 PM