



## Rev. Norman F. Norden

July 14, 1937 - February 10, 2014

Reverend Norman Ferdinand Norden, age 76 of Malinta, Ohio, entered the Church Triumphant on the afternoon of February 10, 2014.

He was born July 14, 1937 at the home of his parents Ferdinand and Mathilda (Badenhop) Norden in Henry County, Ohio. He graduated from Ridgeville High School in 1955 and then received a Bachelor of Arts from Capital University, Columbus, Ohio in 1960. He received a Bachelor of Divinity from the Evangelical Lutheran Theological Seminary in Columbus, Ohio in 1963. He interned at Trinity Lutheran Church in Mobridge, S.D. In June 1963 he was ordained into the ministry at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Napoleon Township, Ohio.

He married Wanda Wiemken in 1960. Norm and Wanda, along with their children, served in Papua New Guinea as Lutheran missionaries spreading the Christian gospel for 16 years, the last 6 years of which he was the Stewardship Director of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea. Upon return to the United States, Norm served as the pastor of Hope Lutheran Church, Hamler, Ohio for 19 years until retirement in 1999.

Norm was a missionary and pastor to the church, well-loved and highly respected. He was one of those saints who labored faithfully and made a difference in the lives of many others. He was active in the community, serving on numerous boards and committees. He was the kind of disciple Jesus was talking about when he urged us to be the "salt of the earth".

Norm is survived by his loving wife, of 53 years, Wanda and 3 children, Chris

(Danielle) Norden of Enon, Ohio, Lisa (Kevin) Ehlert of West Chester, Ohio and Rachel (David) Downs of Dublin, Ohio, 5 grandchildren Ethan and Brenton Norden, Enon, Ohio, Daniel and Philip Downs, Dublin, Ohio and Kylie Ehlert, West Chester, Ohio. Sisters; Florence Behnfeltdt, Defiance, Ohio, Mary Ann Iliff, Defiance, Ohio Margarite (Melvin) Lanzer, Napoleon, Ohio, and Gladys Dachenhaus, Paulding, Ohio, sister-in-law; Joan (Leonard) Norden, Napoleon, Ohio and brother; Dan (Toni) Norden Ravenna, Ohio, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; Ferdinand and Mathilda Norden and brother; Leonard Norden.

We commend him to the loving care of the Shepherd he served so faithfully and well. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Visitation will be from 6pm to 8pm on Thursday and 2pm to 4pm and 5pm to 8pm on Friday at Rodenberger Funeral Home Napoleon.

Funeral services will be at 11am on Saturday February 15, 2014 at Hope Lutheran Church, Hamler with one hour of visitation prior to the funeral.

Bishop Marcus Lohrman and Pastor Linsay Shaner will be officiating.

Interment will follow at Hope Lutheran Cemetery.

The family suggests memorials be made to Hope Lutheran Church endowment fund.

Online condolences can be made at [rodenbergerfuneralhome.com](http://rodenbergerfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Hope - St. Stephens Lutheran Cemetery

Hamler, OH

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 13. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## Visitation

FEB 14. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

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

## Visitation

FEB **14**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## Visitation

FEB **15**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Hope Lutheran Church  
Hamler, OH

## Service

FEB **15**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Hope Lutheran Church  
Hamler, OH

# Tribute Wall

SD

“ To Mama Wanda, Chris, Lisa and Rachael,

*Passing of Papa Revernd Norden is a shock. I just found this out today. He was the Christmas star that shone in Sumburu, Chimbu Province, Papua New Guinea for years. Words cannot describe what I feel. I will relay to the Dorugl Clan today. For and on behalf of the Dorugl family I thank God for truly enriching our lives with Rev. Norden and off course acknowledging Mama Wanda and the Children's support in the missionary work. May his soul find eternal rest.*

*From Sigl Dorugl for and on behalf or the Dorugl clan including Gundu, Neiza and their son Norman Norden.*

*Kangir Village, Simburu Circuit, Chimbu District, Papua New Guinea.*

---

**Sigl S. Dorugl** - January 27, 2016 at 10:47 PM

RP

“ *I was saddened to hear or Norm's passing. We shared many experiences growing up as neighbors. Our times at Ridgeville High, St. Paul's Church, marching band, and summer fest bands are all cherished memories.*

*Ron Panning*

---

**Ronald Panning** - February 21, 2014 at 12:38 PM

GS

“ We remember with fondness our association with Norm. He touched our lives, Char while she worked at the Lutheran Home, and Gary, while he and Norm served together on the Lutheran Home Board of Trustees. May God give peace and comfort to Wanda and the family.

*Gary and Char Spencer, Aliso Viejo, California*

---

**Gary Spencer** - February 14, 2014 at 04:19 PM

DT

“ To the family of Norman Norden,

*Norman and I played baritones in the Ridgeville Corners High School band in the early 1950's. He was already a very nice respectable person in those teen age years. I am not surprised to hear of the esteem so many friends had for him.*

*May God strengthen you with the assurance that Norman is in a better place now and as King David said in the Old Testament following the passing of his son, "He can not come to me, but I can go to him."*

*david toles*

---

**david toles** - February 14, 2014 at 11:02 AM

CS

“ To Norm's family,  
Byrl and I want to express our sympathy to you and your family. We were neighbors when I was growing up and I spent many times at your home with the girls. I remember Norm as a happy cute little boy May you find comfort in the memory of the years you were blessed to spend with him.

A former neighbor on the farm.  
Clara (Aschemeier) Short

---

**Clara and Byrl Short** - February 14, 2014 at 09:39 AM

TK

“ The Colberg Family; Glenn & Sharon, Kirk & Shelley , Kala purchased the Simply Elegant Spa thiphyllum for the family of Rev. Norman F. Norden.



---

**The Colberg Family; Glenn & Sharon, Kirk & Shelley , Kala** - February 14, 2014 at 09:18 AM

KG

“ To Wanda,  
So shocked to hear about Norm's passing. He had such a wonderful rapport with everyone. Our community will surely miss him as a positive supporter of many programs and activities. Ken and I will always remember him as an ornery friend and having many good times together. Sending love and hugs from Florida! Fondly Ken and Kae Gerken

---

**Ken and Kae Gerken** - February 14, 2014 at 09:02 AM

LH

“ To Norm's Family,  
Sorry to hear of the passing of Norm. We remember the times when  
he used our Cleveland Indian tickets because we couldn't go to a  
game. He went if he could. A great person and a great Tribe Fan!

*Larry and Helen Hesterman*

---

**Larry and Helen Hesterman** - February 13, 2014 at 05:14 PM

LE

“ 3 files added to the album *New Album Name*



---

**Lederer** - February 13, 2014 at 04:23 PM

BP

“ Wanda and family,  
Our sincere sympathy for your loss. He touched so many lives. He  
will be greatly missed. Dennis and Becky (Glore) Panning

---

**Becky Panning** - February 13, 2014 at 03:28 PM



“ Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the  
family of Rev. Norman F. Norden.



---

February 13, 2014 at 12:47 PM

LW

“ Dear Wanda and family,  
Our sincere sympathy for your loss. My  
parents Esther and Hugo Sonnenberg had  
such loving memories of Pastor as their  
spiritual leader and also as both of you as  
neighbors. He will be greatly missed by many.  
Lila Wernecke



---

**Lila Wernecke** - February 13, 2014 at 12:03 PM

KL

“ Kathy & Steve Lieb lit a candle in memory of  
Rev. Norman F. Norden



---

**Kathy & Steve Lieb** - February 13, 2014 at 11:34 AM

GS

“ Wanda and family, Just want you to know I  
am thinking about you in deepest sympathy.



---

**ginny schmidlin** - February 13, 2014 at 09:31 AM

PB

“ *My deepest sympathies to the whole Norden family. Pastor was a very special man whose friendship and caring touched more people than he probably ever realized. He will be forever missed and cherished.*



*Penni Bostelman*

---

**Penni Bostelman** - February 13, 2014 at 09:25 AM

JK

“ *Dear Rachel and Family,*

*We are so sorry for the lose of your father. You are on our minds and in our hearts.*

*Love & Prayers,  
WJMS Staff Members*

---

**Jerri Kitchen** - February 13, 2014 at 09:22 AM



“ *Sterling Silver Antiqued Cuff Bracelet was purchased for the family of Rev. Norman F. Norden.*



---

February 13, 2014 at 07:43 AM

JB

“ Our heartfelt condolences to the Norden family. Pastor Norden was there for our family both in both good times and bad. I will never be able to repay him for the support he gave my parents both as a pastor and a friend during the death of my brother Mike. He was truly a one of a kind.  
Jeff, Amy Brandt and family.

---

**Jeff Brandt** - February 12, 2014 at 08:51 PM

JD

“ John And Joan Von Deylen lit a candle in memory of Rev. Norman F. Norden



---

**John and Joan Von Deylen** - February 12, 2014 at 08:28 PM

JD

So sorry to hear about your loss. John and I have said many time how we enjoyed his kindness to us and everyone. He is and was one of a kind.

---

**John and Joan Von Deylen** - February 12, 2014 at 08:31 PM

MM

“ Wanda and family,  
I heard of Pastor Norden's passing on Facebook. I'm so sorry for your loss. You can rest well knowing he changed many lives for God's will. He will be greatly missed.

---

**Mandy (Schwiebert) Martinez** - February 12, 2014 at 04:00 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Rev. Norman F. Norden.



---

February 12, 2014 at 03:34 PM



“ Debbie and I send our heartfelt prayers to the family. We celebrate Norman's life of ministry and give thanks that he now joins the saints in light.

---

**John Stirewalt** - February 12, 2014 at 03:31 PM



“ Dear Wanda and Family,

*I was saddened to receive the news of Pastor Norm's passing. He was such a blessing in the lives of so many including me and especially my mother, Mrs. B. He will be greatly missed. May God grant you His strength and peace and may you receive comfort knowing Pastor Norm is singing with the angels in Heaven. He will be there to greet you when God calls you to His Heavenly throne. In the meantime, you are in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Blessing and Love, Nancy Norman*



---

**Nancy Norman** - February 12, 2014 at 03:18 PM

JB

“ Thoughts and prayers are with all those who mourn the loss of Pastor Norden! He was such a great guy and had such a positive influence on so many people! The Patrick Henry community will greatly miss him! Heaven definitely gained an angel!!

Jodi Biederstedt - February 12, 2014 at 01:35 PM

AP

“ So sorry for your loss. My thoughts are with you all.



Amy Proctor - February 12, 2014 at 12:08 PM

Robyn Neiderhou

“ Robyn Neiderhouse lit a candle in memory of Rev. Norman F. Norden



Robyn Neiderhouse - February 12, 2014 at 10:49 AM

MA

“ Wanda, family and friends - I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. Norm was such a big part of the community and touched so many people. Though he will be sadly missed, my thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time.



Megan (Courtney) Angus - February 12, 2014 at 08:42 AM

TB

“ *Tena And Alan Bolen lit a candle in memory of Rev. Norman F. Norden*



---

**Tena and Alan Bolen** - February 12, 2014 at 12:14 AM

TB

*We were so sorry to hear of your loss. May God comfort you in this sorrow. Tena and Alan Bolen*

---

**Tena and Alan Bolen** - February 12, 2014 at 12:15 AM

JS

“ *Jennie Stephens lit a candle in memory of Rev. Norman F. Norden*



---

**Jennie Stephens** - February 11, 2014 at 09:26 PM

BR

“ *Barb (Gray) Rosebrook lit a candle in memory of Rev. Norman F. Norden*



---

**Barb (Gray) Rosebrook** - February 11, 2014 at 08:10 PM

JM

“ Hello Wanda,

*I spoke with Norm at about 11 a.m. yesterday and we laughed, joked and had a great conversation. He just had a "way" about him that put people at ease. Norm spent time with my Dad and was a friend to him and visited him often which was what my Dad needed the most. When I was diagnosed with cancer years ago, Norm got in his car & drove to Toledo showing up where I was working at that time to check on me. He took the time to really CARE for his flock.*

*Norm will continue to be an amazing role model for us to emulate in the years to come. So many of us learned so much from Norm...we will miss him.*

*John Mangas*

---

**John Mangas** - February 11, 2014 at 06:30 PM

PK

“ Wanda, Pastor Earl & Donna send our sincere condolences to you and your family. We remember the wonderful association we had with Norman & you when I served as pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Deshler, OH, 1986-1990. May our Lord Jesus grant you His comfort, strength, and peace always.

*Earl & Donna Key*

---

**Pastor Earl & Donna Key** - February 11, 2014 at 03:51 PM

DS

“ Wanda, our deepest sympathy to you and the rest of your family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. We remember Norms friendly smile and his laugh. He married us 26 years ago and we still remember the sermon from our wedding. He touched our lives in a special way, as he did many others. Our prayers go out to you...

*Darren & Jane Sonnenberg*

---

**Darren & Jane Sonnenberg** - February 11, 2014 at 03:04 PM



“ Tears welled up inside me the second I read of Pastor's passing. So many memories flashed through my mind. He confirmed me, wed me, baptized all three of my children, and even performed the funeral service for our dearly departed toddler, Josie. I recall him commenting that he had left a wedding reception the second he heard word of her accident and he met us at the hospital for comforting words and prayers. Countless people commented on what an amazing service/sermon he delivered at her funeral. It was hard to tell by the naked eye that it may have been one of the first child's funerals he performed. He comforted us all.

*It brings a smile to my face to recall the detail Pastor included in his catechism classes. Explaining the meanings and symbols of the Church and stain glass windows. His wonderful stories of New Guinea, his laugh and beautiful singing and preaching voice. I remember enjoying a beer with him at my wedding and his comments about how lots of Lutherans like beer. (lol) He will be sadly missed but I am a better person for knowing him!*

*Blessings, thoughts and prayers to his family  
Amy Hahn Nickels*

---

**Amy Nickels** - February 11, 2014 at 01:40 PM

RW

“ *May the Power of our Lord's Resurrection comfort all who mourn the loss of Pastor Norden .I will always remember his kindness and love of people.I also remember his support of the Sports Program at Patrick Henry and his love of the Cleveland Indians.Thank you Norm for all that you have done.*

---

**Rev Richard Weaver** - February 11, 2014 at 11:13 AM

JE

“ *Pastor Norden was a true gift from God. He was so friendly and kind to everyone who met him. He will be truly missed by everyone who know him. Blessings to Wanda and the children.*

---

**Janet Erford** - February 11, 2014 at 07:29 AM

MB

“ *We are very saddened to hear of the passing of Pastor Norden. He was a very special disciple of Jesus and Jesus' followers and we will miss him deeply here on earth. He married us 30 years ago and baptized all three of our children and has always been there for our family in time of need for my mother's many surgeries. Our sympathy goes out to Wanda, Chris, Lisa, and Rachel and their families.*

*Rob, Marsha, Justin, Kylee, and Troy Bostelman*

---

**Marsha Bostelman** - February 11, 2014 at 07:26 AM