



George E. Tutwiler

February 12, 1939 - April 16, 2020

The Rev. George E. Tutwiler, age 81, died peacefully on April 16, 2020. George grew up in Rochester, PA, and graduated from Rochester High School. He received his bachelor's degree in music and English from Geneva College, where he served as lecturer in music after his graduation. He earned a certificate in theological studies from Wesley Theological Seminary and engaged in graduate studies at Union Theological Seminary (NY) School of Sacred Music and the University of Pittsburgh.

George was ordained an Elder in the Western Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church in 1970. Over a period of nearly 40 years, he served as Minister of Music in three Pittsburgh area churches: First United Methodist Church in Shadyside, Eastminster United Presbyterian Church in East Liberty, and Coraopolis United Methodist Church. He also served interim appointments, including Trinity Cathedral and First Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh. From 1981 until his retirement in 2010, he was Organist/Choirmaster and Lecturer in Methodist Studies and Church Music at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Following retirement, he resided at Canterbury Place, where he served as volunteer organist for Protestant worship services.

Widely known as a recitalist, conductor, clinician, and lecturer, George served as dean of the American Guild of Organists' Pittsburgh Chapter and he was the Guild's councilor for Mid-Atlantic States for eight years. He also served a six-year term as national director of the Committee on Seminary and Denominational Relations and was vice president of the Pittsburgh Concert Society. A member of the World Methodist Council, the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, and the Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts, his interests focused on global congregational song and the renewal of liturgy and music in the church.

Due to the current pandemic, a memorial service will be planned for a later date.

Comments



“ George was a good friend to many people. I first met him when I was a member of First Church. He was a kind soul who liked others. Rev Tutweiler was gifted and helped many others. When I became an elder, we would joke a lot, especially during our times at Annual Conference. He will be missed by many and I thank him for all the help he gave to me and many others, Don R. Smith. Titusville, Fl.

Don R. Smith - May 18, 2020 at 08:43 PM



“ Our first visit as young married, new to Pittsburgh, to First United Methodist Church opened a door to lifelong relationships that included the irresistible George Tutwiler. George stood out because of his musicianship but became a friend because of his personality. His sense of humor and wonderful laugh endeared him to many and he meant so much to us
Until we left town to move out of state.

Bob & Myrna McCurdy - April 23, 2020 at 07:47 PM



“ I first met George when I was in Junior High School and went to church camp at Jumonville. He was the pianist who every day after lunch and dinner accompanied all of the campers in the Meal Hall on camp songs and hymns. Fantastic pianist with a real instinct for playing those songs to inspire everyone to sing. Fifteen years later I was in the choir at First Methodist Church where George was the choir director and organist. The guy who could swing those camp songs had the same instinct for serious religious and sacred classical music. He was an unbelievable musician and a great guy. I saw him a couple years ago and we reminisced about our happy past encounters. My sincere condolences to his family and friends. May He Rest In Eternal Peace.

Sincerely, Keith Cochran

Keith Cochran - April 23, 2020 at 05:21 PM