



## Walter Bo Russell

October 5, 1920 - September 13, 2013

Walter Bo Russell, age 92, entered into the presence of his Heavenly Father on Friday, September 13, 2013 at 6:35 AM. He had resided at Garden Valley Nursing and Rehabilitation in Kansas City, Missouri for the past 2 ½ years after moving to Kansas City from Bolivar, Missouri in 2006. Bo was preceded in death by his parents Walter and Lena (Spurgeon) Russell, his wife of 63 years, Ida Mabel (Teters) Russell and his infant grandson, Christopher Bo Russell.

Born on October 5, 1920 in Towanda, Kansas, Bo was a resident of Bolivar, Missouri and a graduate of Southwest Baptist College in Bolivar and Drury College in Springfield, Missouri in 1942. After graduation he worked in Washington, D.C. for the Coast and Geodetic Survey as a photogramatrist and served in the United States Army Air Force in the South Pacific Theatre of Operations until the end of World War II. Bo attended Officers Candidate School in Brisbane, Australia and as the war ended, he was serving as a photo intelligence officer in the Air Force Headquarters of General Douglas MacArthur in Manila, Philippines.

In 1942, Bo married his high school sweetheart, Ida Mabel Teters and they raised their family in Bolivar, MO where his wife was a beloved elementary teacher for many years in the Bolivar School District. Bo commuted to Rolla, Missouri, where he worked with the Missouri State Geological Survey. During

this time, he was in charge of the field operations which determined the prehistoric river channels of the Missouri River. In 1958, Bo moved his family to Kansas City where he worked until his retirement in 1986 for the Layne-Western Company. Bo retired as district manager and vice president of the Layne-Western Company and his pride with this company was reflected in the training of over thirty young managers/engineers for the company.

Bo and his family were active throughout life in the pursuit of Christian ideals. Bo and Ida Mabel worked tirelessly for many years with the First Baptist Church of Bolivar, Missouri and later with young college students at the First Baptist Church of Raytown. Bo was ordained a deacon in First Baptist Church of Raytown, where he served for a number of years on various committees helping to direct church growth.

Bo's family include his daughter and son-in-law Susan and Dennis Rogers, Kansas City, MO, his son and daughter-in-law Walt and Marty Russell, Yorba Linda, CA, granddaughters, Amy Rogers-Johnson, Susanne Dilly and husband Jason, Elizabeth Hoops and husband Justin and grandson, Jonathan Russell and wife Noel. Bo was also blessed with five beloved great grandchildren, Avery Dilley, Olivia Dilley, Gavin Dilley, Reese Johnson and Cohen Johnson.

Bo's life was long and filled with wonderful memories of a gracious man who lived the concept of a strong Christian leader within his family. People valued him as friend, business associate and model of integrity and character. He was named the "Kindest Citizen in Bolivar" in 1999, an award which reflected the love and affection of his community.

A Celebration of Life for Walter Bo Russell will be held on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at 1:00 PM in the Butler Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. Harlan E. Spurgeon officiating. The reading of the Eulogy will be by Rev. Billy

Russell. Personal Reflections will be by Bob Jester and Pat Mullen. Elizabeth Hoops and Jonathan Russell will have a reading entitled "A Life Well Lived". Musical selection will be "It Is Well With My Soul" by soloist Brad Wommack, a congregational song, "Because He Lives" and "I Can Only Imagine" by Mercy Me. Burial will be in the Greenwood Cemetery in Bolivar under the care and direction of the Butler Funeral Home of Bolivar. Dr. Walter Bo Russell, III will be reading "Resurrection Day" at the cemetery. Military Honors will be held at the Greenwood Cemetery by the Fifth District Honor Guard of the American Veterans. Casketbearers will be Jason Dilley, Justin Hoops, Bob Jester, Jonathan Russell, Henry Teters and Larry Teters.

A Visitation will be held from 11:00 to 1:00 PM at the Butler Chapel just prior to services.

On Thursday, September 19, 2013, At 1:00 PM A Celebration of Life for Bo will be held at the Platte Woods United Methodist Church, 7310 N.W. Prairie View, Platte Woods, MO 64051 with Rev. Ginger Pudenz officiating. Elizabeth Hoops and Jonathan Russell will have a reading entitled "A Life Well Lived". Personal Reflections will be by Amy Rogers-Johnson and Susanne Dilley. Musical Selections will be by "Blessed Assurance", "Great Is Their Faithfulness" and "When The Saints Go Marching In" with Walter Bryant as the pianist.

Bo's Family would like to express their sincere gratitude to the caregivers of Garden Valley Nursing and Rehabilitation for the loving attention paid to Bo. Daily they were a godsend and encouragement during the years he spent in their home. Also a special thank you and profound gratitude to the Crossroads Hospice and Palliative Care.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the Garden Valley Nursing and Rehabilitation, 8575 N. Granby, Kansas City, MO 64154. The Crossroads

Hospice and Palliative Care, 2900 N.E. 60th St., Suite 150, Gladstone, MO 64119. Also the Lifting Hands Network, 5962 Short St. Yorba Linda, CA 92886, Dr. Walt Russell, Chairman of the U.S. Lifting Hands Network.

Friend may sign the guest book online at [www.butlerfuneralhome.com](http://www.butlerfuneralhome.com)

PDF Printable Version

# Tribute Wall



“ *Walter Bo Russell*

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ *Walter Bo Russell*

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *What a wonderful man! Heaven is richer with his presence.*

**Steve and Debby Claxton** - September 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *I am grateful for the life of Mr. Russell. Thanks to his service and to the service of others in our armed forces, my family and I have been able to lead our lives in freedom and peace.*

**Bob in Grandview, Missouri** - September 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Walter Bo Russell*

**Jerald L. Andrews** - September 18, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear beloved cousin Bo,  
Thank you for your extraordinary life of love and compassion.  
Light and Love for all your family.*

**Ginger Chance** - September 17, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ So sorry to hear of your loss. Bo was a great Christian and loved everybody. My family got to know him while Mabel was in Parkview. Mabel was in the room with my Mother Thelma (Susie) McReynolds. He was such a blessing. God bless all of you.

---

**Royce Slagle** - September 17, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ I was so surprised to read Bo's obituary (wonderfully written) in the NewsLeader today. His room was just a couple of doors down from my dad--Norman Maughmer--at Garden Valley. He and Dad visited often about their service careers, farming, and sports. I always admired the way Bo carried himself and I NEVER saw him without a smile on his face and a greeting to everyone. Since I live in Springfield, we often visited about "local news" when I was visiting Dad. He was a true gentleman and I know you will miss him. My sincerest sympathies to all your family. Julie

---

**Julie MacDonald** - September 17, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ To the family : my sincere condolences.  
There is no greater pain than the death of a loved one.  
Sometimes it seems almost more than a person can bear.  
Jehovah God helps us with this in His word,  
He promises us that He will put a stop to all sickness  
and death will be no more (REV 21;3.4) Jehovah also  
shows His love for us through the ransom sacrifice  
of His beloved son Jesus Christ. What a wonderful gift to be given !  
Then the hope of seeing our loved ones again  
on this earth, transformed into a paradise. The Bible tells us  
this was Jehovah's will when He created Adam & Eve.  
Please read:  
(Genesis 1:26,27; John 5: 28,29; Psalms 37:11,22,29).  
If you have any questions or comments,  
You contact me at: ricruiz@aol.com  
Sincerely:

---

**Rick Schwebel** - September 17, 2013 at 12:00 AM

HC

“ Our thoughts and prayers for all of the family and friends of Bo. It  
has been a pleasure to know and spend time with such a special  
man. Harold and Bo spent many days together while caring for  
Mabel at Parkview Care Center in Bolivar. What an example of  
caregiving he has left for us to follow.

---

**Harold & Jan Cross** - September 17, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ I had the distinct pleasure of association with Bo during the 15 years  
prior to his retirement, and working with him during his involvement  
with Layne's Sales Engineer Training Program. I have never met a  
more kind and gracious person. RIP Bo.

---

**Doyle Goodman** - September 16, 2013 at 12:00 AM