

Pastor's Pen

Many in the church have requested that I share some of the tributes about Jim.

WHAT IS A DIGNITARY?

The day, June 5, 1974 was beautiful and sunny, with a gentle breeze; but for one family in Chesapeake the sun must have been hidden from view. It was the day their son was being laid to rest.

James Read Hughes, 28, son of Rev. and Mrs. Frank Hughes, Jr. was killed in a traffic accident while giving assistance to a motorist who was having car trouble. Jimmy Hughes was a Virginia State Trooper. His record was exemplary. His superiors had only the highest praise, both for his execution of his duties as an officer and his fine character and integrity as a gentleman. It was his habit to give much of his free time to volunteer duties as he was doing at the time of his death.

I knew Jimmy as a very small boy and watched him grow up, as I attended the South Norfolk Baptist Church, of which his father is the minister. He was a fine, handsome young man.

I attended the Memorial Services on that day, and the events will be forever etched in my memory. I don't believe this city has ever witnessed such a display of honor and tribute to any man before. The church was filled to standing, and floral contributions were in profusion. The bier was draped with our beautiful State flag. There were well over one hundred of his fellow Troopers present, representing many of the counties in Virginia, as well as a great number of police officers from surrounding cities. As these men paid their last respects, you could sense the sorrow and loss they felt. The state and cities' vehicles leading the procession spread several blocks in length, and motorcycled police seemed to be everywhere. It was a very moving sight, and I was filled with deep awe and emotion, especially since I realized that all this tribute was not out of duty, as it might be in some cases, but out of love and true dedication to this fine young man.

the beginning of a new day:
the beginning of a new life!



WORLD WIDE PICTURES PRESENTS
ISN'T IT GOOD TO KNOW
GREAT MUSIC

with BILLY GRAHAM

JULY 17, 1974
7:30 P. M.
SOUTH
NORFOLK
BAPTIST
CHURCH

I think that looking down on the scene, the Heavenly Host must have wept; oh not for themselves, for the gain is theirs; not for Jimmy, because he accepted eternal life, and peace and love. The compassion would have been for the devastating grief and sense of loss of his family, who showed such remarkable faith and bravery; those who will for a while, be separated from this cherished one and face each day without the sunshine and love which he brought into their lives.

Many people who witnessed this outstanding tribute, and were not aware of what it meant were asking, "What is this all about? Is this some dignity?" Webster gives one definition of "dignitary" as "one who possesses exalted rank or holds a position of dignity and honor". Dignitary? Yes, indeed yes it should be to Jimmy and all the other fine young men who choose such a career, and take it not lightly, but serve it with such whole hearted devotion and honor. May each of us who agree write it on our hearts, lest we forget.

Susan Kocen
June 6, 1974

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Youth - Adult

Sunday - 9:30 A. M.

"LETTERS TO YOUNG CHURCHES"

I. Courageous Faith In A Hostile World
1 and 2 Thessalonians

II. Life In Christ
Ephesians

June 30 - "God's Redeeming Grace"

July 7 - "God's Eternal Purpose"

July 14 - "Christian Renewal"

UNIT PURPOSE:

To help persons appreciate how God's eternal purpose of grace makes possible forgiveness of sin, newness of life, and the practice of Christian virtues in all life's relationships.

POSSIBLE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. To appreciate the products of God's redeeming grace within our lives.
2. To understand God's eternal purpose to redeem all mankind and to accept our relationship to that purpose.
3. To comprehend and experience the renewal of mind and spirit that can be effected by God's grace.

QUESTIONS PEOPLE ARE ASKING:

What does God's grace mean to me?

What part did God's grace play in my salvation?

Does God have a purpose for my life?

Have I found real meaning for my life within God's purpose?

What demands does my relationship to Christ place on my life?

What about my awareness to human need?

Am I willing to forgive others as Christ forgave me?

UNIT OVERVIEW:

Unit two is centered in the dynamic epistle to the Ephesians, and it deals with such themes as the grace of God, the eternal purposes of God, and Christian living. As you study the Scripture passages related to these lessons, try to imagine that you were among the original recipients of this powerful letter.

Forbidden fruit
has resulted in many a Jam

everything
is beautiful -
in its
own way.