



Alfred O. Christiansen

May 17, 1928 - November 9, 2015

Christiansen, Alfred Oscar,
Saginaw, Michigan

Al entered into his eternal rest on Monday, November 9, 2015. Age 87 years.

He was predeceased by his parents, Oscar William Christiansen and Dorothy nee Lindsteadt; siblings: Gerald, Ruby and Eileen; and his beloved wife of 59 years, Irene Eleanor nee Schulz. Left to cherish his memory are his children: Ellen Hinlicky (Paul) and Martin Christiansen (Caroline); seven grandchildren: Sarah Hinlicky Wilson (Andrew), William Hinlicky, Keaton Christiansen (Rebekah), Piera Siegmann (Aaron), Brennick Christiansen (Bethany), Minte Irmer (Mitch), and Temish Christiansen; two great-grandchildren: Ezekiel Wilson and Karin Christiansen; his brother Donald and his sister Ruth Bruggeman; his devoted companion, Marian Krupka, and many nieces and nephews, friends and former students.

Al was born in Norfolk, Nebraska, on May 17, 1928. He attended St. John's Lutheran Preparatory School and College in Winfield, Kansas, and Concordia Teacher's College in Seward, Nebraska. He was a Lutheran school teacher for 42 years until his retirement in 1991, having served at Lutheran schools in the Detroit area; Fremont, Nebraska; Copperas Cove, Texas; and for 34 years at Peace Lutheran School in Saginaw, Michigan. As a Minister of Education of

the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, he also served as Sunday School Superintendent, evangelism visitor and teacher, coach, Bible Study leader and mentor, and visitor to the homebound, even into his retirement. He loved to golf, hunt, and fish; study the Bible; spend time with his family and friends; and was an active member of Peace Lutheran Church from 1957 until his death. Foremost, he loved his Lord Jesus and gave his entire life in service to Him.

Funeral and committal services will take place 12:00 noon on Wednesday, November 11, 2015, at Peace Lutheran Church, 3427 Adams Street, Saginaw. The Rev. C. William Weis will officiate. Friends are welcome to visit with the family at the church from 10:00 a.m. until the time of services. Private burial will take place at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to Peace Lutheran Church and School Foundation or the Saginaw Rescue Mission. Memories and sympathies of Al may be shared with the family on his memorial website at WakemanFuneralHome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 11. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Peace Lutheran Church
3427 Adams Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48602

Funeral and Committal Services

NOV 11. 12:00 PM (ET)

Peace Lutheran Church
3427 Adams Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48602

Tribute Wall



“ Alfred O. Christiansen

September 13, 2022 at 05:01 PM



“ Alfred O. Christiansen

September 13, 2022 at 02:27 PM



“ Mr. C was a wonderful person and as I've grown older recognized his God given abilities as a teacher and the things that I didn't necessarily appreciate as a kid, I now do as an adult and especially as a teacher myself! I learned many things from him and am very thankful that he played a part in shaping my life.

Our condolences go out to all of his family and friends! God bless Mr. C!

Warren Wood and family

Warren - November 12, 2015 at 11:19 PM



“ BIG AL was a scary teacher in the 5th grade, but I did learn the states by doing his mandatory map of the U S. He was a good customer and friend. Mark Billmeier

mark billmeier - November 12, 2015 at 06:36 PM

JH

“ Dear Christiansen family- I'm sorry to hear of the passing of Al. I was a student at Peace from 4th grade through 8th. Al was a great teacher, with energy and great teaching skills. He was strict and tough as well. Which only would make a student stronger and be able to handle the world. He was often called "Mr. C" by many students, and that was fine, as long as he was respected by students. I can recall on many occasions, Al did not like students using the wooden handrails on the stairs as a way to slide down and not use the steps. Many were disciplined and sent to the principals office. :(Al was a stickler on this, and wanted safety for the kids. Al was one of the toughest teachers I ever had in school, and for that, I'm a better person today. I'm sure many other students would agree! Rest in peace "Mr. C" and may your memory and teaching instructions live on in us forever and beyond! James (Jim) Hill, Jr.



James H. - November 12, 2015 at 05:10 PM

N(

“ Rest in Peace Mr. C. Thank you for sharing your knowledge, your generosity and your love of God and life with so many of us through the years.



Nicole (Gallagher)Thompson - November 11, 2015 at 06:53 PM

SK

“ Rest in Peace Mr. C with your Heavenly Father whom you Loved so dearly. God Bless you as you are now with your beloved wife and friend Irene. Thank you for your unending faith, spiritual blessing, and prayers you shared with young and old. I had the privilege of being Sunday School teacher when he was our leader, what a passion he had for all the day school and public school children to teach them the word of God. He was also a dear friend of my parents Arno and Lois Goetz and is now with them in Heaven. I also had him as a teacher in 5th Grade and remember that it was a given that we made a Map of the US. Will miss your smiling face and your Hugs and Kisses, to a true inspired by God evangelist to ALL.. Prayers to Ellen, Martin, and family.. He IS Keeping The Angels Busy.. Sue Goetz-Kisser

Sue Kisser - November 11, 2015 at 08:50 AM

NA

“ Mr. Christiansen, was my fourth and fifth grade teacher. It was a long time ago, as I am heading to my 68 birthday.... I am so pleased many of us had the privilege to talk and laugh with himnot that long ago as many of his students gathered together at our 50th eighth grade graduation reunion. Classmates arrived from across the country.... We were almost the entire class! To see Mr. Christiansen there was a great surprise. As many may relate, he was a great teacher, friend, and advisor through our growing years. His faith was so strong... Advice would end..."remember, the Lord is always with you". Nancy Hoover Abbott.

Nancy Abbott - November 11, 2015 at 08:05 AM

CS

“ As a student, I remember Mr. C singing a song at the end of the day, "We'll be glad when you're gone, you rascals you." As an elementary principal, I still sing that song every Friday when my students leave. Enjoy your heavenly reward. God Bless.



Carl Sztuczko - November 11, 2015 at 05:48 AM

SS

“ A great teacher and a wonderful man. The world was a better place for his passing there. Our deepest sympathy.

Stacy and Pam Bowen.

Stacy I seaman - November 10, 2015 at 03:38 PM

TH

“ I didn't know Al very long, But he still touched my life. As all that know him, he is a very Loving caring person. He is in his Heavenly Father's loving arms now. Will be missed by many.



Tom and Denise Harvey - November 10, 2015 at 01:56 PM

VI

“ Mr. C was one of my all time favorite teachers. From the first day jumping on the desk to gain our attention to the wallet which held his favorite "Pride and Joy". You were one of a kind and will be remembered through countless memories shared with others. It has been wonderful to see all the comments and memories shared on social media uniting your many students past and present. Thank you for your guidance.

Vicki Allen Harrell

Vicki - November 10, 2015 at 12:39 PM



“ Al was up at our cottage on Linwood Beach in summer of 1961. My father was running our 14 ft all wood Lyman boat with a 35 HP Evinrude on it. Back then the ski ropes were very elastic. Al wanted to water ski for the first time. Some how on the ascent up and out of the water, Al lost the ski rope. It went whipping forward, and boomeranged back knocking Al directly on the forehead. It stunned Al, for a few minutes, and left a red mark on his head. However being the man of strong character he was, that would not intimidate him. Al kept trying until he got up on those water skies, and hung on for a nice long ski, on those Saginaw Bay choppy seas. That September Al was my 5th grade school teacher at Peace.

Karl Nitz - November 10, 2015 at 11:31 AM

KF

“ What a wonderful example if a Christain man, father, and teacher. How happy he must be now to be with his Lord and his family



Kris Flora - November 10, 2015 at 09:04 AM

PG

“ *Mr. C was one of my favorite teachers at Peace Lutheran! Thank you for your dedication and patience with me in my younger years. I know I wasn't the best student... but I'm sure I wasn't the worst either. You will surely be missed. Once again, Thank you Mr. C.*

Sincerely, Polly (Stockmeyer) Gordon

Polly Stockmeyer Gordon - November 10, 2015 at 08:16 AM

EK

“ *I am grateful for the impact that Mr. C. has had upon my life, both in my early years and even now in my teaching. Certainly, there are still plenty of bad Mr. C. jokes being perpetuated, and we don't have any pipes in the stairwell at my school for the troubled students to talk to, but I am so thankful for the great Christian leader and teacher he was. While I mourn with you at his passing from this earth, I also rejoice with you and him as he has heard the words of His Savior, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"*
God's Blessings to the family!

Eric Kaschinske - November 10, 2015 at 06:25 AM

JF

“ *Really a great teacher about things that matter in life. I remember him stopping class to talk about anything that was more important, be that how to pay attention to detail, or how to behave at a dance. To this day, I remember him telling me to "practice being a man now, because your children will copy everything you do...."*

RIP MR. C.

jim fitzpatrick - November 09, 2015 at 11:41 PM

S(

“ My family knew Mr. C before I was even born. I grew up knowing him, but that feels like ages ago since I hadn't seen him for many years. What I do remember is that Mr. C was very well respected and a caring person. He always acknowledged and said hello to everyone. He was a selfless man, always trying to help others. He was great with children; as he would tease me and make me laugh. I always saw him with a smile on his face. He devoted his time and love not just to the church, but to the people. My prayers and thoughts are with the family and friends.



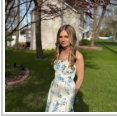
Sharon Szeman (Gubody) - November 09, 2015 at 11:07 PM

RG

“ Renee Gauze lit a candle in memory of Alfred O. Christiansen



Renee Gauze - November 09, 2015 at 09:42 PM



A Godly man like no other. I had the pleasure of living a few houses away from him and Irene and beautiful memories of our Sunday school teachers parties at their home. I also remember how sad I was when he retired 1 year before my son would have him for a teacher. I wanted so bad for Sean to have him. Mr. C held a special place in my heart. 30 years ago he shared something with me that I have used in many situations, during a Dale Carnegie speech and so much more. Those words "If you are going to worry about anything in life, thats ok, but worry for ONLY 30 seconds and place it in the hands of GOD". The best part about this, I had the pleasure of seeing him at church during a visit about 2 years ago. As soon as I spotted him in church I went for the hug and informed him of how I have carried and used those godly words of wisdom throughout my life. He also reassured me he had given a gift (Ceramic Church I had made 25 years ago) to his daughter so it would continued to be enjoyed for many year. Your smile and words are forever in my heart. Mr.C's family, you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Renee Gauze - November 09, 2015 at 10:01 PM



“ Al was a great friend, mentor, and colleague. He will be greatly missed by many in the teaching field! His stories will be missed as well. Both those of school experiences, and more so those of the duck blind. "No day repeats itself" my friend. May you rest easy in Jesus and save me a seat in the great duck blind beyond!

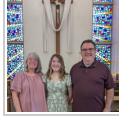
Jon Pickelmann - November 09, 2015 at 07:16 PM



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Kimberly Hamilton - November 09, 2015 at 07:10 PM



One of my favorite teachers of all time. Loved listening to him teach bible study as an adult also and he always greeted you with that smile.

Kimberly Hamilton - November 09, 2015 at 07:15 PM

SS

“ *Rip Al see u again in heaven we all will miss u*



Scott Sayers - November 09, 2015 at 07:05 PM

SC

“ *Sara Claus lit a candle in memory of Alfred O. Christiansen*



Sara Claus - November 09, 2015 at 06:41 PM

WZ

“ *A great man and teacher! A profession that he loved dearly. Al taught with kindness and caring, always brightly sharing the Love of Jesus Christ our Lord! He always had a twinkle in his eye and a kind word for all. Al made everyone feel like family and you felt it every time you were with him. He had a great many family members at Peace who love him and respect him. When you had him for a teacher, you knew you had a friend for life. He cared for and loved everyone of his students! You have finished your race, kind and faithful servant. We will meet again someday, share your famous hugs in heaven with all those you have missed. Love and prayers for the Christiansen family.*

Wendy Zeitler - November 09, 2015 at 06:30 PM

MD

“ *Melissa DeLong lit a candle in memory of Alfred O. Christiansen*



Melissa DeLong - November 09, 2015 at 06:18 PM

MD

Wonderful man! My eighth grade teacher. He was also my neighbor on Hunter St. He was inspiring and genuine. God bless him and prayers to his family. Till we meet again Mr. C!!

Melissa DeLong - November 09, 2015 at 06:20 PM



“ *A man on respect and honor.... to the family, I am sorry for your loss, may Mr. C rest in peace. He as a great teacher and someone I looked up while in school and many years after. I was just thinking of him the other day and wondering how he was.... just popped in my head as I was going about my day.... a sign of a great teacher... having his student thinking of him... 25 years or so later. Rest in Peace Mr. C until we see each other.....*

Summer Zeitler Korponic - November 09, 2015 at 06:07 PM

DA

“ I was just being interviewed by my 10 year daughter on my favorite teacher and why, for her project at school. I was telling her all about why Mr. C was my favorite teacher and how I still have the utmost respect and thankfulness for him making a difference in my life. Over 30 years ago he touched my life and made a difference in who I became. Amy is right, he was greeted with the angels and our Father knowing he served well on Earth. I look forward to seeing him again. My sympathy and prayers to his family! - Dawn Petrie Hamilton

Dawn - November 09, 2015 at 03:51 PM

AR

“ Amy David Ryll lit a candle in memory of Alfred O. Christiansen

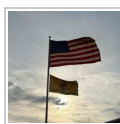


Amy David Ryll - November 09, 2015 at 03:23 PM

AR

Rest in heaven Mr. C!!! He was a wonderful man of God and one of my favorite teachers! Surely our Lord met him at the gates of heaven and said, "Well done my good and faithful servant!" He was a shining example of the lives we are supposed to lead as Christians. The world is a little dimmer without his presence in it! My prayers of peace go out to his family! -Amy David Ryll

Amy David Ryll - November 09, 2015 at 03:30 PM



I had a chance to visit with him at my mom's apartment complex a few months ago. He still remembered me as one of his students from (I don't even want to think about how many) years ago. He was a good teacher and a good man. He will be remembered by so many. I still think of him whenever it gets "froggy" outside.

David Jakes - November 10, 2015 at 05:57 PM

VG

Sorry to hear of your (and our) loss! Mr. C was my 1st grade teacher (pulled one of my first teeth!) :-) and later 5th then 6th grade at Trinity Lutheran School in Fremont, NE. (way back when!) Memories! oh a bunch! Showing off to 7th and 8th graders his basketball moves only to sprain his ankle. Next day would be great, with a substitute teacher! Only to have him hobbling in on crutches! Being caught shooting "stuff" across the room, the bunch of us having to stay after school making SPIT wads (ugh) which he threatened to shoot at US the next day, (he didn't) and explaining a girls torn dress (an accident!!). Learning three part harmony songs to sing in church, I can still remember the first one. "We All Believe In One True God" I was fortunate to make contact with him via emails some years back, and share some old class pictures with him also. . I hope he is now exchanging memories with my wife in Heaven too!

Vern Greunke - December 10, 2015 at 12:48 AM

DA

Mr. C was my 5th Grade teacher, 1960-61 school year. A year later we moved to Virginia and I next returned to Peace in 9/1976 as a sponsor at the christening of my newborn nephew. After the service Mr Christiansen sought me out, remembering me after 14 years. I always wondered if that was good or bad! Rest In Peace Mr. C.

Dave Ayers - May 27, 2020 at 05:54 PM