

Dr. William Chester Runnels
January 11, 1935 - December 3, 2023

Celebrating the Life of
Dr. William Runnels
Friday, December 8, 2023 1:30 p.m.
Broussard's Chapel
Beaumont, Texas
Mr. Rick Walker

“Victory in Jesus” #480

Welcome and Obituary

“Softly and Tenderly” #880

Family Remembrances

“I Surrender All” #572

Eulogy

“Where the Soul Never Dies” #838

Closing Prayer

Victory in Jesus

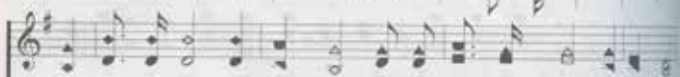
G/G

But take heed! I have overcome the world. Jst. 16:33

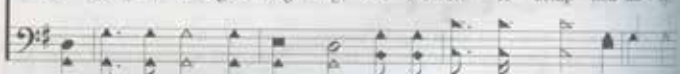
1. I heard an old, old sto - ry How a Sav - ior came from glo - ry,
 2. I heard a bout His heal - ing, Of His cleans - ing pow'r re - veal - ing,
 3. I heard a bout a man - sion He has built for me in glo - ry.



How He gave His life on Cal - va - ry To save a wretch like me,
 How He made the lame to walk a - gain And caused the blind to see,
 And I heard a bout the street of gold Be - yond the crys - tal sea.



I heard a bout His groan - ing, Of His pre - cious blood's a - ton - ing,
 And then I cried "dear Je - sus; Come and heal my bro - ken spir - it,"
 A bout the an - gels sing - ing, And the old re - demp - tion sto - ry.



Then I re - pent - ed of my sins And won the vic - to - ry,
 I then o - beyed His blest com - mands And gained the vic - to - ry,
 And some sweet day I'll sing up there The song of vic - to - ry.



REFRAIN



O vic - to - ry in Je - sus, My Sav - ior, for - ev - er, He sought me out



WORDS & MUSIC: E. M. Bartlett, 1939

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bought me with His re - deem - ing blood; He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my



love is due Him. He plunged me to vic - to - ry, be - neath the clean - sing flood.



Softly and Tenderly

880

A/C

He will not shout or cry out, or raise His voice in the streets. - Is. 42:1-4

1 Soft - ly and ten der ly Je - sus is call ing,
 2. Why should we tar ry when Je - sus is plead ing,
 3. Time is now fleet ing, the mo - ments are pass ing,
 4. Oh! for the won - der - ful love He has prom ised,

Call - ing for you and for me; See, on the por - tals He's
 Plead - ing for you and for me? Why should we lin ger and
 Pass - ing from you and from me; Shad - ows are gath er - ing,
 Prom - ised for you and for me; Tho' we have sinned, He has

REFRAIN

wait - ing and watch - ing, Watch ing for you and for me.
 heed not His mer - cies, Mer cies for you and for me? Come
 death - beds are com ing, Com ing for you and for me.
 mer - cy and par - don, par - don for you and for me.

home, come home, Ye who are wea - ry, come home;
 Come home, come home,

cres. *Rall.*

pp *ppp* *Rit.* *pp*

Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly, Je - sus is call - ing, Call ing, O sin - ner, come home!

I Surrender All

572

DIFF.

Any of you who does not give up everything...cannot be my disciple. Lk. 14:33



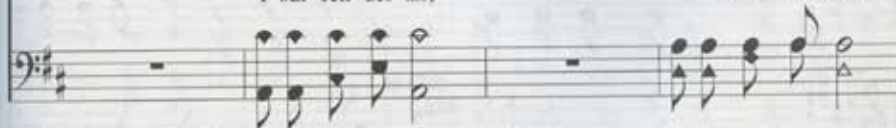
1. { All to Je sus I sur ren - der, All to Him I free ly give; }
I will ev er love and trust Him, In His pres - ence dai ly live. }
2. { All to Je - sus I sur ren - der, Hum bly at His feet I bow; }
World ly pleas - ures all for - sak en, Take me, Je sus, take me now. }
3. { All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der, Lord, I give my self to Thee; }
Fill me with Thy love and pow - er, Let Thy bless - ing fall on me. }



REFRAIN



I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all;
I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all;



All to Thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.



WORDS: Judeon W. Van De Venter, 1896

MUSIC: Winfield S. Weeden, 1896

I SURRENDER ALL

8.7.8.7 w/REFRAIN

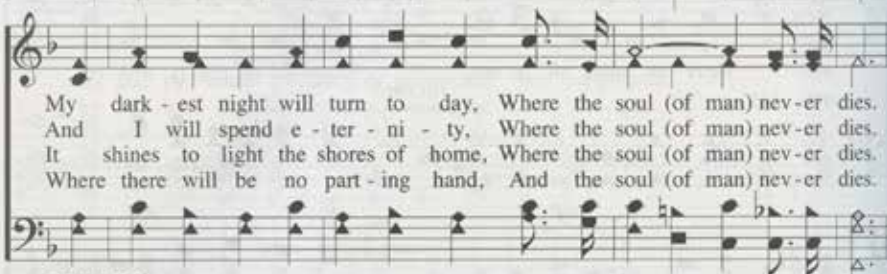
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Where the Soul Never Dies

F/F

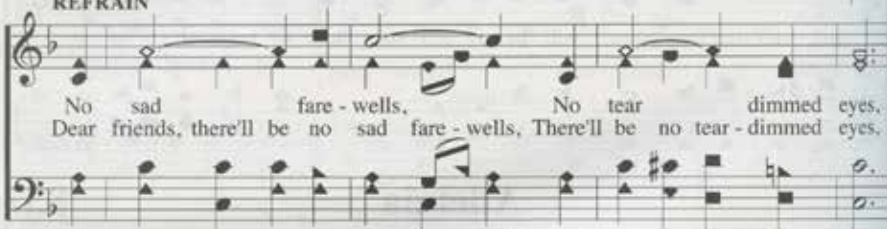
There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain. Rev. 21:4


1 To Ca - naan's land I'm on my way, Where the soul (of man) nev - er dies;
 2. A rose is bloom - ing there for me, Where the soul (of man) nev - er dies,
 3. A love - light beams a - cross the foam, Where the soul (of man) nev - er dies,
 4. I'm on my way to that fair - land, Where the soul (of man) nev - er dies;



My dark - est night will turn to day, Where the soul (of man) nev - er dies.
 And I will spend e - ter - ni - ty, Where the soul (of man) nev - er dies.
 It shines to light the shores of home, Where the soul (of man) nev - er dies.
 Where there will be no part - ing hand, And the soul (of man) nev - er dies.

REFRAIN



No sad fare - wells, No tear dimmed eyes,
 Dear friends, there'll be no sad fare - wells, There'll be no tear - dimmed eyes.

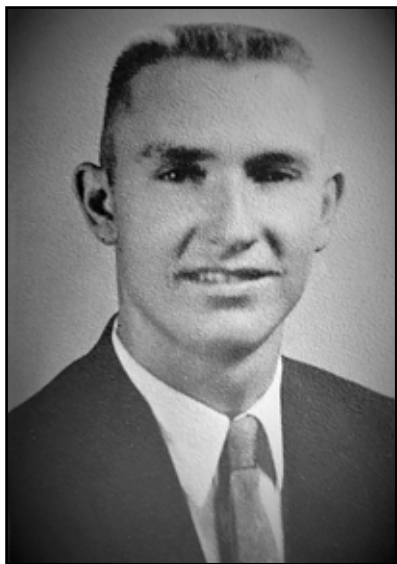


Where all is love, And the soul nev - er dies.
 Where all is peace and joy and love, And the soul of man nev - er dies.

WORDS & MUSIC: William M. Golden, 1914

WHERE THE SOUL NEVER DIES

F. F. F. w/REFRAIN



Dr. William Chester Runnels was born on January 11, 1935, in Alice, Texas. Chester was raised on a farm in Riviera, Texas, and after earning his drivers license, daily delivered the milk from the family cows to the dairy processors to earn money for college. He also was a musician with a particular love for singing country music, while playing the guitar/piano. Chester met his wife, Virginia Louise Runnels, in 4H, and they married on August 25, 1955, and remained married for 68 years until his demise on the Lord's Day, December 3, 2023.

Chester went on to attend Texas A&I University where he earned both a Bachelors Degree and Masters Degree in Biology. Chester then worked at the Institute of Marine Science at the University of Texas in Aransas Pass, Texas, for a short period. In 1960, Chester and Louise were blessed with their first daughter, Claire.

In late 1960, Chester and Louise then relocated to College Station, Texas, where Chester earned a doctorate in Oceanography from Texas A&M University. In 1961, Chester and Louise were blessed with another daughter, Carole.

In 1965, Chester and Louise relocated to Beaumont, Texas, where Chester served as a professor of Biology, and as the head of the Oceanography/Marine Biology Department. While at Lamar, Chester published a lab manual of marine biology and diatoms. Chester's academic accomplishments also included discovering 3 types of previously unknown algae and teaching many students who have remembered him fondly to the family. During his career at Lamar, Chester and Louise were blessed with two more children, Cristy in 1966, and Clay in 1970.

In 1975, in addition to his duties at Lamar University, Chester contracted work and performed research with Analytical

Laboratories in Houston. This position often required him to testify as an expert witness in court cases where contaminants, pollutants, and the like had resulted in alleged damages.

Chester was a man of faith and set a Christian example for his family, his church, and all those with whom he came in contact. He gave freely of his time to serve as Elder of The Meadows Church of Christ (formerly known as Ridgewood). He raised his family in the Word and ministered to those in need throughout his lifetime. Chester made a positive, loving and indelible mark on his family and all whom he met.

Chester's hobbies included fishing, hunting, gardening and music. He taught his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren about God, and nature, giving them life skills and a foundation of faith. Even into his last days, he was always thinking about one more fishing or hunting trip and looked forward to every event with family and loved ones.

Chester's commitment to God and faith was clear in the patient, forgiving and loving example he showed to all those around him. Chester will be immensely missed but will live on in the hearts and memories of his family, friends and others whose lives he positively impacted.

Survivors include his wife, Louise Runnels; children, Carole Lein of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Cristy Stanford and her husband, Johnny, of Beaumont; and Clay William Runnels, MD and his wife, Emily, of Johnson City, Tennessee; grandchildren, Joshua Stokley and his wife, Dalena, of Sour Lake; Jordan Stokley and his wife, Courtney, of Beaumont; Zach Lein and his wife, Shelly, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Katherine Kaiser of The Woodlands; Daniel Kaiser of Phoenix, Arizona; and Millicent Runnels, Madeline Runnels, Mabry Runnels, Merritt Runnels, and Manning Runnels, all of Johnson City, Tennessee; great-grandchildren, Eddie DucSac, Connor Stokley, Zoey Stokley, Grant Stokley, Asher Lein, Liam Lein, and Baker Lein; and many beloved church family, former students, and extended family and friends through the years.





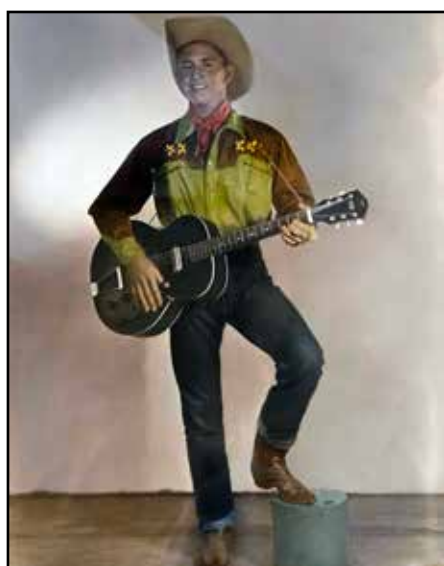


















Pallbearers

Joshua Stokley

Jordan Stokley

Zack Lein

Daniel Kaiser

Mabry Runnels

Merritt Runnels

Manning Runnels

Interment

Forest Lawn Memorial Park

Beaumont, Texas



Please sign Dr. Runnels' guest book and share your memories at

broussards1889.com