PAUL MCGRADY: A Tribute 25 years later
PAUL McGrady: A Tribute 25 years Later......
edited and compiled by Paul McGrady, Jr., 1992

INTRODUCTION

If Paul McGrady were alive today, he would be sixty-seven years old! The forty-two short years he lived a quarter of a century ago have not been forgotten. As you read the tributes from people scattered across this hemisphere from Rockland, Maine to Tilton, Oregon, from Oskaloosa, Iowa to Sao Paulo, Brazil, you will remember or perhaps realize for the first time that he lived an extraordinary life. It is a reminder to us what God can do with any Christian person who has yielded wholly his heart, mind, and will to Him. These tributes from his friends, parishioners, family, and students illustrate his influence that is still felt 25 years later. There are no video tapes or cassettes that review his life, he took little time to formally write sermons, and only one short biography in paperback Paul McGrady: Mr. Evangelism written by Howard Culbertson in 1969 records his life formally. It is our hope that his small tribute will stir again the memories of his life which will be a blessing and inspiration not only to those who knew him, but to future generations who did not. Men and women who dedicate their lives to God should not be forgotten in any historical time. Their purposes, which made them great, should continue and endure in this world. We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to the kind people who took the time to participate in this tribute. We would also like to gratefully acknowledge Jean McGrady, Wally Renegar, Howard Culbertson and his secretarial staff, and Katie Kimbro for their efforts in making this tribute a reality. May this small tribute be a blessing to all who find it.

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Paul,

Thanks for your note about your Dad. 25 years ago I was working at a summer camp when I heard the word about the tragic accident involving your Dad and my classmates. I'm not sure I've ever been so stunned. I remember feeling how unfair it all seemed.

I took every class your Dad taught. Needless to say he had a profound influence on my life. I remember going to Prof and saying "Prof, it seems like you believe that no matter what we end up doing in life, we cannot get away from being personal evangelists." I guess I was hoping he'd say "No, Gary, not everybody can do what I do." Instead he paused for a second, and then said, "Yeah, I guess your right." Consequently, everything that I've had a part in, including ministry, involved evangelism. Remember the Conestoga Singers? The Singers became personal evangelists the summer of 1969 being trained by Campus Crusade for Christ. The Conestoga became the Lost and Found, which led to other summer ministries sponsored by the Church of the Nazarene. But Paul McGrady had an effect on these ministries because he had an effect on me.

Your Dad would come into class some days and say "I don't know if I should preach or teach." We'd all yell "preach" and he would.....he was so full of what God was trying to do through him. I was in his class the Monday after he'd come back from a weekend where no one had sought the Lord. I guess is was the first time in his ministry and he was broken hearted. And yet, he was allowing God to use even that weekend to teach lessons to his students. He really cared for us and the evangelistic mission of the church. In a class on mass evangelism, he once told us honestly "Boys, there are only 5 evangelists worth calling in the Church of the Nazarene" if you want to talk to me after class, I'll tell you their names." He wasn't being mean-spirited....he just wanted the very best for the church and for us.

Prof would illustrate faith by using you, Paul. He would tell us about you being out in the loft of the barn when your Dad would see you. He told us that jokingly he called "jump to me, Pauley" and to his amazement, you did because you trusted him totally. I still use that illustration today, though I don't use you and your Dad. My son did the same thing when he was young.

I don't normally get involved in tributes. It's not that I'm cold or heartless, it's just that I feel there is so little you can say after a person is gone. But I'm glad for this opportunity to reflect on your Dad's life. It reminds me just how much he meant to me and my formative years at college.

Blessings on you and all your family. Keep me posted on how the tribute works out!
Gary Sivewright
Mt. Vernon, Ohio

[Signature]

Following Him
Dear Paul,

Thanks for the great letter. Your father's generous spirit and positive attitude can easily be seen in you. I know he made a great impact on your life! My first impression of Paul was enormous. My pastor, Ed Murphney had instructed me to be sure to look up Paul McGrady when I first visited the campus as a student in 1965. It was in the afternoon and I opened the door in the new religion department office and it was empty, no secretary. I started to leave but heard a muffled sound and noticed his door ajar. I quietly approached the door and heard the great prayer of a man of God praying for revival in the heart of the students. He sensed I was there, got up and extended his large right hand and said..."Well, Jim Wilson, it's so great to have you here!" How he knew my name, I'll never know! However, later I learned how much effort he put in, through association, prayer, etc., at memorizing and knowing scripture and names! Another trait that soon became apparent to me was that the great host of people who knew him, claimed with pride how close they felt to Paul. It was like he had a 1,000 .."best friends!" He had the ability to make you feel wanted, needed, special, important, and that you really can make a difference in our world!

His teaching was never boring. It was endless lists that involved practical areas, i.e., 25 different ways to smile! and his teaching was always radiant with life because he injected fresh experiences that he had had! You never heard him speak an unkind word about anybody. He literally had the energy and could work harder than any two men put together! He was responsible for getting me places to preach...almost every weekend for three years he supplied places for me to preach the gospel. Paul, on several occasions, invited me to drive him to his revivals! How honored I felt. Often he would study his notes, rest or sing some of the great songs of glory! Once at 2 A.M., he invited me by phone to come over to his house for a bowl of Wheaties. He invited me into his home where I rolled around on the floor with Paul, Jr. and Miriam. I enjoyed talking with Jean, so real, down-to-earth, caring! He invited me over to...pull weeds, especially puncture vines, to ride horses, and to eat dinner.

One time, returning back from a revival he asked me if I'd like a milk shake. I said sure, as I opened the door to get out, he said, "Jim, witness to the girl at the window" I froze with fear, but reluctantly did.. with a tract! Paul McGrady made a "powerful"
impact on my life to be a personal evangelist! What a great preacher/evangelist! I would have driven over a 100 miles to hear him preach! Shortly before he died, he asked me if I would help him in the fall develop a ministry to evangelize the students in the dorm. Paul had a way of making you believe in yourself and expect the best out of others!

Just a few months before he passed from this earth to glory, we were holding a meeting in Missouri. The pastor and his wife gave us their bed. They would not have it any other way! After talking about the service, he turned to me and said, "Jim, do you ever get homesick for heaven?" Whether he knew or not that his time was near I didn't ask, but he projected the attitude that one should always be ready and like the Apostle Paul even "long for", "pray" for and "expect" His coming! That particular memory is deeply embedded in my heart and mind!

So, Paul, Jr., I hope you will be flooded with mail from people responding to your beautiful letter!

I would love to have one of the books and enclosed is money to go toward the scholarship fund.

May God richly bless you and "lavish" you with His grace and kindness!

Joyfully in His service,

Jim Wilson
Newbury Park, California
July 28, 1992

Paul McCrady, Jr.
975 Castlebury
Yukon, OK 73099

Dear Paul:

It was so good to receive your letter concerning your father. I have been blessed because I can count both you and your Dad among my friends. I am convinced that he would be very proud of you and the direction your life has taken.

I guess the one word that comes to my mind when I think of Paul Senior is “strength”. I had the privilege of sitting under his teaching and preaching ministry. I also traveled weekends with him on evangelism missions and even slept in the barn at your home with him and other SNU classmates. His strength was witnessed in a number of different ways. Anyone who watched and heard him preach will remember his leg kick when he would get excited about the life changing message he was delivering. His kick reminded me of the beautiful stallion you had in your pasture behind your home. It was powerful and certainly got your attention.

He wasn’t ashamed to flex his muscles when we wanted to see his powerful arms. He had that farm boy ruggedness. I’ll never forget an incident that happened on the SNU Mall, close to the “Camp of Learning”. It had been raining very hard and a large pond of water had accumulated in the middle of the mall. Four or five of the bigger fellows on campus decided that some of the students and a few professors needed to be baptized. They were in the process of throwing people into the pond of water. One administrator, a professor and several students had already taken the plunge when Paul McCrady, Sr. came out of the administration building and was walking toward the make shift baptistery. When the boys saw Paul, Sr. headed their way, they decided he would be their next victim.

It didn’t take very long for Paul Judson McCrady to figure out what had happened and what was about to happen to him. So he calmly stopped on the sidewalk, took off his glasses and coat, rolled up his sleeves and gave the boys headed toward him that big ole winsome grin. The closer the boys got to him the slower they walked and finally Professor McCrady had to call out to them saying, “Well come on boys!” Each of the boys looked at each other then back at the “man” that was waiting for them. I’ll never forget the sheepish grins that came over their faces as they backed away and pronounced the baptismal service closed.

I believe all of the young men who sat under Paul McCrady, Sr. counted it a rare privilege and remember to this day the influence he had on each.

God bless his memory and his precious families on the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of his Home going.

Your friend,

Jim Southworth

6300 RIDGEPLAC E• SUITE 605 • FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76116 • (817) 733-9722
KEITH WRIGHT, District Superintendent
July 9, 1992

Paul McGrady, Jr.
975 Castlebury
Yukon, OK 73099

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your very interesting letter concerning your father. Your father had a tremendous influence on my life. Here’s the story:

When I was in college, I felt like the Lord called me to go into the ministry and at that time, I was excited about being an associate which was a brand-new field in the Church of the Nazarene. In those days, most associates would be music and youth, music and education or music and evangelism. Whatever assignment you had in the church, they were always looking for a Minister of Music along with it. I was in Fort Worth going to seminary at Southwestern and your father came to our little home-mission church in Haltom City, Texas to hold a weekend revival. As I remember, not much happened in that revival meeting. However, Sunday night following the service, your father put his hands on each of my shoulders and looked me in the eyes and said, “Keith, you are worried about whether their will be a place for you in the Church of the Nazarene since you are not musical.” I agreed with him as that was a great concern.

I will never forget his words. He said: “There will always be a place in the Church of the Nazarene for anyone who knows how to share their faith.” He said: “I challenge you to learn how to be a personal soul winner and there will always be a place of ministry for you in the Church of the Nazarene.” I was so challenged by those statements that I immediately learned the Romans Road to Salvation and made a call on some people who were attending our church. That evening, I shared with them the Good News of Jesus and saw them kneel and accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. This event changed the course of my life because from that moment on, evangelism became a passion of my heart.

I have often reflected back on those few moments and those few words and realize what a powerful impact that your father made on my life. I know that there are literally hundreds who would have the very same testimony.

Please give your mother my regards.

Cordially,

Keith Wright

7640 Antioch Road, Overland Park, Kansas 66204-2624
Dear Paul,

Thank you for your letter updating me on your family. It was a tremendous reminder of God's goodness that extends from generation to generation.

Your Dad's life had a impact on mine and your Mother's friendship and kindness to my Mother has been a source of inspiration for her.

Shortly after I arrived at BNC I heard ministerial students talking about traveling on weekends with one of the professors to hold evangelistic services in local churches. While at the churches they were involved in personal evangelism and training people how to present the plan of salvation. I was involved in traveling with Mission Crusaders and didn't travel with the evangelistic teams your Dad organized. But I very well remember that the emphasis Paul McGrady gave to evangelism reminded ministerial and non-ministerial students that winning people to the Lord Jesus Christ is what the Church is all about. If we as members of the body of Christ are not winning people to the Lord then as a church we have lost our purpose for existence. The second message that came through to me was that I could and should be involved in evangelism anywhere and everywhere -- not just four years down the road, after finishing college.

Paul McGrady was very practical and used homespun expressions to get his message across. He told us in class one day that he'd been with some pastors at a restaurant. One of them had complained about the service and been very demanding. Toward the end of the meal he turned to Paul and said, "I've been hearing about your ability as a personal evangelist. Why don't you show us how you'd witness to the waitress." Paul with the characteristic mischievous twinkle in his eyes told the class, "I said to that bird (that's what we called "turkeys" 25 years ago) you set the stage, you witness to her!"

A couple of mannerism that he had caught my attention. He could let go and kick out to the side of the pulpit. When his neck was stiff he would use his hands to twist his head both ways and make his neck pop. I saw some would-be evangelists try the kick, but never saw them try to pop their neck!

Thanks for writing. You and all of us who knew your Dad have a tremendous heritage. I hope to meet you some day. Enclosed is a check for the McGrady Scholarship Fund.

Sincerely, [Signature]

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July 1, 1992

Mr. Paul McGrady, Jr.
975 Castlebury
Yukon OK 73099

Dear Paul, Jr:

I vividly remember the impact of your dad's ministry on my life. He was a good, practical classroom teacher. He was, of course, an outstanding pulpiteer. He preached with enthusiasm and with power. He gestured with his big hands and often kicked his leg to emphasize a point. He approached life at such a breakneck pace that I often wondered if he had a premonition that his days were numbered and that he must hurry up and do whatever he was going to do in life before time ran out.

Your father was a good man and a dynamic Christian. His life was far too brief from my human perspective. I am pleased to have the opportunity to pay tribute to a man who had a profound impact on my life.

Sincerely,

Richard Spindle

RS/as
attended every preaching meeting in the area that he was the speaker. I will never forget the time that "Prof's" tie was crooked. I can still see his face acknowledging me telling him from my seat. He always talked about our personal appearance. He was always a good example of what he taught.

"Prof" had the tendency to do too many things. It could be said that he burnt the candle at both ends. He was gone every weekend preaching and then he would teach full-time at the college during the week. He told us that he had to sleep a lot. Particularly on the living room floor at home. Some of the students who traveled with him said he could sleep anywhere. I didn't realize how precious time is to a man consumed with a mission like "Prof" McGrady. His time was even shorter than he realized.

I will never forget the time that "Prof" asked me to drive his "BIG" Pontiac to his home. It was a thrill to serve him in the smallest ways.

In those early days of my Christian life, I was saved September 4, 1960. I was changed by the 'spirit of Jesus Christ' that lived in "Prof" McGrady. It is a blessing to have one or two people in a life time that really changes you internally instead of mental education only.

I wanted to go out and pastor in 1967, but the Lord told me that I had to attend Nazarene Theological Seminary. I graduated with the Masters of Religion Education in 1969. I was one of the first seven graduates of the MRE program. I got out and ran headlong into five years of the hardest ministry possible. My wife and I have been in the pastorate 19 years total and then came home to Kansas to get our kids through High School. Our constant moving from place to place was hurting them. I found that some people really didn't want to be soul-winners like I did. In the years that have gone by I am sure that I have not fulfilled the "vision" "Prof" had for me. I can say that I am a better man today, because of my contact with "Prof". "Prof" by the "Spirit of Jesus Christ" worked in you for your good and the Glory of God.

One of the saddest days of my life was when the word was received that "Prof" was no longer with us. We go to Tulsa regularly and every time we go by the place the car accident happened we remember our beloved friend "Prof" Paul McGrady. My new wife of eight months in August of 1967 and I came to Bethany from Kansas City for the memorial service. I would not have believed that "Prof" was gone to be with Jesus, unless I saw him. "Prof" McGrady's best friend was Jesus and his calling to bring men to a knowledge of the Savior. I had to come and say "Good-bye, I love you, "Prof" and Thank-You for your love and care for a young kid like Harlan Gilbert."

My wife had the privilege of being one of the typists on the book "Paul McGrady: Mr. Evangelism". It was a labor of love and
My Memories of Paul McGrady, Sr.

I met "Prof" in the early 1960's when he came as an Instructor in the Religion Department at Bethany Nazarene College. He changed my life by his love and personal care. He cared for every student, because he could see a "flaming evangelistic soul winner" in everyone of us.

I was saved from a non-Nazarene and non-Christian home. I came to BNC with many hurts and a very poor academic background, I graduated from BNC in 1967. I've earned a total of 6 degrees, including BNC and NTU.

We affectionately called Paul McGrady by the title of "Prof". I have so many memories of "Prof" McGrady.

"Prof" McGrady was a man of action and strong opinions. "Prof" McGrady was really good at stirring up everyone over evangelism. Some of the younger religion instructors wanted to be "intellectual" rather than "evangelistic". "Prof" really stirred them up over evangelism just like he did his students. He affected everyone he touched by his enthusiasm and wanted to see God's best for you.

In class it seemed that you could feel him reaching into your deepest inner self. It was always with love and care. You almost felt as if he could see through you. In all the years of education I've gone through "Prof" McGrady and Mel - Thomas Hothwell had this unique ability to intercede for you and cause you to so believe in them and in the "Jesus" that they served it caused changes in your deepest inner life. It was always done in love.

I had the opportunity to be on one of "Prof" McGrady's traveling "door-to-door" evangelistic teams. I lead a team to Frederick, Oklahoma in 1965 or 1966. It was a small town, yet we really had a successful meeting. I was so shocked with the success that I was the last one to visit with "Prof" about it. The campaign changed the students greatly.

"Prof" McGrady loved three books: The Bible was always number one. Jack Hyles and Gene Edwards books on evangelism was a close number two and three. Classes were always filled with "how to" experiences. I carried every hour of classes I could get from "Prof". He always made you feel loved and cared for.

"Prof" read every book on Evangelism that he could find. I really enjoyed reading them after him. "Prof" made comments like "bunk", "no way", "excellent" and "very good". "Prof" gave me the idea of marking books. I still do mark them.

As I look back I didn't have enough time to spend with "Prof". I made all kinds of excuses to go to his office. His students
attended every preaching meeting in the area that he was the speaker. I will never forget the time that "Prof's" tie was crooked. I can still see his face acknowledging me telling him from my seat. He always talked about our personal appearance. He was always a good example of what he taught.

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My wife had the privilege of being one of the typists on the book "Paul McGrady: Mr. Evangelism". It was a labor of love and
respect for us.

Our life, Mary and I, has gone so many different directions since the 1960's. In it all the example of men like "Prof" McGrady and Mel-Thomas Rothwell continues to bless us by their "faithful witness to Jesus Christ and the truth of the Word of God." It is really hard to believe that 25 years have come and gone. Yet it has...The men who led me to Jesus through personal evangelism told me that I would be amazed in 25 years about all the things that happened in my life. I am very thankful to the Church of the Nazarene for the strong doctrinal foundation - in the Word of God which I received from Bethany Nazarene College and Nazarene Theological Seminary. It has held me fast and true to the Word of God and the "Spirit of Jesus Christ of Nazareth" who is my Lord and Savior for this life and for all eternity. I am looking forward to the day when we can visit with "Prof McGrady" in the heavenly realms. We are 25 years nearer than when "Prof" McGrady left us.

Thank you, Paul McGrady, Jr. for bringing back the memories of your dad. I can't remember one negative memory.

"Prof" McGrady, Thank you, for your life and love to me...Harlan I. Gilbert.

Sincerely,

Harlan I. Gilbert
Rt. 1 Box 129
Mallowell, KS 66725
July 13, 1992

Dear Paul Mc Jr,

Thank you for including us in those written about your late father's scholarship.

Juanita and I enjoyed the times we traveled with your Mom & Dad for BNC, i.e. SNU, so much. There was never a dull minute!

His last morning, before leaving the campus, he spent about 45 minutes in my office, which I'll never forget. Oh, such wonderful memories!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

July 17, 1992

Dear Paul McGrady, Jr.,

I knew your Dad while I was a student at B.N.C. He filled my life with the challenge to do more for God.

Two things I remember that impressed my life by him:
1. His waist high kick when he got excited in preaching a sermon.
2. The revival we had with your Dad at Grand Boulevard Church in Oklahoma City. We packed more kids in to our station wagon several times over than we cared or should have done. But like your Dad said, "Ask them to come as a one time visitor, and you'll get a percentage back each Sunday."

These are just a few of my thoughts.

Please if you do put these things together, send me a compilation.

In Christ,

Rev. Walden C. Chandler
48 Camden St.
Rockland, Maine 04841
August 14, 1992

Mr. Paul McGrady, Jr.
975 Castlebury
Yukon, OK 73099

Dear Paul:

I have been out of the office more than usual this summer and unfortunately am only now getting caught up on correspondence. I want you to know how much I appreciate receiving the material about your dad. It seems impossible that 25 years have gone by, but it is fulfilling to know that so many of us remember him, his spirit, and his ministry.

My contacts with your father, of course, were primarily from a distance since he was at Bethany and I was at ENC. But then, of course, when I became president of BNC I followed his footsteps which were still very clear throughout the college and educational zone.

I am delighted to know that you are maintaining the Paul McGrady Scholarship. You will find a very small check enclosed in memory of your dad and perpetuation of his memory in ministry. Do give my regards to your mother.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Stephen W. Nease
Education Commissioner

bn

Enclosure
Dear Paul:

It was truly a great blessing to find in the mail today a letter from Paul McGrady, Jr.!! What a flood of happy memories the name "McGrady" evokes!

The Lord worked with great power through the ministry of Bro. McGrady, and his wonderful partner, Jean, in Kansas City. My wife, Veda, and I have a very special place in our hearts for them for it was on a Sunday evening in November, 1960, after a powerful message by Bro. McGrady, that we were moved by the Holy Spirit to make our way to the altar and received Christ as our Lord and Saviour! It was truly a life-changing experience!

Brother Paul's messages were backed by prayer and loaded with power. Many of his messages packed phraseology that had staying power - "Brethren, we have a hold of the little end of the biggest thing in this universe!" - "I'd rather burn out than rust out" - "We are not here to see or be seen nor to hear or be heard...." Only in eternity will we know the number of lives wonderfully influenced by Paul McGrady!

It is very gratifying to hear that all the family are doing well, and it is our earnest prayer that the Lord will continue to work in each of your lives to your good and His glory.

Thanks so much, Paul, for brightening our day!

Love in Christ,

[Signature]

Dick & Veda Pierce
Dear Paul:

I feel honored to be included in your mailing. Indeed the memory of your father is stamped very clearly in my mind. The spirit of the man was so contagious. He infected his students with his passion to share the good news of Jesus Christ everywhere. The spirit of evangelism which he embodied so buoyantly permeated the religion department. I resonated with his focused dedication.

The thing I remember best was the time he came to Hot Springs First Church (Arkansas) where I was pastoring for a week-end revival. We went out calling on people (what else?). But as I drove we got so involved in the excitement of talking about the work of the Lord I lost my way more times than I can count.

His dynamism lives on in those he influenced and continues to extend through your scholarship fund. I can't give much at this particular time with my heavy commitments to the local church here at First Church. But here is a small check with the prayer it is matched by many others to make the fund useful.

I feel very strongly that an aggressive effort must be made to help ministerial students financially. We cannot afford to discourage promising students with heavy student loans. This is particularly depressing when so many have to take small churches with insufficient salaries.

Thanks for your initiative in this regard. This is a special tribute to a truly great man of God.

Sincerely yours,

Wilbur W. Brannon

jlr

Enclosure
July 2, 1992

Mr. Paul McGrady, Jr.
975 Castlebury
Yukon, Ok 73099

Dear Paul:

I am glad to hear about your work on your father's story. Though I did not know him well I appreciated his winsome ways and his passion for lost people.

You had a grand heritage that is worthy of being emulated in this generation.

Cordially,

[Signature]

Neil B. Wiseman
Vice President of Academics

NBW/pas
June 24, 1992

Mr. Paul McGrady, Jr.
975 Castlebury
Yukon, OK 73099

Dear Paul,

Thank you for your letter concerning the memorial for my old friend, Paul McGrady, Sr. At the time of his death I had the same job at Trevecca. I have many good memories of our times together. Both of us loved horses and I had an opportunity to ride with him on several occasions.

Paul, as far as the memorial scholarship fund is concerned, I am in a situation where I must make all of my contributions to MidAmerica. I feel that I owe them my loyalty as long as I am serving on this region. However, I have given to Southern Nazarene in the past and hope to have opportunity to do so again in the future. I will be praying that God will make the tribute a success. Thank you for including me in your mailing list.

Yours and His,

W.T. Dougharty
August 25, 1992

Paul McGrady, Jr.
975 Castlebury
Yukon, OK 73099

Dear Bro. Paul:

Greetings in the name of Jesus.

Thank you for your good letter. Your father did have a great influence on my life while I pastored at Des Moines Eastside. He came for a weekend meeting and took me evangelism calling with him probably Friday and all day Saturday. I well remember one family in particular where he shared the gospel. These people lived about half a block from the church. They were an older couple. Ken was the husband’s name. He shared the gospel with them. They didn’t pray at that time but did promise to come to the service the next Sunday morning and during the altar call both of them came to the alter. They had never been in our church before. Both were saved and the husband is still living and attending the church there, still lives in the same house after all these years – 25 years. The wife has since died and gone to heaven. Your father had a great influence on helping me to become a personal soul winner. I continue to share the gospel on the average of once a week and it was your father’s influence in my life that helped me to do that.

Praise God for the great work that you are doing. I trust that this small contribution will help in the Paul McGrady Scholarship Fund.

In Christ,

Bro. F.
June 29, 1992

Dear Mr. McGrady,

When my son, Raymon Machen, was a student at BNC, he often wrote about a favorite professor that eventually became a mentor to him. In the course of time Rev. McGrady visited Tillamook, holding a revival in the local church.

Raymon loved the out-of-doors and especially to go to the hills with his binoculars to "spot" elk. Of course he was anxious to share the beauties of N.W. Costal Oregon with his friend, but Paul had to pray a lot before he would go along as he felt he shouldn't spend time doing something as frivolous when he could be praying for the evening service. We all loved that spirit of selflessness. He did go for several hours and thoroughly enjoyed the nature trip.

Raymon joined him in Heaven in 1980 but the firm spiritual footing that Paul helped him establish has carried on to his children who are all Christians, so I feel a sense of gratitude to him for that.

As an aside, when I attended Laymens Conference in Fort Worth five years ago your mother sat down by us. Oddly enough at the Retreat in Nashville she again sat down by my daughter and me. That was a pleasant surprise!

Your fathers spiritual influence lives on. Thank you for the opportunity to express my appreciation.

Sincerely,

Garland Machen

Tillamook, Oregon
August 3, 1992

Dear Paul, Jr.,

The flowers at church Sunday were beautiful. I don't seem possible to me that 25 years have passed by.

Your dad and I were together several times to raise money for the college. We always talked about farmers, houses, and mules.

He told me he would like to raise those large Missouri-mules. He said he could get $1000 for a team of mules and it would not be hard to get 80 orders. I also admired his elephant-hide cowboy boots.

May God bless you, your family and your dear Mother. May God also bless you in this endeavor.

Your friends,

Elmer & Marjorie Shellenberger
Bethany, Ok. 73008

The Power of Prayer

I asked Paul to come down for a week long revival service in Vicksburg ("The Gibraltar of the Confederacy"), Mississippi. It was in the early years of my pastoral ministry. I was right out of seminary. Paul and I had been classmates at Trevecca Nazarene College. The first two nights of service found no one seeking the Lord. A discouraged McGrady asked me to meet him in the sanctuary tomorrow morning. As we met the next day, Paul opened his Bible and asked "Roy, do you believe this book?" I thought it a rather obvious answer, but responded "Yes, Mac, I believe the Bible!: He pointed to a page, "It says that where two or more agree on earth it shall be done." "Roy", he said, "Do you want to see revival in your church?" "Yes, Paul I do," I replied. "Do you want it badly enough to not eat and pray until God breaks through?" asked Paul. "Yes, I do", I proclaimed.

We did not eat on Wednesday, nor all day Thursday. But Thursday night, God came in a beautiful way and twelve people sought the Lord that night. The leadership of that church today can still be traced to that week long revival forty years ago.

Roy Nix
Bethany, Ok.
MEMORIES OF REV. PAUL MCGRADY

I met Paul McGrady for the first time in 1954. He was pastor at Inglewood Church of the Nazarene in Nashville, Tennessee, and I was pastor at Dickson. He was a big fellow with a heart to match his size. He had big hands and feet, and a wide friendly grin that won you over right away. He was well-known and well-liked on the Tennessee District. Rev. Wechtel, District Superintendent, depended on him a great deal in the work of the district. Among other things, I remember that he was chairman of the Ways and Means Committee which was an important job.

I also remember that Paul loved horses and he always owned one or more most of the time. When Dr. Williamson and Dr. Young came to town Paul always took them horse-back riding. This enabled him to be close to several of the General Superintendents.

Later, he was called to St. Paul's Church in Kansas City, and I moved to California. The next thing I heard about Paul McGrady was deeply involved in the personal soul-willing program of the Church as well as pastoring. The next thing heard, he was called to Bethany Nazarene College to teach personal and mass evangelism. He was in great demand to hold revivals and do workshops on personal soul-winning. He was very popular at the college and traveled with the College quartet in recruiting students. Everywhere he went he won souls for Christ on a person-to-person basis as well as a regular evangelist. He was loved everywhere he went.

It was a very sad day when the news came that there had been a vehicle wreck in or near Tulsa, and Paul McGrady was gone. He was with the College quartet and one or two of them also lost their lives. He died at the peak of his power. He is gone, but never to be forgotten! His influence lives on.

C. Paul Gray
Bethany, Oklahoma

CPG/kk
Dear Paul,

It doesn't seem possible that your dad has been in heaven for 25 years. It impresses upon all of us how swiftly time passes.

Rev. Paul McGrady, Sr. had a significant impact upon my formative days when I was involved in ministerial preparation, as well as the earliest stages of venturing out in specific ministerial tasks. I first met him when he gave the Aycock Lectures here at BNC during my senior year. Paul's infectious enthusiasm and joy in Christ and his boldness in sharing the good news had an amazing impact upon the entire campus; but I personally connected with him to the point that he invited me to take him back to the Twilight Motel (it's an office building now). In that motel he invited me to come to St. Paul's Church of the Nazarene in Kansas City when I arrived to attend Nazarene Theological Seminary that next fall. He said he wanted me to be a part-time staff member. I was deeply moved by his confidence (especially since he had known me for such a short time).

When I arrived in Kansas City, he asked if I would preach at St. Paul's Church that first Sunday evening. It was a bit frightening to me, but I showed up with a small New Testament and some notes on 3 x 5 cards in the back of the New Testament. Since Paul always preached with this huge Thompson-Chain Reference Bible that took the kind of muscles he had to even lift it, I wondered how anyone could preach from such a small Bible. He held my little New Testament in one hand and his big Bible in the other hand. I don't know if I ever again preached using such a small Bible after that experience.

Nevertheless, that started an exciting journey over the next year where I accompanied Paul McGrady on soul-winning visitation calls, assisting with planning worship services, attending Saturday morning prayer meetings and going to the American Royals in KC to see those incredible Tennessee Walking horses. When they would come prancing into the arena, Paul would be transfixed as he would stand totally unaware of anybody around him who could not see because of his height. I've never known anyone that enjoyed horses more than Paul.
In the years that followed I connected with him in camp meetings and in revivals he held for us at Shawnee, Kansas. He was probably the most gifted person I ever knew in relational, friendship evangelism. He was also a passionate and compelling evangelist in his pulpit ministry.

I was participating in the Senior High Camp for the Kansas City District at Roaring River State Park when Phil Riley and myself and several others who had been touched by Paul’s life got the message regarding the accident. We were stunned with deep grief and tears. It brought a great sense of sorrow to the night service in that youth camp as we all poured out our questions and our loss before the Father.

What a privilege I have had in the intervening years to cherish and cultivate the memory of Dr. Paul McGrady, Sr. by warmly embracing Jean and shaking hands with Paul and Dana from time to time as they leave the church.

Paul, I’ve enclosed a check in the amount of $25.00 to contribute toward the Paul McGrady Memorial Scholarship fund as an expression of our appreciation and gratitude for the influence and fellowship which we shared with Paul, Sr. and his beautiful wife, Jean.

What a remarkable heritage you have. I’m grateful that you are living for Christ and honoring the Lord and the legacy that has contributed so much to you.

Sharing Your Significant Memories.

Melvin McCullough

MM;

cc: Mrs. Jean McGrady
"When I read the twelfth chapter of Hebrews and the cloud of witnesses, I thought about one who finished the race appointed to him. How much Paul McGrady packed into 42 years of living? It will be 25 years tomorrow that the tragic accident occurred that took the life of Paul, Gene Coburn, and Paul King. Every time you hear the chimes in this church it reminds you of Gene Coburn's life. These chimes are reminding us of Paul McGrady."

"You know the thing that impressed me the most about Paul McGrady? I spent a lot of time around him. He came here to the BNC campus, and incredibly after meeting him one time, asked me to come on staff at his church in Kansas City. I spent a lot of time with him, prayer meetings on Saturday mornings and then we'd go horseback riding on his Tennessee Walking Horses. I can't see all the way back there to see if Phil Storey's here, but I remember on one occasion that Phil Storey, our wives, Paul, and Jean went to the American Royal. When those world class Tennessee Walkers pranced out onto the arena Paul McGrady stood up transfixed. People were telling him to sit down behind him, he didn't hear them. He felt passion for Tennessee Walking Horses."

"There was only one thing he felt more passion about. Well, maybe two, his wife of course. He felt intensely about Jesus and sharing Jesus with his world. He went on soul winning calls, and I'm sort of an introvert. Paul was an extrovert. He had an amazing ability to persuade people to follow Jesus Christ. An infectious enthusiasm."

"When I moved to Kansas City, I went to St. Paul's Church (where Paul was pastoring). Even before I had attended my first service there Paul said, I want you to preach for me on Sunday Night. I came to church with a little New Testament and some little 3"x 5" cards. I just had it in my pocket and Paul McGrady said, You're going preach, where's your Bible? I pulled out this little New Testament and he took it in his big 'ole hands and he took his big Thompson Chain Reference Bible which took muscles like he had to even lift it. I mean it was like a washtub! He said, "How can you preach a sermon with this little old New Testament? Look at my Bible!" I don't think I ever preached again with a little New Testament Bible!"

"In all of my ministry, I've remembered Paul McGrady's enthusiasm for Christ."
September 9, 1992

Dear Paul:

It is a high honor to be numbered among those who were friends to your father. I pastored with him on the Kansas City District with Jarrett Aycock as our D.S.

The word that comes to me when I think of Paul is INTENSITY! This word describes everything he did. This is the way he preached; this is the way he taught; this is the way he played; this is the way he loved people, lived life, and served God.

An unforgettable moment in time occurred when we were together with several preachers at camp meeting. About three other preachers my size, decided to wrestle Paul. We pushed the furniture back in the D.S.'s big lounging area; this is where the "moment in time" came. Faster than you would believe he grabbed all of us. Took us to the floor, and as we struggled to get free, stacked us one on top of the other like cord wood.

In the classroom, he taught with the same intensity. He modeled what he taught. Today, as I travel the Church, I come in contact with those who were taught by Paul's method of teaching. It is evident to me that he set the standard for teaching our "preacher boys." He prepared them! He put a part of himself into them! Today, they are still doing meaningful and significant ministry for God and the Church.

Paul Jr., I want to congratulate you on the significant and meaningful impact you are making on your generation for God and the Church. Paul Sr. would be proud of you! You have a never-to-be-forgotten heritage. As you make your unique contribution to the world, it shall finally be written: "Paul Sr. and Paul Jr. shall never be forgotten!"

I love you and HIM,

[Signature]

Wally Rinehart
A WIFE’S TRIBUTE

I am happy to write a tribute to the one and only man in my life, the father of my two children that make me proud.

There are a few things that I think important about, Paul McGrady, Sr. These characteristics of his life are his intelligence, love and his preaching abilities.

He had a very keen mind and ability to learn. Most of you already know that he was a graduate of Vanderbilt University School of Religion and had worked on his doctorate in American Church History.

This brings me to his LOVE and devotion to his Lord. The church, the souls of men were far more important to him than a doctorate. He loved the Lord and the Church of the Nazarene. He loved the Church that brought the gospel of salvation to his community, the gospel that transformed his life.

Another great quality of Paul's life was his ability to sincerely love people. His love for others was so much greater than his concern for himself. His love constrained him to be the kind of man that would show the Love of Jesus. He also truly loved me and his two children, Paul and Miriam. His love for horses was merely a "side-line" for relaxation from his long, ardent, and intensive hard work for the cause of the Kingdom.

He was also a capable preacher of the WORD and he had talent as an administrator. He had a great memory that he developed and used to learn people's names, to memorize scripture, and his sermon material. I sat under his preaching from the very beginning of his ministry and I know that he preached the WORD.

I would ask....What else is more important about this person than what has already been said?

Jean McGrady
Oklahoma City, Ok.
A DAUGHTER'S TRIBUTE

The thing I probably remember most about dad was the special extra time he took to spend with me personally when I was growing up. I remember the many times riding horses together and dad picking me up from school for a lunch date! Dad was gone a lot preaching, but I knew he tried hard to make up for the time away by spending special time with Paul Jr. and me. I am often thankful for being blessed with a quality father. I have only good memories of him.

In my thinking, his greatest quality was his genuine love for people. It was very genuine, there was nothing 'fake' about how dad cared for people. To me, this is the heart of what Christianity is all about. He modeled that consistently.

Dad's life imparted to me the value of hard work, to be ambitious, and to tackle head on the challenges of life.

Paul Jr. and I have talked a lot about how we wish our kids: Judson (named after dad), Erin, and Chris Ann could have known dad. I know dad would have enjoyed grand kids so much! We hope that we can keep his memory alive in their hearts and lives.

Miriam Rowe
Dallas, Texas
A SON'S TRIBUTE

It has been said that imitation is the greatest form of flattery. Since my earliest recollections, I have always wanted to be like my dad. To be physically strong, to love horses and 'the country', to love people, to love Western television shows (especially Gunsmoke!), and most of all to be a Christ centered, Christ loving person. Even if I did not like all those things, if I loved Christ I know that would please Dad the most.

The first memory of yielding my life to Jesus was at a Nazarene Camp meeting in New Bedford, Massachusetts. My dad had finished one of his usual heart felt sermons and was giving the call to come forward and 'give your life to Christ.' I felt God tugging on my heart, so I tugged on my mother's skirt. "I need to go down there where daddy is" I said. "Mommy, I NEED to go down there!" I persisted. Mom guessed something spiritual was involved and we headed to the alter. I still remember how good it felt to say "yes" to what I thought God wanted me to do and looking up and seeing a loving human father acknowledging me with a great smile upon his face. I was only four years old. But, my mother and father had surrounded me with teaching and modeling God's love and besides, I had already heard more sermons than the average person does in a lifetime!

As an adult, I realize I don't have to be just like my dad, although many of his interests and purposes are stamped upon me. He is still my greatest human hero and always will be. In the seven years I knew my dad, I believe he said to me as the Apostle Paul said "follow me as I follow Christ." I remember speeding as fast as our car could take us down back country roads to get to a Sunday morning service in Carnegie, Oklahoma, and falling asleep at the table while dad visited with Paul Skiles over a late night snack after a camp meeting service in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. I can also remember our car skidding out of control on a rain slickened bridge somewhere in Louisiana and dad pulling our car to the side of the road and leading our whole family in a prayer of Thanksgiving to God. Yes, dad followed Christ all over the United States, and many times our whole family followed along.

Compiling this tribute has been a blessing to me because it has challenged me again with the challenge almost everyone received from being around my dad: "Live your life fully for the Lord! Serve others. Let them know of your faith in Him, build God's kingdom on earth anyway He leads us to!" I am thankful for the tremendous father God blessed me with. I appreciate the legacy he left and I hope I can carry on in some small way the enduring purpose that meant so much to my father.

Paul McGrady, Jr.
Yukon, Oklahoma
THE PAUL McGrady MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Is awarded each year to a deserving ministerial student in the Religion Department at Southern Nazarene University where Paul McGrady served as a professor from 1962 until his death in 1967. The student, chosen by the Religion Department Faculty, demonstrates commitment to Christ, desire for full time Christian Ministry, and financial need. The scholarship is given from an endowed fund begun by Jean McGrady, Paul's wife, shortly after his death, in the hope that his memory could live on in the lives of SNU students both past and future. We would like to share with you this touching letter that we received from this year's scholarship recipient:

Ricardo R. Bernal
3820 N. Pentiel
Bethany, Oklahoma 73008
May 10, 1992

Mr. Paul McGrady, Jr.,
SNU Athletic Department
Broadhurst Gymnasium
Bethany, Oklahoma 73008

RE: Rev. Paul McGrady Memorial Scholarship

Dear Paul McGrady Family,

May God bless you and yours with good health, happiness and prosperity.

I am writing to express my appreciation for receiving the Paul McGrady Memorial Scholarship which I am very proud to have received at the Religion Awards Banquet on May 9, 1992.

Although I did not have the pleasure of meeting your father personally I have heard many good things about him from one of the former students of SNU.

I will do my best to be worthy of this honor and I will try very hard to imitate the Rev. McGrady's zeal for evangelism and his love for the lost. I have heard of his success as a soul winner for Jesus and of his great love for the Lord. I will try to be like him, but try as hard as I may I am convinced that I will always be lagging behind for it is quite difficult to follow in the footsteps of such a great man as the Rev. Paul McGrady.

Again, thank you very much and may God continue to bless you and your family.

In Christ,

Ricardo R. Bernal

If you would like to help perpetuate Paul McGrady's memory by adding to an endowment that will scholarship young ministerial students to the 21st Century and beyond, you can make your checks payable to: Southern Nazarene University
Paul McGrady Memorial Scholarship

mail to: Paul McGrady Jr.
975 Castilebury
Tukwila, Ok. 77099

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SOUTHERN NAZARENE UNIVERSITY would like to thank the following friends of Paul McGrady, Sr. who have helped build the endowment for the McGrady Memorial Scholarship:

Stephen & Brenda Heap  Rev. Loy Watson
Wilbur & Grace Brannon  Jim & Marlene Wilson
Dr. Thurman E. Coburn  Stephen & Christine Nease
L. Paul & Martha Gresham  Gene & Patricia Phillips
Mel & Gennie McCullough  Wally & Waulea Renegar
Mr & Mrs. Harry Macrory  Jean McGrady
Mr. & Mrs. E.B. Shellenberger  Paul & Dana McGrady
Miriam & David Rowe  Howard & Barbara Culbertson
"HOW I PRAY THAT EVEN IN HIS DEATH, HE MAY LEAD MORE TO THE LORD THAN HE DID IN HIS LIFE!"

Dr. G.B. Williamson

preaching Paul McGrady's funeral (an excerpt from Howard Culbertson's book Paul McGrady: Mr. Evangelism)