

'He Was a God-Send': Dolly Parton Reveals Heartbreaking Update on Her Husband of 60 Years

Dolly Parton's husband of 60 years, who avoided the spotlight in her lifelong career and served as the inspiration behind her timeless song "Jolene," has died.

Carl Dean passed away Monday in Nashville, Tennessee, Parton's publicist confirmed.

Parton also posted a short statement on Instagram on Monday.

"Carl and I spent many wonderful years together," she said in the statement. "Words can't do justice to the love we shared for over 60 years. Thank you for your prayers and sympathy."

– Dolly Parton (@DollyParton) March 4, 2025

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Dean will be laid to rest in a private ceremony with immediate family attending, she added. The family has requested privacy at this time.

Their love story began 62 years ago when they met outside a Wishy Washy Laundromat.

Parton was 18 years old and had just moved to Nashville.

"I was surprised and delighted that while he talked to me, he

looked at my face (a rare thing for me),” Parton described the meeting. “He seemed to be genuinely interested in finding out who I was and what I was about.”

Two years later and against the advice of her record label, Parton and Dean snuck across state lines to Georgia and got married in a small ceremony in Ringgold on Memorial Day. They hoped to keep the news out of the Tennessee newspapers.

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Parton told CBN News in a 2016 interview that her husband was a “God-send.”

“I think my husband and my relationship was just really a God-send,” Parton said. “God knew I was going to need somebody like him if I was going to be doing all this crazy stuff.”

“But He knew he (Carl) was going to need somebody like me because Carl is pretty much a loner and he really doesn’t want to be with anybody but me,” she added.

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'Parent-Free Zones' Becoming Reality? Court Backs Schools Keeping Secrets

Massachusetts parents of a middle school student are hoping to take their case against their child's school district to the U.S. Supreme Court. That comes after a federal court ruled they do not have a constitutional right to be informed that their daughter changed her gender identity and name while at school. The court essentially ruled that her school had a right to hide that information from the parents.

The 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a lower court's decision to dismiss a lawsuit by parents, Stephen Foote and Marissa Silvestri, who challenged the Baird Middle School's policy of concealing a child's gender identity and other information from them.

The parents had written the school and told them their daughter was gender-confused and under professional care and that no one was to communicate with her about it, the Daily Signal reports. However, the child told school officials that she considered herself "genderqueer" and said she did not want her parents to know about it.

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According to the lawsuit, teachers and other school employees began referring to the 11-year-old girl by a different name and gender identity of the child's choosing at school.

Meanwhile, they used the child's given name and gender identity when communicating with the parents.

They also asked the young girl if her parents were providing her with "appropriate care," and if she was comfortable discussing issues with the counselor chosen by her parents. Much of these conversations took place by text, behind closed doors, and in online chat rooms without her parents' consent.

The parents filed a federal lawsuit in 2022 against the school alleging that the school violated their due process rights under the U.S. Constitution's 14th Amendment.

A three-judge panel ruled last week that while parents have a fundamental right to be informed about significant aspects of their child's life and direct them, those rights are limited.

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It added that the nondisclosure policy adopted by the Ludlow School Committee did "not restrict parental rights in a way courts have recognized as a violation of the guarantees of substantive due process."

"As per our understanding of Supreme Court precedent, our pluralistic society assigns those curricular and administrative decisions to the expertise of school officials, charged with the responsibility of educating children," the panel wrote.

Vernadette Ramirez Broyles, president and General Counsel for the Child & Parental Rights Campaign, represented the parents in this case. She is considering asking the Supreme Court to intervene because the 1st Circuit Court "wrongly apprehended the fundamental parental right at issue."

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A Global Worship Explosion? How Gather25 Is Making History

Christians around the world united for an unprecedented 25 hours of prayer, praise and repentance on Mar. 1st and 2nd. The event is called Gather25, and organizers already are making plans to do it again in two years.

As the global church gathered from all seven continents, snapshots from the event show believers burning a fire of worship in Dallas and fanning the spirit flame to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Kigali, Rwanda; Cluj, Romania; and beyond. It all started as a vision from Bible teacher Jennie Allen.□

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The project has been in the works for two years, and it all began with one simple yes.

Allen sat down with CBN News at the start of the event in Dallas on Feb. 28:

“I had a vivid dream that Jesus was coming back the night that

my friend had prayed for me to hear from God. When I dreamed that, I woke up and I thought, 'You know if He did come back in our lifetime, or if He came back in the next 10 years, is what I dream, then, what would He do?' And it wasn't good news in the dream," she told CBN News.

Before she knew it, she had been given a mission.

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"I woke up at 5 a.m., and I thought to myself, 'I don't think the Lord brought it to my mind to host the global church.' I had no idea what it would cost in the last two years. The technology when I dreamed that wasn't even available to do it. It exists today," she continued.

She says, "I was willing. And I began to share with people, everyone was saying yes with me."

The technology included eight rooms of equipment to stream live worship experiences from seven continents, and artificial intelligence to translate those experiences into more than 80 languages as they were happening.

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Israel Halts Supplies After Hamas Dismisses Ceasefire Deal

Israel has halted humanitarian aid into Gaza, citing Hamas' diversion of supplies for military use. This move comes as Hamas continues to reject a ceasefire plan that would have freed hostages in two phases.

U.S. Middle East Envoy Steve Witkoff has put forth a plan that would extend the ceasefire in Gaza another few weeks and free the rest of the hostages over time. Israel has signed on, but not Hamas.

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Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced, "In Witkoff's plan, half of the hostages would be released right away and the remaining half would be released if we reach an agreement on a permanent ceasefire. Again, Israel has accepted this plan. I accepted this plan. But so far, Hamas has rejected it."

As a result, Israel is cutting off all aid and goods going into Gaza. Israeli officials charge that during the ceasefire, more than 21,000 aid trucks entered the Gaza Strip – enough to last four to six months if Hamas distributes the supplies fairly.

However, with Hamas controlling the flow of resources, Israel claims it can no longer risk sustaining what it calls a “terror machine.”

“We’ve done that because Hamas steals the supplies and prevents the people of Gaza from getting them,” the prime minister explained. “It uses these supplies to finance its terror machine, which is aimed directly at Israel and our civilians – and this we cannot accept.”

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Beyond this aid cut-off, if Hamas doesn’t start to compromise, Israel is planning to go to an all-out war to wipe out Hamas in Gaza and has authorized the mobilization of up to 400,000 reservists through May 2025.

Leading Israeli conservatives cheered Netanyahu’s new, tougher stance.

To aid Israel in its fight against Hamas and all the other proxies of the ultimate enemy, Iran, the Trump administration is quickening \$4 billion worth of military sales to Israel.

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How Many Will Worship at Massive 2025 Revival & Communion Event?

In 2024, a gathering of believers with prophetic spiritual gifts – led by revivalist Lou Engle who co-founded of TheCall solemn assemblies – inspired women to prepare for a historic prayer meeting on the National Mall later that year. Eight months later on Oct. 12, the biblical Day of Atonement, 350,000 women convened in Washington, D.C. for a first of its kind worship service.

That powerful day included communion – a remembrance of the shed blood and broken body of Jesus Christ. Now there are plans for another massive communion moment in 2025 as well.

With a theme from Isaiah 22:22 – “The key of the house of David I will lay on his shoulder; So he shall open, and no one shall shut; And he shall shut, and no one shall open” – a new plan has been unveiled for two miles of tables from the Capitol building to the Lincoln Memorial for what may be the largest communion celebration in the history of the nation on Oct. 12, 2025.

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“We believe America is being brought to the table of the Lord,” Engle announced after three days of biblical instruction, worship, prayer and prophecy at the 222 Conference in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where leaders and people from across the nation gathered on Feb. 20-22.

Engle is calling it the Great Communion Revival – a meeting place for forgiveness and healing.

“I just think the Lord is bringing us to the table where all pain, division and accusation is a test. It’s where Jesus forgave 12 men who would all betray Him. He didn’t even ask them to repent there. It was from the cross Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.’ Jesus is bringing a message to the church: Forgiveness breaks the demonic powers,” Engle said at 222 – a code for the “now” assignment of the Lord.

David Bradshaw is a spiritual son of Engle and the founder of a prayer and worship movement that drew 50,000 people and four million online in 2017. He said the idea for a communion table the length of The National Mall was inspired by spiritual and prophetic dreams among people, including Bradshaw’s wife, who have consistently prayed for an end to abortion and for integrity in our nation’s elections.

“The presence of Jesus manifested in our nation’s capital, the gospel, and the blood of the Lamb are the only hopes for our nation,” said Bradshaw, who founded the Awaken The Dawn prayer and worship movement and authored a book with that name as well.

Bradshaw partnered with TheCall RISE UP and Engle to bring 1,700 worship teams, thousands of musicians, and 58 tents to The Mall for three days. He envisions thousands of Gen Z and Alpha believers, along with worshippers, musicians and singers from all generations, focused on Jesus for three days, culminating with a celebration of the Lord’s Supper on Oct. 12.

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“If it weren’t for Lou (Engle) in my life, I don’t know if I would have had the courage to sign that permit application

which, by the way, is pending for the whole National Mall,” said Bradshaw.

He, like Engle, believes that during a national time of accusation and division, the Lord is saying, “I’ve greatly desired to have this meal with you,” based on Luke 22:15.

“I wonder if right now we need a John 17 movement unto the outpouring of the Holy Spirit,” Bradshaw said.

Matt Lockett, another prayer leader who spoke at the 222 Conference, shared with Bradshaw a prophetic dream in which the National Mall was filled with tables just like those envisioned for Communion America.

“The life prayer we continue to pray, ‘Jesus, we plead your blood over my sins and the sins of my nation. God, end abortion and send revival to America’ was partially answered when Roe v. Wade was overturned. It’s time for the revival in America by the blood of Jesus with mass salvations and healings,” said Bradshaw.

His wife had a dream a couple of weeks ago in which a friend and prayer leader, Jonathan Tremaine Thomas, walked into a gathering and, instead of speaking, Thomas started singing a song from the movie Prince of Egypt.

“It says, ‘There will be miracles if you believe.’ As he’s singing it, my wife starts travailing uncontrollably in this dream,” said Bradshaw.

He believes there might be a healing revival in the midst of communion. “I feel like we need to say, ‘If you’re sick, have terminal disease come to the table.’”

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'God Is Moving!'—Eyewitnesses Report Miracles as Holy Spirit Sweeps Campuses

Christians around the globe united on Feb. 27, in a movement of prayer to see revival spread across college campuses and universities. During the Collegiate Day of Prayer, more than 6,000 campuses were adopted in prayer by 3,207 churches, ministries and individuals.

Organizers report that the 2,500-seat Rudder Auditorium at Texas A&M was sold out as students came to seek God for revival on their campuses.

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There's no doubt that a spiritual movement is taking place across campuses. CBN News has been following a number of revivals over the past two years on U.S. college campuses.

According to InterVarsity, an evangelical Christian student movement with affiliate groups on university campuses, decisions for Christ rose by 33% last year. The Fellowship of Christian Athletes reports its highest number of salvations

since the pandemic, and the international ministry, Cru, recently surpassed the one million mark in commitments to faith globally.

“It really has been such an incredible season to ministry to college campuses since Asbury,” Thai Lam, Executive Director of the CDOP, told CBN’s Faith Nation.

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As CBN News reported, just last week thousands of college students at Ohio State were touched by the Spirit of God and nearly 2,000 of them made decisions to give their hearts to God.

It was the second massive revival event of this year organized by the Unite US movement.

“We’ve been in awe of how God has already been moving on this campus over the past year, and He met us here again tonight,” Unite US said in a social media post. “Over 6,500 students gathered in The Schott to lift the name of Jesus and almost 2,000 responded to the altar call – experiencing the freedom only He can bring.

“God is moving in this generation, and we know that He’s just getting started,” it continued.

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These 4 Men Dominate Online Searches About the Antichrist

What do Donald Trump, Elon Musk, King Charles III, and Emmanuel Macron all have in common?

Beyond their obvious similarities as wealthy, famous men who command global attention, these individuals share another fascinating distinction: They are the most frequently cited candidates in recent online searches and discussions about the identity of the Antichrist.

This phenomenon of trying to identify the Antichrist isn't new. Throughout history, many have attempted to match contemporary figures to biblical prophecies about this future world leader. In the 20th century alone, figures as diverse as Mussolini, Hitler, Stalin and various popes were suggested as candidates. While such speculation can be intriguing, it's essential to ground our understanding in Scripture's actual criteria for identifying the Antichrist.

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The Bible provides specific characteristics that will identify this figure. These can be divided into two categories: those characteristics that will be observable before his full revelation as the Antichrist, and characteristics that will only become evident afterward. There's also one pivotal event that will confirm his identity conclusively.

Before the Antichrist's revelation, we would expect to see several key indicators. First among them is his emergence as a charismatic world leader with exceptional intelligence and

persuasive speaking abilities. Secondly, the Antichrist will play an initial role as a peacemaker (particularly regarding Israel). Thirdly, he will possess some connection to the former Roman Empire. Fourth, he will have a notable rise from relative obscurity to power. Finally, he must be male, as Scripture constantly uses masculine pronouns to describe him.

These preliminary criteria help explain why certain leaders frequently appear in internet searches and general speculation.

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Take Emmanuel Macron, for instance. As France's youngest-ever president, his rapid rise to power and charismatic leadership style check several boxes. His role in European politics, particularly his vision for a 10-nation European military coalition, has caught the attention of prophecy watchers. His background in economics and digital affairs might seem relevant to future global economic control. Some even point to his name—Emmanuel, meaning “God with us”—as potentially significant, given that the Antichrist will ultimately demand worship as God. Yet while these parallels are interesting, some or all of these criteria could apply to numerous other world leaders as well.

Similar connections could be drawn to other figures on our initial list. Some point to Mark Zuckerberg's influence over global communications and digital currency initiatives or Bill Gates' involvement in global health policy and technological innovation. Others highlight Jared Kushner's role in Middle

East peace negotiations or King Charles III's position as head of the Church of England.

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Kay Robertson of 'Duck Dynasty' Suffers Severe Injury After Fall

Duck Dynasty star Kay Robertson is on the mend after suffering from a "substantial injury" when she fell at home recently.

On the latest Duck Call Room podcast titled "Willie & Jase Find Joy in Tough Times with Phil & Miss Kay's Health Struggles," Willie, Jase and Si Robertson provided a detailed update about her condition.

"Kay had another fall, which, she falls a lot. And it was a substantial injury," Jase explained adding that his mother is doing "pretty well" but that the fall caused significant damage to her body.

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"The people that are around them 24/7, 'cause obviously we

can't be around them at all times, sent me a very graphic picture when she cut her leg," Jase continued. "It was a horror show; it was severe. I was fixing to get up onstage and I see this picture of my mom, I was like, 'Oh man.' I was like, 'Get her to the hospital. I gotta speak.'"

During the podcast episode, the brothers admitted that it has been challenging caring for their aging parents.

"Mentally, neither one of them are where they once were," Willie admitted.

As CBN News reported, on a recent episode of "Unashamed with the Robertson Family" podcast, Jase announced that his father, Phil, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and his team of doctors say there is no cure for what he has.

"Phil's not doing well. I think I spoke on the 1,000th podcast, we were trying to figure out the diagnosis, but according to the doctors, he has some sort of blood disease causing all kinds of problems," Jase said at the time.

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"It's like accelerated, and it's causing problems with his entire body. And he has the early stages of Alzheimer's. So, if you put those things together, he's really not doing well. He's struggling," he continued.

However, his condition has improved some, something Jase attributes to continuous prayers by fans for the Robertson patriarch.

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Christian Congressman Laments 'Incredibly Corrupt' Federal Spending