

Morning Rundown: Pastor Jack Hayford Was the Pentecostal Gold Standard

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Here's a quick rundown of the top stories on :

Pastor Jack Hayford Was the Pentecostal Gold Standard

I was interviewed once about Jack Hayford and made the comment that he was the Pentecostal Gold Standard. Christianity Today put Hayford on the cover and to my surprise they used my phrase in the headline. It was true in 2005 when Hayford was 71, (the age I am now.)

Sadly, on Sunday, Jan. 3, 2023 Pastor Jack Hayford passed away at 88 years old. I was very close to him and I am grieving his loss. We had a professional relationship that developed into our publishing five of his books; he was "senior editorial advisor" for Ministry Today magazine for more than a decade and I served on the board of The Kings University (which he founded) for nearly 20 years.

Over the years he became a mentor and in many ways my pastor even though he lived 2500 miles away. My wife and I considered he was the "spiritual covering" for Charisma Media. We ran all major decisions by him. (Today I was reflecting that during the 30-year period we considered Hayford "pastor" that my wife and I attended four different churches locally. Two of those pastors left the ministry and two of the churches ultimately closed. We are glad that Pastor Jack gave stability to our lives as we led this publishing media ministry.)

Lynette Hardaway, 'Diamond' of Diamond and Silk, Dies: 'A True Angel and Warrior Patriot for Freedom'

Lynette Hardaway, better known as Diamond from the team Diamond and Silk, died Monday night. She was 51.

The lively political commentator and her sister Rochelle “Silk” Richardson were big supporters of former President Donald Trump during his presidential campaign in 2016 and reelection campaign in 2020.

Trump noted Hardaway’s passing on Truth Social Monday night, writing: “Really bad news for Republicans and frankly, ALL Americans.

It’s Great to See the NFL So Spiritual, but ...

It is wonderful to see so many NFL players and coaches and sports commentators praying openly and unashamedly. And in the aftermath of the events of the Buffalo Bills game on Sunday, a game devoted to their own Damar Hamlin (the subject of all the aforementioned prayers) and a game marked by two kickoff return touchdowns, some spoke openly about divine intervention.

With reference to the first touchdown return, which was the very first play of the game following a tribute to Hamlin, Bills quarterback Josh Allen said, “It was just spiritual. I was going around and—I was just going around to my teammates saying, ‘God’s real.’ Like, you can’t, you can’t draw that one up, write that one up any better.”

Allen added (while wearing a cap with Hamlin’s jersey number, 3), “I was just told by [Bills communications director] Kevin Kearns, it’s been three years and three months—since the last kickoff [Bills’] return, so, it’s pretty cool.” {eo}

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