

'General in the Faith': Longtime Church of God Leader Floyd Lawhon Dies at 83

The Church of God, headquartered in Cleveland, Tennessee, has announced the Feb. 28 death of one its elder statesmen, Pastor Floyd Lawhon, 83, former member of the denomination's Executive Council of Eighteen and also of its World Missions Board of Directors.

In April 2021, he was inducted into the Hall of Prophets at the Church of God School of Theology at the Pentecostal Theological Seminary, where he and his wife, Gay, were also honored with an endowed scholarship. A seminary press release at the time noted:

Floyd H. Lawhon has served the Church of God for fifty years, including twenty-three years as an evangelist, conducting meetings in churches in the U.S. and abroad, five and a half years in administrative offices in Virginia and Illinois, and twenty-two years as a pastor.

Brother Lawhon's pastorates—including Deer Park Church of God, Houston, Texas; Coastal Cathedral, Savannah, Georgia; and Upper Room, Los Angeles, California—have been marked with outstanding growth under his leadership.

In constant demand as a guest speaker, Floyd has ministered at more than 100 Church of God camp meetings, prayer conferences and many other state meetings. His evangelistic ministry has taken him to over fifty countries of the world in twenty-eight overseas trips, preaching to thousands on the mission field and in the United States.

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Bestselling author and Pastor Jentezen Franklin of Free Chapel, a megachurch with multiple campuses, shared his condolences on social media, noting that Lawhon's ministry "touched countless souls all over the world."

Today Pastor Floyd Lawhon passed on to his heavenly home. Please join me in prayer for his precious wife Gay who was his rock and faithful partner in a ministry that touched countless souls all over the world.

He had a profound and lasting influence on Cherise and I and every... – Jentezen Franklin (@Jentezen) February 29, 2024

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The executive office of the Kentucky Church of God said in a Feb. 29 Facebook post, "We are saddened to inform you that Dr. Floyd Lawhon, an Ordained Bishop and powerful evangelist in the Church of God, passed away. Dr. Lawhon most recently preached in Kentucky last month, delivering a dynamic Word from the Lord at Christ Embassy in Nicholasville. He has preached the Gospel throughout Kentucky over the years and is beloved by so many. Join us in praying for the Lawhon family in the days ahead as they grieve our shared loss."

Evangelist Perry Stone also posted on Facebook about his grief over Lawhon's death, referring to him as "a 5 star general in the faith" and noting that his mother was Lawhon's secretary at the Church of God state office in Roanoke, Virginia.

He leaves behind his wife, two children, six grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

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