



## Harold L. "Pete" Beal

May 19, 1930 - October 22, 2020

Harold L. "Pete" Beal, 90, of Dix, passed away at 3:20 a.m., Thursday, October 22, 2020, at his home.

He was born on May 19, 1930, in Champaign County, Illinois, the son of Othello and Blanche (Elliott) Beal. He married Eunice Smith, who preceded him in death, and later married Mary Lee (Danner) Garren, and she survives in Dix.

Mr. Beal became a Christian when he was 31 years old, and served in the Christian Church until his death. His Church membership had been at Calumet Street Church (formerly Hickory Street), and currently was a member at the Boyd Christian Church in Dix. His work included the Oil Belt Christian Camp in Flora, Illinois; Pinehaven Christian Children's Home in Montana; Colegio Biblico, a Spanish speaking Christian Bible College in Eagle Pass, Texas; and Piedras Nigras, Mexico. He also served in Russia, Africa, and Haiti. He has ministered to thousands throughout the world with his work and words, and continued as a witness and testimony for his Lord until his death. Our lives were all blessed with his presence and Faith.

He was a veteran of the Korean Conflict, serving in the United States Navy's Sea-Bee's from 1950 until 1954, in the Aleutian Islands and the Philippines, where he worked with heavy equipment. Beginning early in life, Pete worked on Rome Township roads and bridges and continued being a heavy-equipment operator, retiring in 2001, and continuing in Church Missions work until 2017.

In addition to his wife, Mary Lee Beal of Dix, he is survived by one son, Scott Beal and wife Jeanie of Salem; two step-sons, Keith Smith and Tim Smith and wife Ann of Salem; three daughters, Sheila Beal of Dallas, Texas, Sherrill White of Sandoval, and Shellie Ross and husband James of Manathie, Mississippi; three step-daughters, Karla Smith, JuLee Hoke and husband Michael, and Gayanne Hoke and husband David; eight grandchildren, Erin Markworst, Amber Neeley, Kelly White, Richard White, Chloe Beal, Caden Beal, Joshua Cobb, Brandon Cobb, and eight step-grandchildren, Korey Smith, Keri Phillips, Kathleen Belew, Nicholas Smith, Faith Smith, Joshua Hoke, AshLee Willhite, and Caleb Hoke; twelve great-grandchildren; two step-great-grandchildren; one brother, Clyde Beal and friend Linda Davis of Mt. Vernon; one sister, Ada Standerfer and husband Jerry of Mt. Vernon; two sisters-in-law, Peggy Beal of Richview, and Cathy Brown of Chicago; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wives, Donna (Baldrige) Beal and Eunice Beal; and four brothers, Ron, Lawrence, Paul LeRoy Beal, and Cliff Beal.

In accordance with Mr. Beal's wishes, cremation rites have been accorded, and a memorial service will be held at 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 28, 2020, at Boyd Christian Church, with Jeff Van Meter officiating. Burial will follow at Boyd Cemetery. Due to the current circumstances regarding the ongoing pandemic, attendees have the option to listen to the service from the parking lot of the church, by tuning their radios to 93.3 FM, at the appropriate time. A drive-through visitation will be held from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, October 28, 2020, at Boyd Christian Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to Pioneer Bible Translators, Colegio Biblico, or Pinehaven Christian Children's Home, and will be accepted at the service, or by mail to the Osborn Funeral Home, P.O. Box 130, Dix, Illinois 62830. Online condolences may be made at [www.osbornfuneral.com](http://www.osbornfuneral.com), or on the Osborn Funeral Home Facebook page.



# Cemetery Details

## Boyd Cemetery

Dix, IL 62830

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 28. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Boyd Christian Church  
Dix, IL 62830

## Memorial Service

OCT 28. 4:00 PM (CT)

Boyd Christian Church  
Dix, IL 62830

# Tribute Wall

MZ

“*Mary Lee, My sympathy. Even though I did not know Pete, I am sure he was a fine person and that you will miss him. Take care of yourself. Prayers for your peace.*

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**Martha R Zimmerman** - October 30, 2020 at 09:58 PM

MS

“*Pete Beal was one of the most influential people in my life. Pete Beal and Charlie Chambers were Sunday School teachers who patiently taught me and other unruly elementary and junior high boys at Hickory Street Christian Church. I remember my dad (Arthur Steele) expressing to me his deep admiration and respect for Pete, not only as a "Man's man" who worked hard, but also for being a shining example of someone who loved Jesus and demonstrated that every day of his life. I'm now 68 years old, living in Tulsa, OK., and since my mom passed almost 2 years ago I don't get back to the Centralia-Sandoval area as often. Until her passing, I had my own Boyd-Kell connection by being able to attend church with Dorris (May) Long. We shared the honor of both being baptized by Verneil Garren and that was a special bond between us. I suspect I am just one of hundreds, if not thousands of people influenced by Pete and that influence has been passed on from generation to generation. Well done, good and faithful servant.  
Michael Steele - Broken Arrow, OK.*

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**Michael W Steele** - October 25, 2020 at 08:24 PM

RS

“ I first met Pete in 2009 as he was building the first duplex house for married students at Colegio Biblico in Piedras Negras, Mexico. Over the next 11 years, he became a friend as we worked together to improve the physical campuses of the college. He encouraged me in my work and set an example for service, generosity, and commitment. It was always such a joy to see him at ICOM or to talk to him on the phone. I will miss him but will not forget the example he has set. Rick Smalling

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**Rick Smalling** - October 25, 2020 at 06:10 PM

MM

“ I remember the hay rides at Beal's orchard and working on the float for Hickory Street back in the day and having Pete as a Sunday school teacher. My prayers and thoughts are with the family at this time. He served the Lord many years.. Michael Marcum Clearwater FL

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**Michael E Marcum** - October 25, 2020 at 09:42 AM

DB

“ Uncle Pete was a good man he will be missed

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**David Beal** - October 23, 2020 at 06:45 PM

DL

“ Mary Lee and Family,  
May God grant you the peace that only He can in times like these.  
May you rest in the fact that everything for which Pete labored has culminated in his greatest reward. God bless you all.

*David Long (Eddie and Dorris Long's son)*

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**David Long** - October 23, 2020 at 09:56 AM

PB

“ *It is with a heavy heart to lose my brother in law, Pete. I've enjoyed being around him and Mary Lee and attending Boyd Church with them! He will be missed, but I know he is rejoicing with family members who went before him. Godspeed! 🙏*

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**Peggy Beal** - October 22, 2020 at 09:02 PM