



Fred Byers Warren

July 21, 1929 - June 7, 2021

Fred Byers Warren, devoted husband and father, died peacefully on Monday June 7 after a protracted illness. He retired from the US Department of Agriculture after 40 years as a statistician and was an active volunteer in the church and community.

Fred was born on July 21, 1929 in White Rock, Jewell County, Kansas, the son of farmer Ronald Warren and school teacher and journalist Ellen Morlan Warren. Fred was an avid reader during grade school and didn't mind if he was sent to his room as "punishment". His interest in learning led to honors throughout, and an Agriculture degree from Kansas State. He then enlisted in the Kansas National Guard. He transferred to the US Air Force and was stationed in Japan during the Korean War. He developed a love for Asian culture and food while overseas— once home, this meant driving 20 miles to the local Chinatown to buy something as rudimentary as soy sauce! After his honorable discharge Fred moved to Columbus, Ohio and began work at the USDA.. God had more in store. Fred joined "Guys and Gals", a social group at the local Methodist Church. There he met the love of his life, Wanda, and immediately asked her out for ice cream. They were so compatible that they married a few short months later! Fred and Wanda started a family and had Mary and Joseph, the first two of their three children. They relocated to the Annandale, VA area where they had Ron, their third child. Fred attended The University of North Carolina where he earned a Masters Degree in Statistics.

After residing in Annandale for 55 years, he and Wanda moved to Springfield, Virginia.

Fred developed mathematical models to predict crop yields as a function of weather. He was among the first to use LANDSAT satellite information to assess crop health and yields. To fulfill his job, he was sent all over the US and to overseas locations to do crop surveys and project agricultural production. His travels took him to places as diverse as Missouri, Washington State, Hawaii, Upper Volta and the Ivory Coast. Fred and Wanda took personal trips around the US as well as overseas trips to Germany, Ireland, the UK, China, Peru, Bonaire, Mexico, and Canada. For many years they traveled west to visit Wanda's relatives in Ohio and Fred's parents and other relatives in KS. Fred was always up for a game of softball or volleyball or other outdoor games.

Fred was an avid gardener, transforming their grounds into a miniature orchard and farm. He planted and enjoyed the fruits of apple trees, grape vines, and blueberry bushes. He planted a vegetable garden each year and enjoyed the squash, peppers, tomatoes, kale, lettuces and beans it produced. He also planted extensive flower beds on the property.. Every farm has at least one housecat!

Fred was a key part of the vibrancy for many decades of Immanuel United Methodist Church. He had multiple leadership roles in finance, stewardship and participating in the Annual Conference as a delegate. He also volunteered for many tasks around the church as well as at The Annandale Christian Community for Action. He picked up and delivered furniture for those in need, as well as volunteering at their Food Bank. His zeal for local Christian community evolved in later years to involvement with Saint Barnabas Episcopal Church (choir), St. Francis Episcopal Church, Springfield United Methodist Church (lay reader) and The Village Church at Greenspring.

Remote attendance at St. Bernard RC Church kept his spirit nourished during the pandemic.

Fred took adult leadership roles in BSA troop 1502, ultimately becoming the Troop Scoutmaster. Fred enjoyed camping and backpacking, taking the troop on scores of weekend trips and many years of summer trips to Goshen Scout Camp. Fred was inevitably the winner of the Scoutmaster/Sr Patrol Leader joint marksmanship competition. He enjoyed picking blackberries and making cobbler out of them at camp, and taking any leftovers home to make blackberry ice-cream.

Fred's post-retirement interests, with Wanda, included New Earth and Landmark Education. His congenial personality and many skills contributed to many friendships within those organizations. More recently, his lifelong love of singing found a home with a local choral group.

Fred is survived by his wife and life partner of 64 years, Wanda Archer Warren; his sister Patricia Warren Cary (Wichita, KS), his brother Samuel Warren and sister-in-law Karen West Warren (Mt. Airy, MD); his children and their spouses Mary Warren Breslin (Patrick), Joseph William Warren (Margaret), Ronald Archer Warren (Nicholas Borelli III), his grandchildren Matthew Warren, Patrick Warren, Azay Breslin, and Kayla Breslin, three great grandchildren; 16 nieces and nephews. Sister Elizabeth Warren Atkinson (Grand Junction, CO) preceded him in death.

A Celebration of Life will be held on July 17, 12 pm, at The Village Church, 7418 Spring Village Drive, Springfield, VA.

(A security gate is in place so time needs to be planned to go through it. Parking will be reserved.) In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the charity of your choice, or to the Greenspring Benevolent Fund.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUL 17. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Greenspring Chapel
7430 Spring Village Drive
Springfield, VA 22150

Tribute Wall



“ *Fred Byers Warren*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM



“ *I appreciate his many years of service as a scoutmaster back in the 1970's and 80's. He was willing to take his time so that many boys would have an opportunity to experience the outdoors. May God grant eternal rest unto him, and let perpetual light shine upon him.*

Ken Shuping.

Ken Shuping - July 19, 2021 at 02:40 PM



“ *After meeting Wanda and Fred at Landmark Education in 1993, I observed a love which bordered on the Prince Consort to the Queen of England. When I saw how Fred observed what Wanda needed and then acted on it, I saw the qualities I wanted in a future husband. Never did I think I could find a man who modeled his qualities of kindness, compassion, integrity and playfulness Fred had, but sure enough, I did. That gleeful look of his carried on for more than 90 years. I will never forget when we looked out on four lanes of traffic from the Silver Diner as a helium balloon danced in the traffic. When we left the diner, Fred said, "Why don't you go get that balloon?" I said, "And cross four lanes of traffic?" "Where's your sense of adventure?," he tweaked. It had landed in the grass, so off I went across four lanes to retrieve it. He had that way about him...Miss you, Fred.*

Barbara (Willow) Drinkwater - July 08, 2021 at 08:19 PM

MW

“ I have many memories of assisting with Fred and Wanda at Landmark. Also many memories of their warmth and hospitality to welcome me into their home when I was assisting, starting with when I was stranded there for two days in a snowstorm. Fred would always show me what he had planted in his big garden. We will miss you, Fred!

Martie Weatherly - July 08, 2021 at 02:42 PM

HS

“ Rest Fred, until you hear at dawn,
the low, clear reveille of God.

Thank you for your service to this nation.
Kansas National Guard and the U.S. Air Force.



Harry Simpson - July 06, 2021 at 04:24 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Jefferson Funeral Chapel - June 30, 2021 at 04:32 PM

MB

“ I remember fondly a canoe trip on the Youghiogheny River with Fred, Wanda, Mary and our friends. Fred was the intrepid paddler through the rapids, enjoying every wave, eddy, and near miss. What a wonderful traveling companion he was to our crew!

Martha Birnbaum

Martha Birnbaum - June 19, 2021 at 11:59 AM