



Siloam Missionary Homes

"providing housing to missionaries for a lifetime..."

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SUMMER 2003

SOLDIER, MISSIONARY, SERVANT *By Pastor Paul Waters*



WILBUR ABBEY

A faithful example to all who knew him. How thankful we are for his life!

It was a potent moment of finality; yet it was a commencement of hope. Age had arrested his body and the clock that measured his ninety plus years had wound down for good. His service was elegantly simple with testimonials as to his goodness and service. His flag-draped remains were proof that he had offered himself for his country while his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren sat in solemn respect, tears of gratitude flowing. His widow received condolences and grieved quietly as three ministers' voices praised the Almighty for his life.

Although funeral services are not really

my cup of tea, I was proud to be present for this one – for this soldier of the USA was also a soldier of the cross!

His death was sandwiched between Easter Celebration and Memorial Day. Fitting, don't you think, that a soldier with a double allegiance should make his final journey close to both events? But, as I sat there listening, observing, and grieving over the family's sorrow, I couldn't keep my gaze from Old Glory draped in solemn respect over his casket. That flag stood for many things that day that were also characteristics of his life.

Freedom for all, for instance, was a rally cry for this old soldier who had given his life for the Lord on a Brazilian mission field beginning at age forty. Natives who were in bondage gained the freeing message of God's love and were liberated from demon possession and idol worship. As a soldier, he had served for the right of all Americans to be free during their lifetime, though undeserving they may be; as a soldier of the cross, he had served so that the souls of undeserving men, women, and children might be free forever!

That marvelous symbol of our nation also stood for an attitude and ethic of work. The man in the coffin believed and lived by that virtue as well, as he continued

serving long after retirement.

How much prayer as well went to the Throne Room every time our flag flew in time of crisis! This beloved missionary soldier knew and lived a life bathed in prayer. There was no crisis too small or great but what prayer was his answer! He balanced and purified his life with its direction; he began his day kneeling, beseeching, and gratefully acknowledging his Savior's love and mercy.

Yes, it was fitting that he should rejoice in Heaven after Easter and leave a legacy of service behind just before Memorial Day. It seems as though he could never do quite enough for the Lord he loved, but he tried until he died. He never thought of himself as a worthy patriot; but I would to God that this country was full of men like him! His memory will help other missionaries do more for Christ! His service helps us all to be grateful for freedom as believers and as Americans.

His flag stands for "the more you do to dispel the dark, the more light you leave for others to see the cross."

May God bless the memory of Mr. Wilbur Abbey, soldier, missionary, servant!

Mr. Abbey was co-founder of Siloam Missionary Homes after retirement and worked there until his homegoing.

This was read at Dad's funeral:

Today is not a day I was looking forward to – the passing of the torch! I have known you for the past 27 years. You went from being my father-in-law, to my dad, my best friend, and my greatest cheerleader.

When I was called into the ministry, you became my mentor. I remember the time I was to preach a week of meetings. The first night, I bombed! The next morning, you met me at the prayer rock and prayed with me. In your own gentle way, you told me to throw away the books

and use my Bible. You said, "Seek God and preach from your heart." That night when I preached, you leaned forward in your pew to listen. God blessed in a great way.

This morning, I walked to the chapel. I picked up the prayer list and wrote the needs of the families here. Today, it is my job to take the torch and lift up these names to the Lord.

We had a great talk last Tuesday. You said that this day would come. You also said you would have a "direct line" and would be watching me. Even in your last days, your concern was for people.

Today, I begin the task of running

Siloam Missionary Homes without you. Pray for me, that I can carry the torch of missions to the world, that like you, I would never put anything above the Lord. We love you so much and miss you terribly. But, I know it's God's plan. I also realize it is time I carry the torch. My life verse is also yours, Proverbs 3:5-7, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes; fear the Lord and depart from evil."

May God always get the glory.

Your torch carrier for Jesus, Larry

Family Center Update

By Larry George, President



"Richard standing in front of our newly refurbished construction trailer - ready to begin the Family Center."

I Thess. 5:17 *"Pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."*

After lots and lots of prayer, we are ready to begin. I feel like saying, *"Gentlemen, start your engines."* The plans for the Family Center have been in the making since 1998 and have been modified to meet the ongoing needs here at Siloam Missionary Homes. We have grown to a point that we can no longer get everyone in our basement fellowship hall. The work groups also continue to grow and we have to eat outside under the trees. This is no problem until it rains. The ability to provide overnight housing is a real plus to traveling missionaries. But we don't have room. So you can see that we really need this building. The library will be such a great asset

to the missionary families and those that home school. We have several young families that could be using this building. The new building will free up two existing buildings to be used for more missionary housing. Praise the Lord we are ready to begin! The new international building code has created quite a stir in commercial building. After going back and forth between the building inspectors and engineers, we finally have the building permit. We are so thankful that we didn't have to put in a sprinkler system and that the inspectors really did try to work with us. Praise the Lord! This weekend we will be go over the final details. What an exciting time to be serving the Lord. If the weather permits we will begin dozing soon.

We praise the Lord that the funds have started to come in. The cost for a project of this size would exceed \$400,000 under normal building practices. We are in hopes that with some materials donated and Richard Burlingham, our maintenance director, overseeing the project that we can build this for approximately \$250,000. Over \$100,000 has already been committed. To God be the glory.

Please pray for safety and wisdom as we once again step out on faith and see God do what man sees as impossible.

E.M. Bounds said it well when he said, *"I think Christians fail so often to get answers to their prayers because they do not wait long enough on God. They just drop down and say a few words, and then jump up and forget it and expect God to answer them. Such praying always reminds me of the small boy ringing his neighbor's doorbell, and then running away as fast as he can go."*

In closing, I want to say thank you for your prayers and financial support. Times are hard for a lot of people. Some have lost their jobs. Other their investments. This has been reflective of our income. I don't like to elaborate on finances, so just pray that God will provide. May God bless each of you and may He receive all the glory and honor.

Thank you...thank you...thank you!

- Mt. Olive Baptist Church women for the paper products and canned goods.
- Randy Eddins for the black pipe for the driveway.
- Charles and Lisa Harris for the clothes and other miscellaneous items.
- Dick and Claudia Burlingham for the utility trailer and kerosene heaters.
- Hilda Sherard for the Mercury Grand Marquis and the golf cart.
- Jack and Lisa Culbertson for the bunk bed and mattress.
- Michael and Tina Teague for the chips and sweet rolls and the mulch.
- Mark and Maggie Dejournette for the children's clothing.
- Ken Carden for the construction trailer and other miscellaneous items
- Mr. and Mrs. Horner for the gas grill and recliner
- Andreas and Margarita Karassa for the furniture and decorative items.
- Regina Chaskin for the clothing and coffee table.
- James and Ann Hamby for the furniture and miscellaneous items
- Carlos and Angel Lockamy for the computer
- John Reynolds for the vegetables - yum!

ALPING HANDS *By Richard Burlingham, Jr., Director of Maintenance*

Wow, what a summer we've had so far. We have had three great work groups already and two more on the way. God has allowed us to get many things accomplished in a very short time.

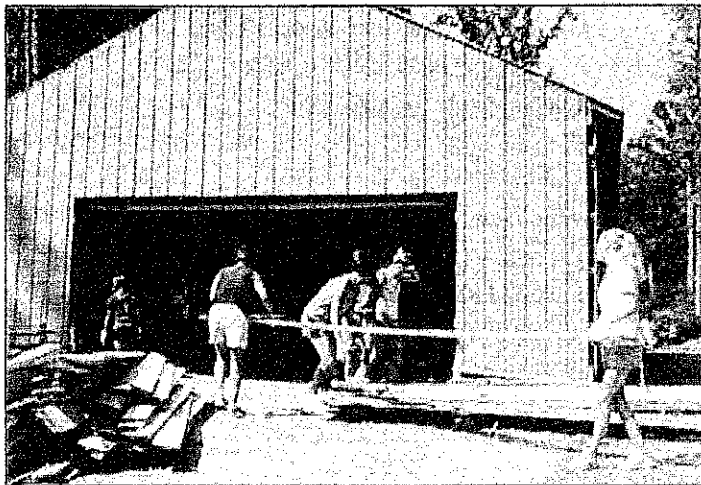
I want to thank the folks for coming and giving up part of their summer to help with making Siloam a nicer place. Thanks first of all, to Maple Grove from Topeka, Indiana, who came down and enclosed our shop, working through the sunshine and rain (or should I say "downpour") to finish on time. Second, to Roselawn Mennonite Church from Middlebury, Indiana, who enclosed the tractor shed, weeded flowerbeds and burned all of the wood slabs from the logs we cut into lumber. They braved the hot sun and kept on working. Finally, to Graham Presbyterian from Graham, NC, who remodeled the office in our construction trailer and moved all the lumber we had previously cut into the tractor shed. We appreciate all the work that has been done. This

would have taken us many weeks, perhaps months to finish and with your help, it is done! My mother and father came down from Michigan and we even put them to work! Thanks, ma and pa. We are now looking forward to our next groups coming the first week of August.

We have enjoyed spending time with old friends and making new ones this summer. It is so awesome to serve God along with such willing groups of people. God is good!



Maple Grove Church worked through the rain and heat to finish enclosing the workshop, making the property look neater!



Graham Presbyterian Church youth and adults worked hard in the heat remodeling the construction trailer and moving lumber.



Roselawn Mennonite Church standing in front of their project - the enclosed tractor shed.

Changes @ Siloam *by Ronnie and Tammie Isley*

The last few weeks have been really busy. We have had several families moving in and out. The Airi family left and is back in Papua New Guinea. The Hunter family has returned to Micronesia and the Smiths are in the process of moving out and going back to their ministry in Papua New Guinea. Please pray for their two sons as they are staying in the States. It will be a big adjustment for all of them.

We are really busy painting and getting the homes ready for the families moving in. We need a few things for the houses. Things wear out very fast when

you have a lot of people using them. If you could help us with some of these items, we would appreciate it!

- Twin sheets
- Twin size comforters *(we need them in matched sets of two or four)*
- Towels, wash cloths
- Blender
- Twin size mattress pads
- Queen size sheet sets
- Over the range microwave

- Gas grill
- Crib sheets
- High chair
- Play pen
- Canned & paper goods and meat to share with the missionary families *(we have freezers)*

Thanks for all of your help. We appreciate anything you can do. You can reach us at siloamh@bellsouth.net or our home 336-376-8200.

A "THANK YOU" NOTE

"I certainly enjoyed staying here... nice buildings, yards... and people. Thank you so much for letting me stay and being kind to me. It was a real blessing to me to have a place like SMH.

Thank you all for your hard work for missionaries and the Lord.

In Christ our Savior,
Yuka Kawaicho, missionary with Word of Life, International

Would you like to be able to contribute to Siloam Missionary Homes and save money at the same time? By signing up, your long distance rates will be lower and 8% of your long distance will go to Siloam Missionary Homes. For more information, call toll free 1-866-735-3439 and ask for James Ivey or look up our web site at www.lowermyphonebill.com/siloam.

These special gifts were given in loving memory

GIVEN BY:
Betty Jo Sickler

IN MEMORY OF:
Charles Sickler

GIVEN BY:
Betty Jo Sickler

IN MEMORY OF:
Hazel Gillan

GIVEN BY:
Harold Davis

IN MEMORY OF:
Elise Davis

GIVEN BY:
Delano & Eva Hill

IN MEMORY OF:
Wilbur Abbey

GIVEN BY:
Betty Jo Sickler

IN MEMORY OF:
Wilbur Abbey

GIVEN BY:
Russ & Norma
Briggs

IN MEMORY OF:
Wilbur Abbey

GIVEN BY:
Lee & Sharon
Gebben

IN MEMORY OF:
Wilbur Abbey

GIVEN BY:
Ralph & Esther
Cummings

IN MEMORY OF:
Barbara Blust's
grandson

GIVEN BY:
Ed & Mary Louise
Scarborough

IN HONOR OF:
Dorothy Abbey

IN MEMORY OF:
Wilbur Abbey

Dear Coffee Club Members,

Summer is going by so quickly, it's hard to believe that fall is just around the corner. Work groups have kept us busy, as well as painting and getting homes ready for new families moving in. I really enjoy the work that God has called us to do here at Siloam Missionary Homes.

Rachel had an unexpected change in plans. The school she had taught at last year in Virginia had quite a few less students enrolled for next year, and because of that, she was laid off. So, she came home and began praying about a job for the 2003 - 2004 school year. Well, as always, the Lord was faithful and she will begin teaching 3rd grade at Burlington Christian Academy in August. She is real excited about the new opportunity and we are happy to have her home.

Abbey, Mike and Macie are doing well. Macie is growing so fast, and she seems to change every day! She has been such a joy to our lives already. She always has a smile for us and loves to "talk" in the sweet sounds that babies make. I can't wait to tell her about how much Jesus loves her and I pray every day that she will love Him with all of her heart, too.

As you know from the front page, my dad passed away on May 17th. The tribute written by Pastor Waters has been a comfort to me and I am so thankful that my dad led the kind of life that pointed people to Christ. After the funeral, my sister, Rebecca, who is a missionary in Brazil, told me, "Dad loved Jesus more than anything. I want to love Christ that much, too." I want that, too. We miss dad - he was such an encourager and a prayer warrior.

We are so thankful for some new coffee club members, Michael and Tina Teague, and Mike and Amy Peterson. Their gifts as well as yours, help us provide these homes for missionaries. God bless you all.

Your "CoffeeMate," — Joyce George



My love gift: I would like to join the Coffee Club with a monthly pledge of

☐ \$15 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ Other \$ (Please send my Coffee Club cup.)

One Time Gift \$ _____

Please designate my one time gift for: _____

DONATION FOR (check appropriate box):

☐ Richard & Jennifer Burlingham salary ☐ Family Center ☐ Larry & Joyce George salary

Please make checks payable to Siloam Missionary Homes

☐ General Fund or ☐ (specify project) _____

Name _____

Address _____

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All gifts are tax deductible & receipts will be mailed at year's end, unless otherwise requested.