



## Norma B. Bixler

November 23, 1928 - October 26, 2015

Norma Bowman Bixler, 86 went to be with the Lord on October 26, 2015. She passed in her home in Harrison City surrounded by her loving family. Norma was born on November 23, 1928 in Roanoke, Virginia, to Stover and Fannie Bowman. She attended Bridgewater University in 1946 where she met her future husband, Russell Bixler. Norma and Russell were married in 1948 and were inseparable throughout their lives. After receiving a call to ministry in 1956 Norma and Russell moved their family to Bethany Theological seminary in Chicago. Then in 1959, Russell became pastor of the Pittsburgh Church of the Brethren. Norma and Russell served the Church of the Brethren until 1972. In 1969, Norma received the vision for a Christian television station in Pittsburgh. She and Russell founded Western Pennsylvania Christian Broadcasting (later Cornerstone TeleVision). With no experience and little financial backing, Norma and her husband proceeded forward and on Easter Sunday, 1979, Cornerstone TeleVision went on the air and remains their legacy to this day, broadcasting Christian programming 24 hours a day. After Russell's death in January, 2000, Norma remained fully immersed with Cornerstone TeleVision and continued her mission there until the time of her passing. Norma was honored in 2011 with the Salvation Army's highest honor, the "Catherine Booth Award", named after the co-founder of the Salvation Army, for "giving unselfishly of her time and ability in service to humanity, while demonstrating active moral and social leadership." In 2014, Norma completed her autobiography, Faith Wins! complimenting Russell's last published book,

Faith Works! Publicly and privately, Norma lived a life of faith in God up until her last breath. Norma is survived by her four children: Kathryn and George Steiner, Paul and Faye Bixler, Harold and Clare Bixler and John and Lori Bixler. Norma is also survived by eleven grandchildren and six great grandchildren; her brother Charles Bowman and wife Nona, sister Janet Canady and husband Ray and brother in law Gene Smith. She was preceded in death by her sister Sue Smith. At Norma's request there will be no public viewing. A memorial service worshiping God and celebrating Norma's life will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday November 21, 2015, at Greater Works Outreach, 301 College Park Dr., Monroeville, PA 15146, with Rev. Gary Mitrik, officiating. Private interment was held in Jefferson Memorial Park, Pleasant Hills. William Snyder Funeral Home, Irwin, 724-863-1200, is in charge of funeral arrangements. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations are made to support "Origins", a television program originally hosted by Russell Bixler. Donations can be made to Cornerstone Network, Signal Hill Drive, Wall, PA 15148. For online condolences please visit [www.snyderfuneralservices.com](http://www.snyderfuneralservices.com).

# Cemetery Details

## **Jefferson Memorial Park**

301 Curry Hollow Rd.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

# Tribute Wall



“ *Norma B. Bixler*

October 07, 2023 at 10:37 AM



“ *Norma B. Bixler*

August 23, 2022 at 04:00 PM



“ *I was there the day that Cornerstone went on the air. It was a day that I will never forget as long as I live! The vision that Norma had and that Russell believed in had finally come to be! But some of the best times to be had were when Russell and Norma would come to my parents home for dinner.*

*Then a few years later, when my family had the privilege of helping to bring the Greek program to Pittsburgh. It was a dream come true for my parents to bring the gospel to the Greeks of their city. None of this would have been possible without Norma and Russell and their obedient hearts to the Lord.*

*To Paul and Faye, and to the rest of the family,  
May the Lord be with you and envelope you in His loving arms. Our most sincere prayers will be with you.*

*Love,  
William & Carolyn Sarandis Zinchini  
San Antonio, Texas*



William & Carolyn Sarandis Zinchini - November 02, 2015 at 04:34 PM

RM

“ Norma bixler will never be forgotten Norma;s legacy will live on she was a blessing to all who knew her I will never forget the word she gave for my son that changed his life for the better no one can ever replace her she will be greatly missed on cornerstone she was the matriarch of cornerstone television now she is with her lord and savior



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**Robin mccune** - November 02, 2015 at 03:44 AM

JM

“ Prayers for all who knew and loved Norma. You will be missed. You and Russ served our Lord with a great vision for this area...CTV. Thank you for sharing your life with us, your CTV family.

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**Jamie Martin** - October 31, 2015 at 10:31 AM

MB

I didn't know Mrs. Bixler but I know her and her husband's legacy. Everybody knows Cornerstone! After she passed I watched a episode of THE CALLING and was being interviewed about when God called her to ministry and to start Cornerstone. The story was a blessing and even in death she admonished the saints with a call on their life to get busy for God.

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**Marsha Boyce** - November 29, 2015 at 05:00 PM

LD

“ A pilgrim for the Lord. Norma and Russ were shining lights for Christ. Blessings and prayers for her family. Rev. Larry & Susan Dunster.

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**Larry & Susan Dunster** - October 31, 2015 at 07:07 AM