



## William Luther Nies, D.D.

April 13, 1927 - July 3, 2019

William Luther Nies, D.D., 92, of Village on the Isle, Venice, FL, died July 3, 2019. Dr. Nies was born April 13, 1927, in Detroit, MI to William Henry Nies and Naomi Emch Nies. Bill was a loving and caring husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend.

Dr. Nies was ordained a Lutheran minister in 1950. He served at Mt. Zion Lutheran, Detroit, MI; Holy Trinity Lutheran, Falls Church, VA; South Miami Lutheran, South Miami, FL, and St. Armands Key Lutheran Church in Sarasota, FL. He joins his beloved wife in Heaven, Gertrude Louise Priddy Nies, "Trudi," who predeceased him on January 9, 2012.

Survived by daughter Kathy Nies-Hepner (Jim) of Maurertown, VA; son Bill Nies (Gunta) of Columbus, OH; sister Naomi Hoepfner (Charles) of Port St. Lucie, FL and sister-in-law Jean Priddy of Petosky, MI. Five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren will miss Papa.

A celebration of Life Service will be held at St. Armands Key Lutheran Church, 40 N Adams Drive, Sarasota, FL. 34236 at 11:00 AM on August 17, 2019. Interment will be held in the columbarium at the church.

Memorial contributions can be directed to the St. Armands Key Lutheran Church Foundation, Sarasota, FL; Meals on Wheels of Sarasota, 421 N. Lime

Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34237, or Village on the Isle, 920 S. Tamiami Trail,  
Venice, FL 34285.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

AUG 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Armands Key Lutheran Church  
40 N. Adams Drive  
Sarasota, FL 34236

# Tribute Wall

WV

“ Hi. 1948, 75 years ago I was transferred from another church to Mt. Zion Lutheran on 6 mile and Gratiot in Detroit. Two years later I met Pastor Nies fresh out of seminary and very accepting of us young folks. His dad was the Senior Pastor. The city church had an active young people’s group headed by Pastor Nies and weekly movies and games on Friday nights kept us occupied with wholesome fun activities. Following my graduation from Denby High in ‘53 he encouraged me to attend Capital University and study for the ministry. Unfortunately funds were a big issue since I was being raised by a single parent. My father died of TB when I was a child. The accepting of Christ and loving one another, Pastor Nies taught us has nurtured me and helped me endure these past many years May Reverend Doctor William Nies rest in peace. Thank you. William Vickery

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**William Vickery** - July 25, 2023 at 08:45 PM

MH

“ To the Charles I. Shelton family of Fairfax, Virginia, Pastor Nies’ strong faith witness was what drew us to join Holy Trinity in Falls Church fifty years ago in 1971. He confirmed us and challenged us to grow in faith and give of our time, talents & treasure. His whole family was another family to us because ours were far away. We give thanks to God for Pastor Nies’ life and commitment to serve God, and the excellent example of faith in the Word he lived. We miss him, Trudi and their family. Wishing blessings with appreciation to his family. Mary Ann Shelton for the Charles Shelton family (Lis, Christina & Paul)

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**Mary Ann Shelton Hernandez** - July 15, 2021 at 11:53 AM

JC

“ He was the best pastor I had ever met. My early years spent at Mt. Zion Lutheran Bible School were very enjoyable with him. We learned a lot and also had a lot of fun. He truly inspired young people to want to be in church. I will never forget him and his wonderful family.



Janet McDougall Clark - September 13, 2019 at 03:04 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Luther Nies, D.D..



August 16, 2019 at 01:06 PM

J(

“ He was the best pastor ever. He's largely responsible for my love of God and my membership in churches throughout my life. He knew how to handle teens and his presentations of bible characters legendary. I'm sure God welcomed him home with a "well done!" I was a member of Mt. Zion in the 50's and 60's. His son was in my Sunday School class.

Jan Glodich (Goetsch) - July 10, 2019 at 06:02 PM

GO

I'm so sorry I just learned of the death of Pastor Nies. My family knew him well, as we were members of Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Detroit. His Dad married my parents in 1929 and my sister in 1953. He baptized all of us and Pastor Bill and my brother were confirmed together. I reconnected with him in Florida at St. Armand's. He and his Dad were gifted pastors. Sincere sympathy to the family. Gail Trebesch Opper

Gail Trebesch Opper - October 23, 2019 at 09:54 PM

AL

*Pastor Nies had a deep influence on my spirituality for my Eighth Grade confirmation class. Evan Alford - December 6, 2023.*

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**AI** - December 06, 2025 at 05:53 PM