

IR Vet Impacts 3 Countries & Finishes His Race!

By Dan Waters

Recently, our friend and brother in Christ passed from the earth and went to be with his Heavenly Father. We are rerunning this article in honor of our friend Rex Dye.

If you have lived in Iron River for a while, you probably noticed “that old guy who used to jog around town regularly.” That was Rex Dye! He truly was an ikon for many years. Who knows how many marathons he ran along our city streets? What’s it like to live to be 100? His family didn’t have the luxury of an outhouse until he was 14. They didn’t have running water until he was 18, the same year he joined the army.

Rex Dye has lived an exceptional life! His army career was like a war movie. During WWII he served in Parachute Infantry Battalion 509. He jumped behind enemy lines! Some of the locals saved his life when they hid him from the German soldiers. He was an experienced army vet by age 23. God had His protective hand on Rex during those years. Once when his platoon was going down a path, he heard the “sizzle of a land mine.” He hit the deck and it exploded right behind him. His gun and helmet went flying. The guy behind him got it in the face. Rex didn’t have a scratch. Another time he was walking down a path when he saw some leaves fall. He started running and dodging as fast as he could. Sniper in the trees! The next day he noticed a hole in his clothing over his heart. It went

out under his arm pit. That was his closest call with death. He had some blood on him, but it was just superficial.

Rex married his beloved Bonnie when she was 18. He was a Staff Sergeant by then. But she soon realized that living with Rex was not going to be easy. They eventually worked things out, their relationship blossomed and they became a team.

After the army he worked as an equipment operator. He doesn’t have anything good to say about himself as he reflected on his early days: “I was a horrible person before I was saved – no exaggeration.” “I hated people!” He really didn’t sound like someone whom God would choose to be a missionary to the USA, Canada, and Italy! What events would God use to bring about such a radical change?

Along the way he became an alcoholic and then a drunk. He described himself as a “dry drunk, where one drink is too many and a thousand is not enough.” After many years, he knew that he needed help and ended up attending an Alcoholics Anonymous 12-step program in the basement of a church. He was told that he needed to do ALL 12 steps or he would end up drinking again. He came to realize that it is not a truly “religious” program. He said that he only met a handful of truly saved people over the years, but that it has helped hundreds of thousands stay sober. One of the 12 steps was to confess to another

Continued from page 1

living person EVERYTHING he had done. For this difficult step, he ended up going to a little Baptist church where Jim O'Neill from Ireland was Pastor. God led him to this man who was not at all judgmental. During their time together the Pastor led him through John 3:1-16. Rex prayed to receive Jesus as his Savior from sin. He experienced a strange warmth which came over him. When he stopped and the Pastor looked up at him, he asked him, "Are you alright, young man?" There was such a visible change! Immediately upon his conversion Rex felt the burden of his sin drop off. He immediately walked to his parents' house and boldly proclaimed, "I've been born again!" The date was December 16, 1956, he was 33 years old. He later recounted, "No human being was less worthy of being born again than me." At the next AA meeting he attended he recounted all these events as a testimony to the Lord. One of the older men in his 60s said, "Rex has gone overboard on the religious part of the program!"

Over the years, Rex shared his "12-Step Talk" many times, always being careful to include his spiritual testimony. After this life-changing transformation when he was back at work as a heavy equipment operator, he also spoke to his fellow-workers about his conversion. They said, "What happened to Rex?" This was just the beginning of his becoming "Radical Rex", a title he wore with some pride. When he was later a missionary in Italy they called him the "Atomic Bomb!" It certainly conjures up some powerful images!

Within 2 years of his conversion Rex was in Bible college where he would study for the next 7 years, earning a master's degree. He also started his first church during this time! He never lost his zeal for the Lord. After Bible college he and Bonnie went to Canada as mis-

sionaries, where he started his second church. Later they went to Italy as missionaries. He looks Italian! He developed a friendship with Nazarano, another believer. The two of them started Rex's third church, meeting in a garage. Later as the work developed, they met in a building that was 700 years old.

I loved visiting with Rex in his house over the years. He always read to me out of the Bible. He would read in English, then he would read in Italian. More recently he would also read in Spanish. When he met a person and found out they knew Italian or Spanish, he would offer to read to them out of the Bible in that language to "check his pronunciation." I think it was a way of witnessing to them.

He also loved to sing. He would often break out in song when I was with him, "Oh Danny boy ..." I appreciated the love!

Later, after he had settled back in Iron River, he joined the Iron River Bible Church. He sang at our Christmas program on December 16, 2001 in English and Italian. He also shared at that program that he had walked with the Lord for 45 years. God is faithful! During our times together he would sometimes break out into other songs as they came to mind.

There were two other things Rex would like to do during our visits. He would quote half a Bible verse and wait for me to finish it. We share a love for the Bible together. Another thing he would delight in is talking theology. If he didn't think I had the complete picture he would say "No, Danny ..." then he would fill out the truth more fully. These were intimate times which I look back on with great delight. He mentioned that he also enjoyed this kind of special intimacy with Gary Tass.

When Rex was almost 94 he mentioned how much he was enjoying life. He seemed somewhat overwhelmed by his age. He said that he

Services & Bible Studies (Times and Places):

Every Sunday:

Sunday School	9:45 am
AM Service	11:00 am
PM Service	6:00 pm

Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm:

Adult Bible Study & Prayer
Middle & High School Youth Group

Men's Bible Study:

Men's breakfast is once a month.
Usually the 2nd Saturday at 8 am.

Women's Bible Study:

The ladies' Bible study will meet every other week each month. Monday morning at 9 am at the church and Monday evening at 6 pm at Sharon Rometti's home. See the calendar for dates.

Summary of the Book of Psalms (from gotquestions.org)

Author: The brief descriptions that introduce the psalms have David listed as author in 73 instances. David's personality and identity are clearly stamped on many of these psalms. While it is clear that David wrote many of the individual psalms, he is definitely not the author of the entire collection. Two of the psalms (72 and 127) are attributed to Solomon, David's son and successor. Psalm 90 is a prayer assigned to Moses. Another group of 12 psalms (50) and (73—83) is ascribed to the family of Asaph. The sons of Korah wrote 11 psalms (42, 44—49, 84—85, 87—88). Psalm 88 is attributed to Heman, while Psalm 89 is assigned to Ethan the Ezrahite. With the exception of Solomon and Moses, all these additional authors were priests or Levites who were responsible for providing music for sanctuary worship during David's reign. Fifty of the psalms designate no specific person as author, although two of

those are designated elsewhere in the Bible as psalms of David.

Purpose of Writing: The Book of Psalms has far more "chapters" than any other book in the Bible, with 150 individual psalms. It is also one of the most diverse, since the psalms deal with such subjects as God and His creation, war, worship, wisdom, sin and evil, judgment, justice, and the coming of the Messiah.

Brief Summary: The Book of Psalms is a collection of prayers, poems, and hymns that focus the worshiper's thoughts on God in praise and adoration. Parts of this book were used as a hymnal in the worship services of ancient Israel. The musical heritage of the psalms is demonstrated by its title. It comes from a Greek word which means "a song sung to the accompaniment of a musical instrument."

Continued from Page 2

liked to eat! And that he "really needed to lose a few pounds!" Although he said that he was joyful in his life, it wasn't automatic. He had to work at guarding his thought life to glorify God in his thoughts. Don't we all!

How much can God transform a life? He took a man who was tough, who hated other human beings, who had been trained to kill and totally transformed him. He had a fat cat for many

years, Angelina, who was obviously loved and also over-fed! He had come to love all of God's creation. I once saw him pick up a spider on a piece of paper, and rather than squish it, gently put it outside. He marveled at

God's creation in its smallest detail. Total transformation indeed!

After our visits, we would have a word of

Missionary Report: Each month we will update a few of our missionaries
Kurt & Lori Schroder (Missionaries/Pastor/Church Planters in Cascade, Maryland)
Biography of the Schroder family. Kurt will be candidating for our church pastor on September 15.

Kurt grew up in Tipler, WI in a family of 5. His parents were Gordon and Judy and his brothers, Paul and Scott. In 1978, the family began attending the Iron River Bible Church.

Lori grew up in Moosejaw, Saskatchewan. Her dad was a church planter and pastor.

Kurt and Lori met at Northland Baptist Bible College, in Pembine, WI. It was here that Kurt asked Jesus to save him and he dedicated himself to a life of serving Jesus.

Kurt and Lori were married in Moosejaw in 1994.

When the Iron River Bible Church had to remove the pastor (due to doctrinal issues), Kurt was willing to step in and preached for a year while the church searched for a new pastor. In 1995, God brought Pastor Waters to Iron River to serve as pastor.

Kurt and Lori joined Continental Baptist as church planters. After traveling and speaking in many churches they were able to raise the support needed to get into the mission field.

Their first church was a Baptist Church in Woodruff, WI. The church needed to be built up and Kurt and Lori worked very hard to do that. They served in the church from 1999 to 2011. At this point the church was able to graduate from mission status.

Then, in 2011, God moved the Schroder family to Cascade, Maryland, where they would begin planting a church from the ground up. They are currently serving in this church.

The Schroders lives are full, serving God in the church as well as working jobs in the community (which gives them opportunities to meet new people). They also invest themselves in the lives of their children. At this time, Jessica is married to Eric and lives in Illinois. They have one little boy. Monica is married to David and also lives in Illinois. Caleb graduated from high school this year and is a freshman at Appalachian Bible College, in West Virginia. Titus is a junior in high school.

Early in the summer, when the IRBC council and pastoral search committee had to begin a search for a new pastor, they sought out the advice of Pastor Waters and Harley who have experience in this area. All 6 men shared their hearts that day. God laid the name of one man on the heart of each of these men. The first choice for the pastor from each man was Kurt Schroder. Kurt was contacted shortly after. All have been in prayer as they have followed God's leading in this process. The Schroders will be here the weekend of September 13-16. Join us as we pray for God's wisdom to know if Kurt is the man that God has chosen to be our next pastor. Pray that God will make His plan clear to the Schroders as well.

Continued from Page 3

prayer together. Then he would say, "Here, there, or in the air!" Christians understand such language. Perhaps we will meet again here on earth. Perhaps we will meet again there in heaven. Or, best of all, perhaps we will meet again in the Rapture as we are taken up in the air together to be with the Lord

Jesus, for all eternity. If you don't personally have that assurance, let me urge you to get real with God and receive Jesus as your Savior from sin today. No game-playing. God transformed Rex. He transformed me. He will transform you as well.

Rex died in August at 101 years of age.

My Salvation Story

by Kelly Waters-Mastie

I grew up in the typical American family. As kids, my brother and I, played cops and robbers, drank Kool-Aid like it was water, and played outside until the sun went down. When I was younger, both of my parents worked outside the home and we had babysitters. I remember one who told us about Jesus and asked us if we wanted to be saved. I remember saying yes and praying. Nothing was different after that, that is until my parents informed my brother and I that we were going to go to church. To a 6 year old this was a big change since Sunday mornings were spent watching cartoons. Eventually I came to enjoy Sunday School, but the morning service was difficult for me to sit through, as I was a wiggler. I relied on my childhood prayer for salvation and was eventually baptized.

As the Iron River Bible Church grew so did my group of friends. We did everything together, youth group, sleep overs, and going to Gitche Gumee Bible Camp. It was at Gitche Gumee that I finally understood being saved was not in those words I said so long ago, but in my heart embracing Jesus as my own. I knew this meant my life would need to change to match my new life in Christ. I was rebaptized to show my new commitment to Christ. Walking with Jesus has had its highs and lows. Like, most people, I never really enjoy the lows but I've found its where Jesus becomes the sweetest to my soul.

Favorite Hymn – I come to the Garden

Favorite Bible verses Ps 121:1-2

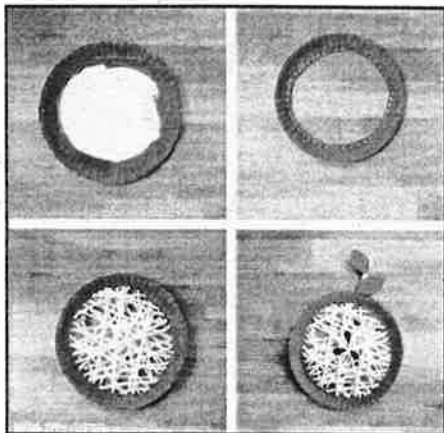
Favorite Book of the Bible- Ruth

Kids' Corner with Miss Abby

Craft -Yarn Apple (nontoygifts.com)

Supplies:

- paper plate
- red paint
- paint brush or sponge brush
- scissors
- white yarn
- hole punch
- craft stick
- glue
- cardstock paper (black and green)



Step 1: Start by painting the paper plate red. You don't have to paint all of it, though painting a paper plate can be so much fun that kids won't stop at painting only the edge. We love using a sponge brush to paint paper plate as it's faster.

Step 2: Once the paint is dried, cut out the middle of the paper plate. Punch holes all around the paper plate.

Step 3: Thread white yarn through the wholes of the paper plate.

Step 4: Cut two leaves out of green cardstock paper and glue them to a craft stick. Glue the stick to the back of the paper plate.

Step 5: Cut out three or four seeds from black cardstock paper and glue them on the yarn.

Activity - Apple Slime Recipe (preschoolplayandlearn.com)

- 1/2 cup Clear School Glue
- 1 tablespoon Saline Solution
(must contain boric acid and sodium borate)
- 1/2 cup of Water
- 1/2 tsp Baking Soda
- red food coloring
- cinnamon,
- red glitter

Start by putting 1/2 cup of Clear Glue in a medium bowl and mix it with a 1/2 cup of water. Now add food coloring and glitter as desired and stir. Finally, stir in 1/2 teaspoon baking soda. Mix in 1 Tablespoon saline solution and stir until your slime forms and pulls away from the sides of bowl.

Snack - Apple Roll Ups (typicallsimple.com)

Ingredients

- 1 medium Granny Smith apple
- 1 can of refrigerated crescent rolls
- 1 tbsp butter, melted
- 4 tbsp brown sugar
- 1 tbsp cinnamon

Directions

Preheat oven to 375°

Core and slice the apple into 8 pieces

Separate dough into triangles, place on a greased cookie sheet

Mix the brown sugar and cinnamon in a small bowl

Brush melted butter onto dough, sprinkle on brown sugar and cinnamon mixture

Place apple slice at the long end of the triangle and roll up

Brush a little butter on top, sprinkle with cinnamon

Bake for 12-15 minutes, until roll ups are golden brown and apples are soft

Serve with a scoop of vanilla ice cream

Verse - Proverbs 25:11 ***A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.***

Spiritual Tie-in - Our words are important. The Bible says they can give life or death. (Proverbs 18:21)

We can encourage someone and build them up or we can hurt them deeply with our words.

Our verse for this month tells us that a well spoken word is as beautiful and as valuable as a golden apple wrapped in silver.

Have you ever seen anything made out of solid gold or silver? It is beautiful and worth a lot of money.

This month let's choose our words to carefully to build each other up. God will be honored and our friends will be encouraged too.