

### **Rev. Charles T. Rabun, Jr.**

Rev. Charles T. Rabun, Jr., associate pastor and Minister of Education and Administration of the First Baptist Church of Palatka, Florida, was born in Sanford, Florida where he attended public schools. He earned an Associate of Arts Degree from Seminole Community College, Sanford in 1972, a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Stetson University, Deland, Florida in 1976, and a Master of Religious Education Degree from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, Louisiana in 1980.

Rev. Rabun served churches in Louisiana, Alabama, and Florida as pastor, interim pastor, minister of music, and minister of Education, before coming to Palatka.

He also served as professor of Church History and Church Administration at the National Baptist Seminary, New Orleans, Louisiana from 1978 to 1979. He has also served as Associational Sunday School Director in three states: Florida, Louisiana, and Alabama.

Before being called to the ministry, Rev. Rabun was manager of the supply department at Southern Fiberglass in Sanford, Florida from 1963 to 1967; and while he was a student at Stetson University, he was Bivocational Pastor of Ravenna Park Baptist Church of Sanford, and worked afternoons and nights as Auditor/Dispatcher Clerk at the Seaboard Coastline Railroad from 1968 to 1978. He was cited for Safety Awareness by the SCL Railroad in 1978.

Rev. Rabun is married to the former Miss Terri Vickers of Sanford. They have two sons and a daughter. His interests are reading, fishing, and hunting.

### **Mr. Ken Robinson**

Mr. Ken Robinson, Minister of Music and Youth at the First Baptist Church, Interlachen since 1984, was born in Reynolds, Georgia. He attended public schools in Warner Robbins, Georgia, where he graduated from high school. He ran on the track team while in high school.

He graduated from Macon Junior College in Macon, Georgia, and from Valdosta State College, Valdosta, Georgia in 1981 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Voice and Piano.

Mr. Robinson served the following churches: Assistant to the Minister of Music of the Morningside Baptist Church, Valdosta, Georgia; Minister of Music and Youth at the First Baptist Church, Madison, Florida, 1981-1982; Music Director at the Faith Baptist Church, Madison, Florida, 1982-1984; and Minister of Music and Youth at the First Baptist Church of Interlachen from 1984 to the present.

He has also served on the Student Ministries Committee in our association.

His hobbies are furniture refinishing and woodwork. His favorite sports are volleyball and softball.

Charles T. Rabun, Jr., age 70, and affectionately known as "Bro. Charlie," became absent from the body and present with the Lord on Tuesday, March 29, 2016, after an extended illness. A native of Sanford, Florida, Bro. Charlie served as Minister of Education at First Baptist Church in Valparaiso from 1982 to 1986. He moved to Palatka, Florida, in 1986, and has served as the Associate Pastor, Education/Administration at the First Baptist Church in Palatka for the past 30 years.

Bro. Charlie is survived by his wife of 51 years, Terri Rabun of Palatka, two sons, Charles T. Rabun, III and wife Missy of Denver, North Carolina, and Andy Rabun of Palatka; a daughter, Ruth Ann Williams and husband Jeff of Palatka; a brother, Terry Rabun of Deland; eight grandchildren, Kassie Williams, Megan Williams, Lori Rabun, Emmie Rabun, Logan Rabun, Josh Williams, Justin Williams and Amanda Moore; seven great-grandchildren as well as numerous aunts and uncles.

Services celebrating Bro. Charlie's home-going will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 6, 2016, at the First Baptist Church in Palatka with his son Andy Rabun officiating. Burial will follow at Oak Hill West Cemetery. Visitation will be Tuesday from 5 to 8 p.m. at Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home in Palatka.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to a ministerial scholarship in Charlie's name at First Baptist Church, 501 Oak Street, Palatka, FL 32177 or to Hospice of the Nature Coast, 927 S. Hwy 19, Palatka, FL 32177.

Memories and condolences may be expressed to the family at Bro. Charlie's Book of Memories page at [JohnsonOverturffunerals.com](http://JohnsonOverturffunerals.com).

Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home in Palatka.

Published by Northwest Florida Daily News on Apr. 4, 2016.

Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home

May 29, 2020

Theresa Lee "Terri" Rabun, 72, of Palatka, passed from this life on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at Haven Hospice Roberts Care Center following a brief illness. She was born in Tampa, FL and had been a resident of Putnam County since 1986 coming from Valparaiso, FL. Terri had worked as a secretary and office manager for Christ Independent Methodist Church for more than 20 years. She, along with her husband, the late Bro. Charlie Rabun, worked with multiple organizations and projects. Terri was a member of First Baptist Church in Palatka and in her leisure time enjoyed crocheting and cross-stitching. She is preceded in death by her husband, Charles T. Rabun, Jr., parents, Arlington Lee Vickers and Estelle Smith, brothers, Stephen Reese Vickers and Stacey Benjamin Smith.

She is survived by her sons, Charles T. Rabun, III (Missy) and Andrew D. Rabun, daughter, Ruth Ann Williams (Jeff), sister, Dr. Karren Newman, stepfather, E. B. Smith, grandchildren, Kassie and Nathan Eleweanya, Megan Williams, Lori Rabun, Emmie Rabun, Logan Rabun, Josh Williams, Justin Williams, Amanda Moore, great-grandchild, Ezra Nixon, and aunts, Jan Renaud and Rubyann Britt.

The family will receive friends from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on Monday, June 1, 2020 at Johnson-Overturf Chapel in Palatka. Private burial will be held at Oak Hill West Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be sent to the Rabun Ministerial Scholarship Fund, First Baptist Church, 501 Oak St., Palatka, FL 32177.

Memories and condolences may be expressed to the family at Terri's Book of Memories page at [www.johnsonoverturffunerals.com](http://www.johnsonoverturffunerals.com).

# PALATKA DAILY NEWS

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2016

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## Longtime Palatka pastor Charlie Rabun dies

### WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you have a memory you'd like to share about longtime Palatka pastor Charlie Rabun? Email letters to the Editor to publicforum@palatkadailynews.com. Letter writers must include full name, daytime phone number and address. There is a 350-word limit.



'Brother Charlie' was involved in various aspects of community, including Palatka Gas Authority

By ASIA AIKINS  
Palatka Daily News

Whether he was sharing a cup of coffee with someone or making decisions on a board, Charlie Rabun Jr. was always doing something that made a difference in the lives of others.

"What has he done that hasn't left an

impact?" asked Andy Rabun, Charlie Rabun's son. "He was fully dedicated to fulfilling Christ's mission."

Charlie Rabun, 70, died Tuesday at his home in Palatka, nine months after he was diagnosed with terminal cancer.

Commonly known as "Brother Charlie," he was a staple of First Baptist Church of Palatka for 80 years, and known to youth

pastor Eddie Parcher as the "glue that held it together through many years and many pastors."

Originally from Sanford, Charlie Rabun served several churches in Florida and Alabama since he was called to ministry



Rabun

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## Rabun

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in the late 1960s.

Since 1986, Charlie Rabun served as an associate pastor, responsible for administration and education, at First Baptist.

Parcher, who will take over Charlie Rabun's responsibilities while the church transitions, said Charlie Rabun's example led him to dedicate himself to ministry.

"I wouldn't be here if it weren't for him. I didn't know where to go when I was called to ministry," Parcher said. "Charlie Rabun poured into me how to preach and minister. ... In ministry, you can't leave the job. You take those burdens home. I watched that man do that for many years."

Growing up, Andy Rabun said, he watched his father make many sacrifices to help others.

"When a church member needed him, we were there," Andy Rabun said, "day or night."

Although days and nights were often spent at the church, one didn't have to attend First

Baptist to know Charlie Rabun well.

"He had a heart for this community," said Christina Duke, First Baptist administrative assistant. "He was so good at reaching people."

According to a list of Charlie Rabun's community service activities obtained from the church, he was a founding member of the Bread of Life food pantry board, Palatka Christian Service board and The Caring Board. He served many charitable organizations, including the Palatka Gas Authority board for almost 27 years.

Palatka Gas Authority Executive Director Don Kitzner said Charlie Rabun was always thoughtful and courteous to the public and gas authority employees.

"He was a great person," Kitzner said. "A good many of people will miss him, including me."

Gas authority board Chairman Jud Neufeld not only served on the board with Charlie Rabun for 14 years, but was also Charlie Rabun's neighbor for about 20 years.

On the board, Neufeld said, Charlie Rabun brought refreshing insight to the community.

"Every decision we made as a board, he made with justice, mercy and humility," Neufeld said. "There was nobody who was not worth his time."

As a neighbor, Neufeld said, Charlie Rabun was never intrusive, but always ready to help.

Until the last few weeks, Andy Rabun said, Charlie Rabun was still active in the organizations he held close to his heart.

"God is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow," Andy Rabun said. "Dad was the same way, or tried his best to be. He was the same on good and bad days."

"(Charlie Rabun) epitomizes the servant," Parcher said. "He was ministering to people up until the end."

Duke will remember Rabun's many principles and life lessons, which led to his impact on the community.

"He always said, 'The best way to learn about someone is to share a cup of coffee.' It was the simple things for him," Duke said. "He said, 'Always be intentional, follow through from A to Z and don't do something for someone that you wouldn't do for everyone.'"

Charlie Rabun is survived by his wife, Terri Rabun; sons, Charlie Rabun III and Andy Rabun; daughter, Ruth Ann Williams, eight grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. But there is no doubt his family extends to the entire community.

"His passing will leave a void in the care of the community that will take a long time to fill," Andy Rabun said.

Services celebrating Charlie Rabun's life will be 11 a.m. Wednesday at First Baptist Church of Palatka. Burial will follow at Oak Hill West Cemetery. Visitation will be

5-8 p.m. Tuesday at Johnson-Overturf Funeral Home in Palatka.

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