



Rev. Dr. Roger E. Kleinheksel

July 24, 1938 - January 7, 2022

Rev. Dr. Roger Edwin Kleinheksel, age 83, of Holland, was called home into the arms of Jesus the morning of January 7, 2022. Roger passed away peacefully at home as a result of complications from Pulmonary Fibrosis. Roger was a member of First Reformed Church of Zeeland where he also served as an administrative pastor for 17 years. He loved Jesus Christ and served Him in all areas of his life. His ministry included serving as pastor to Huron Valley Reformed Church in Rockwood, MI, (founding pastor), Hope Community Church in Sacramento, CA, Fellowship Reformed Church in Hudsonville, MI, Manorville Community Church in Manorville, Long Island, NY, (founding pastor), and he served on the board of Bradenton Chapel, FL for 40 years. He was born on July 24, 1938, in Hamilton, MI. He will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 60 years, Virginia (Top) Kleinheksel; his children, Rev. Mark and Nancy Kleinheksel, Michael and Christine Kleinheksel, Chip and Karen Ware; grandchildren, Chase Kleinheksel, Kenzie Kleinheksel, Cassidy LeDuc, Abby and (Max) Teener, Renee Ware, Josh Kleinheksel, Sophie Kleinheksel, Stefanie and (Colton) Kloote, Alex Kleinheksel and his brothers and sisters; Mary Verburg, Earl and Arlene Kleinheksel, Cliff and Lois Sale, and John and Ruth Stanley; in-laws Jerry and Lois VanderKooi, Dale and Isla Compagner and many nieces and nephews. A funeral service to honor the faith and life of Roger Kleinheksel will be held at 1:00 pm, Friday, January 14, 2022, at First Reformed Church of Zeeland, 125 E. Lincoln Ave., Zeeland MI 49464. Visitation will be 2-4 and 6-8 pm, Thursday, at the Yntema

Funeral Home, 251 S. State Street, Zeeland MI 49464. Private interment will be in Overisel Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to First Reformed Church Missions, Western Theological Seminary, or Words of Hope.

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr Kleinheksel was instrumental in our salvation though late in life and I was hoping to share our “Good News,” with him. My wife and I Joanne and Larry Tice were married at Hope Church by Dr Kleinkeksel in April of 1972 and we shall not forget this wonderful pastor he was so genuine and caring for us and Jesus.
His family was also very involved and I recall his wife leading the choir. These were very good times and I’m thankful that his work was not in vain — God bless you Roger and your family
Mr Tice*

Larry Tice - November 24, 2025 at 12:13 PM



“ *Rev. Dr. Roger E. Kleinheksel*

August 31, 2022 at 01:26 PM



“ *"All my condolences to his family. I have wonderful memories of him from my youth."*

Craig Heimbichner - February 10, 2022 at 12:00 AM

WK

“Roger was one of my closest friends for 58 years. He was such a positive, faithful, loyal and spirit-filled man. The Lord touched so many lives through his ministry, including mine. He and Virginia were part of our special Rock Group in retirement (rocking chair group), a group of former seminary buddies and wives that would gather three to four times a year for most of a day and have a great time together. We also went on several trips together, including a mission venture in Italy and a journey through Russia and Finland. He will be sorely missed in many ways. Hugs to Virginia and the family. We are so grateful that we could participate in his funeral service via FRCZ's web site. The Hallelujah chorus at the end was a fitting "send off" for Rog. Wendell Karsen (for Renske too). Penney Farms, FL, Jan 19, 2022”

Wendell Karsen - January 19, 2022 at 12:00 AM

CW

“My prayers and sympathy are with you all as you grieve Roger's death. I am happy he is now in the loving arms of God, with no pain or suffering. But I also know how you all will miss him, whether as husband, father, brother, or friend. He made such a difference in this world and he will be sorely missed. I was glad to call him my cousin.”

Cheryl Wabeke - January 14, 2022 at 12:00 AM

RO

“Thoughts and prayers Virginia and family. Many good memories. Love from”

Roger - January 13, 2022 at 12:00 AM

DM

“*Roger was the best cousin a girl could ever have. He was like the big brother I never had. Love you, couz!*”

Diane Murray - January 13, 2022 at 12:00 AM

LE

“*My prayers for Virginia and the entire family. I have fond memories of the years Roger founded and served at Manorville Community Church. You were both an integral part of Long Island's history.*”

Linda Elfast - January 12, 2022 at 12:00 AM

AL

“*Our thoughts and prayers go out to the entire Kleinheksel family. His dedication and leadership will be missed here at the Bradenton, FL chapel. Al and Betty Lubbers Parrish, FL*”

Allen Lubbers - January 12, 2022 at 12:00 AM

AN

“*Our thoughts and prayers to the Kleinheksel family. Pastor Roger was a humble friend and encouraged us while we were at First Church in Zeeland. We will miss him.*”

Andy - January 12, 2022 at 12:00 AM

JE

“*Dear Virginia and family you all will continue to be in our thoughts and prayers. It's always hard to lose one of your best Godly friends like Roger but we know he's in heaven with his Lord and Savior. Your family has been such a blessing to us and we have enjoyed so many good times and vacations together.*”

Jerry - January 12, 2022 at 12:00 AM

GV

“Virginia and Family, We send our sympathy to all of you! We have so many great memories, especially with you ..and Rog teaching us how to play pinhole and starting a club which is still going to this day. Rog was a wonderful man with a great love for family and friends! We are just coming off from having Covid, so we will not be able to see you all in person. Sending much love to your whole family!”

Gene and Carol VanderWall - January 12, 2022 at 12:00 AM

MM

“Flowers fade, but words live on. I hope this note finds you well, please accept our sympathy. Praying for God's comfort and peace to Dr. Roger.”

Megha Mehta - January 11, 2022 at 12:00 AM

DV

“Sending prayers and condolences to the entire Kleinheksel family.”

Dan Varner - January 11, 2022 at 12:00 AM

ER

“Sending our sympathy to Roger's family. Praying for God's comfort and peace. He will be missed!”

Ernie and Melanie Rotman - January 10, 2022 at 12:00 AM

KW

“I shall miss our chats on your walks. Take care of him God!!!”

Ken Wright - January 10, 2022 at 12:00 AM

GD

“Virginia, Both you and Roger always meant so much to my parents! Please know you will be in our prayers in the days ahead. May God hold you close.”

Gladys and Dan - January 09, 2022 at 12:00 AM

GT

“Blessed to have known Roger! He was a faithful shepherd of the flock with whom he so served with grace and mercy! He was a good neighbor and was well thought of by the entire Eagle Crest community. Praying for you Virginia you were a wife of noble character!”

Greg TenBrink - January 09, 2022 at 12:00 AM

DB

“Virginia & family, I was so sorry to hear about Roger passing. I will keep you in my thoughts & prayers. Dawn”

Dawn Boeve - January 09, 2022 at 12:00 AM

FL

“Virginia & Family; remembering Roger in Bradenton Chapel today & keeping you & family in our prayers”

Floyd - January 09, 2022 at 12:00 AM

DF

“Our deepest condolences to Reverend Kleinheksel’s family, especially Virginia. Prayers for comfort through the many memories you shared together.”

David and Beth French - January 09, 2022 at 12:00 AM