

FAMILY UPREACH, INC.

NewLife

BEHAVIOR MINISTRIES



April 2023

Since 1984: *Reconciling persons to God, families and society*

APRIL: ENDOWMENT FUND MONTH

A few years ago, our **Endowment Fund** was set up. It insures our long-term stability. This ministry, the brainchild of Dr. H.M. Motsinger, started in 1984 and enjoys remarkable growth. A curriculum-based ministry, our strongest appeal is to mature donors who see the need to refine, develop, and produce material to help transform negative behavior. First, a little history... the curriculum is twice the size it was when “Christians Against Substance Abuse” was written. Dr. Dale Underwood is developing a “Re-Entry” course and Dr. Don Umphrey is adding “Twelve Steps to a Closer Walk with God.” Building the **Endowment Fund** provides a foundation to grow with confidence. This financial tool is ideal for legacy gifts. It has more than *tripled* since its beginning.

To encourage growth, we dedicate **April** each year to grow this fund. We invite you to respond by April 30. Note your gift is for **Endowment**. The *Coastal Bend Community Foundation* (CBCF) manages it. They host the “Day of Giving” matching our gifts (\$24,000 last year) and get the most from investing for a minimal fee. Family Upreach, Inc. is a strong organization with a bright future. You can donate stock directly from your account and save. We envision a day when the **Endowment** allows us not to be as dependent on *month-to-month* donations. The fund provides a hedge against unexpected calamity. This is a comfort to donors, too. We appreciate your compassion for those *out of sight*. Prisoners can easily be ignored. Your prayers mean more than you know. The late Charles Spurgeon was a gifted English preacher (1834-1892). He preached to 10,000 on Sundays. He believed in prayer so much that he insisted on two ladies going in a closet to pray for him until he ended his message. *I am told that some prayers were also for Spurgeon to shorten his sermons!* If unable to give, we ask that you double your prayers for us in April. Prayer is powerful! Gifts to the **Endowment Fund** may be made at *any* time but April is the Month we “push” it.

49th National Jail-Prison Ministry Workshop

Fortified

Come and be **FORTIFIED** in your ministry, June 7-9, in New Orleans. Attend relevant and encouraging sessions, national resources, knowledgeable experts, think tanks AND food, fun & fellowship!

Registration is \$90 to \$95. Space is limited. Register early!

We are here to answer your questions: David (913) 605-2495 or Jaime (913) 379-8944



IN LOVING MEMORY ~ IN HONOR OF

Family Upreach expresses gratitude for remembering loved ones and honoring those cherished with gifts. These donations allow souls to be taught to transform destructive behaviors into positive ones through Jesus.

Received from:

M/M Bob Wachtel
M/M Dale White
Dr./Mrs. Dale Underwood
M/M Buck Griffith
M/M Tom Blackstone
M/M Bob Wachtel
M/M Buck Griffith
Dr./Mrs. Dale Underwood
Linda Crofton
Shirley Geiser
Dr./Mrs. Don Umphrey
W. G. Nite
Dr./Mrs. Dale Underwood
M/M Tom Blackstone
M/M Buck Griffith
M/M Tom Blackstone
M/M Buck Griffith

In loving memory of:

Kenneth Cudd
Kenneth Cudd
Kenneth Cudd
Kenneth Cudd
James Illgen
John Henry Pruitt
Dan Evans, Sr.
Don Crofton
Don Crofton
Mary Callaway
Mary Callaway
Orlando Martinez

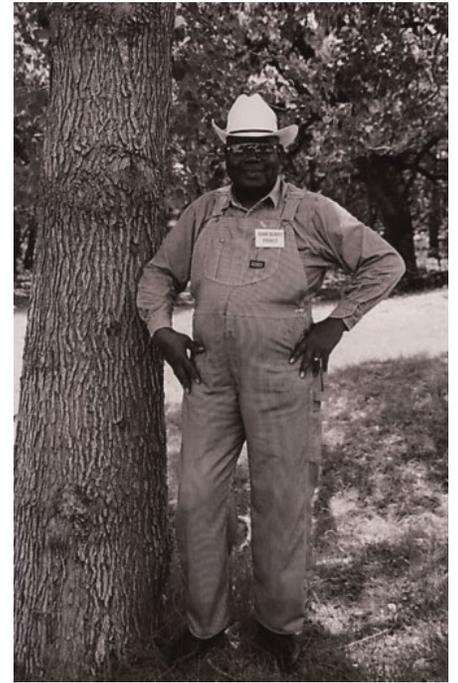
JOHN HENRY PRUITT: 1927-2023

John Henry Pruitt made his entrance to this world in Fort Worth, Texas, on August 17, 1927. He was born to Fred Pruitt and Louise Wilson. When folks asked him where he was from, John Henry puffed his chest out and proudly answered, "Cowtown". If you didn't know *Cowtown* was Fort Worth, he would express his sorrow and promise to pray for you.

Sadly, he never met his father. He was reared by Louise and she died with cancer. John Henry was in prison at the time. There are no known blood-relatives. John Henry was a member of Kings Crossing Church of Christ. It was his "family" along with Blanche Cardwell and her family. Active in church, he served on the Golden Agers Planning Committee and attend the Golden Agers Camp at Bandina Christian Youth Camp. He made his grand entrance through the golden gates on Wednesday, March 15, 2023. He passes from this earthly existence at Wooldridge Place Nursing Center. On August 17, he would have turned **96**.

After 37½ years in prison, John Henry wanted to return to prisons because he believed there was "another John Henry" in there somewhere. While in prison, he earned his GED in 1965 and his associate in arts degree in 1985 from Lee College. He worked at Corpus Christi City Hall for five years before spending 20 years employed by Kings Crossing Prison Ministries. Walking and talking the Twelve Steps, he taught the "Christians Against Substance Abuse" course behind bars. John Henry authored a brochure entitled "What Keeps Me Free" that has helped tens of thousands across the USA and beyond. He served as Secretary of the Board of Trustees for NewLife Behavior Ministries for fifteen years.

John Henry is survived by fellow members at Kings Crossing Church of Christ, Blanche, and many other friends in the community. In lieu of flowers, he asked for donations to be made in his memory to Kings Crossing Prison Ministries or *NewLife Behavior Ministries*, Box 270720, Corpus Christi, Texas 78427. A memorial celebration was held on Saturday, March 26, 2:00 p.m., at the Sawyer-George Funeral Home in Corpus Christi. Thank you, John Henry Pruitt, for being a living reminder that everyone can change and "God Don't Make Junk."



POST-SCRIPT:



There were 125+ comments to the Facebook announcement of John Henry's death. Rarely has an ex-offender so deeply affected so many. It is a testimony to the value of prison ministry. Many of you influenced JH's life from the mid-1980's to this day. Space does not permit all the touching words. At the memorial, Dr. Motsinger related three experiences in NLBM's formative years at the Wynne Unit in Huntsville, Texas. It was there that JH urged HM to put his lessons on paper. HM hugged any students going "overtime" with class comments. He and JH hugged often saying, "I love you". JH asked if HM would *still* love him after release and on the street. The encounter was at Skillman Church of Christ on a Sunday. When HM spotted JH at the front of the auditorium, he shouted "I still love you"! There was a special bond between them.

Marshall Danby spent months co-teaching with John Henry in South Texas area prisons. A student once questioned a Bible reference. Marshall looked at his notes and called it his "cheat sheet". JH scolded Marshall publicly saying, "That ain't no *cheat-sheet*. It's **God's Word**!" Its impacted Marshall so much that he remembers it to this day and sings a different tune: "Excuse me. I need to look and see what **God's Word** says".

HM, Buck, and Dr. Dale Underwood participated in John Henry's memorial service. In a rare photo, you see all three Presidents of NewLife Behavior Ministries over its 39 years. HM founded NLBM and was its first President (1984-2002), Buck followed (2002-2023), and Dr. Dale Underwood (2023 - ____).

FAMILY UPREACH, INC.

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Dr. Dale Underwood, President Dr. H. M. Motsinger, Founder, President Emeritus

Board of Trustees: Charles Barber, Jim Burrus, D.C. Chambers, Linda Crofton, Lynda Drum, Buck Griffith, Eric Jackson, Dave Olson, Jerry Stephenson, Barbara Tubbs, Craig Tucker, Dale Underwood, Gary Wyder