

The Footprint of Joe Melashenko

Long time pastor, evangelist and Gospel recording artist Elder Joe Melashenko died on Friday, June 21, 2013 in Paradise, California at the age of 91.

During the 1940s Canadian radio broadcasters dubbed Joe "The Voice of the Deep" as audiences nationwide thrilled to hear his unique bass voice during live call-in shows raising money for Tuberculosis during World War II. Raised on a farm in Saskatchewan Joe recalls milking a dozen cows and keeping time in 3 / 4 or 4 / 4 rhythm as he sang. "The cows seemed to produce more milk as a result of my singing."

From 1948 to 1950 Joe sang bass with the King's Heralds Quartet on the "Voice of Prophecy" international radio broadcast in Glendale, California. Throat surgery forced him to make a difficult decision and move his growing family back to Saskatchewan where he taught public school and farmed his parents' homestead and wheat farm. Joe's teaching career began following matriculation at Canadian Union College and Saskatoon Teacher's Institute at the University of Saskatchewan. He taught in a number of small one-room schools in the farmlands west of Saskatoon.

Joe and Anne together with their five sons emigrated to the United States and moved to Southern New England Conference in the summer of 1957 when they settled in Springfield, Massachusetts while Joe traveled Conference-wide with a number of outstanding evangelists.

In 1960 the Bermuda Mission requested that Joe and his family move to Hamilton for major campaigns with George E. Vandeman. The Bermuda Mission subsequently asked him to pastor the St. George church, during which time he was ordained to the gospel ministry in 1962. Joe developed radio and television programs as "The Bermuda Gospel Singer" heard island-wide every Sunday evening during live broadcasts.

The Chesapeake Conference invited Joe to move to Hagerstown, Maryland in 1963 to serve as senior pastor of the Hagerstown district. For the next year Joe tirelessly launched several evangelistic campaigns in his three churches, while also assisting in other evangelistic endeavors throughout the conference. His family performed numerous times at musical concerts, evangelistic campaigns, programs at the Union office and world headquarters in Washington D.C.

In the summer of 1964 Elder John Osborn, President of Southeastern California Conference called Joe to join Elder Don Gray as a newly formed evangelistic team located near Loma Linda. Together they worked with Elder Lloyd Wyman at the newly purchased Azure Hills Country Club to conduct meetings and plant a brand new church in the Inland Empire. Today, the Azure Hills Church is one of the largest SDA Churches in Southern California. Subsequent campaigns throughout the conference resulted in thrilling experiences until Joe was asked to pastor the Rialto Church. Membership zoomed as Joe's magnetic personality and giant Russian bear hugs charmed people into the church. Joe thought of innovative ways to involve church members in drama presentations and creative expressions of worship. He once climbed aboard an 18-wheeler to accompany a truck driver Bible study "interest" who was having difficulty kicking the smoking habit. Joe rode to the East coast and back in order to assist him in a personalized 5-Day Stop Smoking clinic, then baptized him when they returned from the East Coast.

In the 1970s after serving with Evangelist Byron Spears as singing evangelist for Voice of Prophecy, Joe and his wife Anne formed their own evangelistic team for VOP and for a dozen years traveled extensively throughout the US and Canada, conducting evangelistic campaigns in Joe's unique, inimitable way: sermons-in-song. As often as he could, he and Anne featured their five sons in their family's septet.

Joe served in the Central California Conference as an evangelist for 4 years until his retirement. Joe and Anne retired in Paradise, California where they lived until Anne's death in 2009. Declining in physical health due to cancer, Joe enjoyed his final four years living with his youngest son, Rudy, who was his full-time caregiver. He leaves to mourn his loss his five sons, their families, 9 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

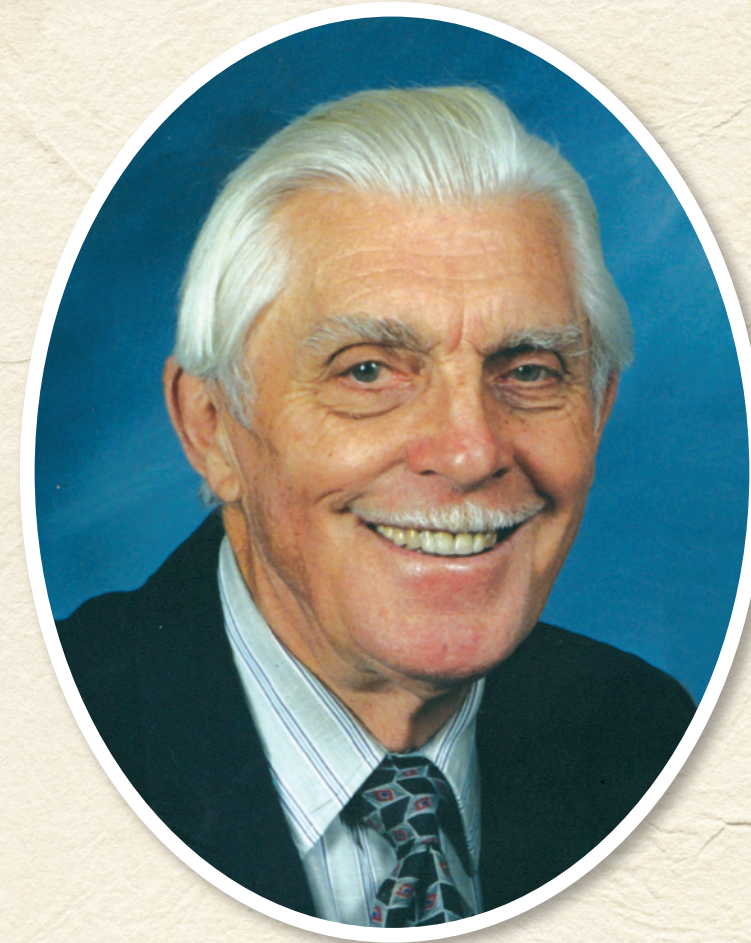


In lieu of flowers donations in memory of Joe Melashenko may be made to Voice of Prophecy or Quiet Hour Ministries.

Voice of Prophecy
Box 53055
Los Angeles CA 90053

Quiet Hour Ministries
Box 3000
Redlands CA 92373

A Celebration of Life *Joseph Melashenko* JANUARY 10, 1922 – JUNE 21, 2013



A Loving Tribute to Our Dear Dad
"The Voice of the Deep"

JULY 21, 2013



PARADISE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH • PARADISE CA



Our Dear Joe & Anne's Family Tree

Anne and Joe Melashenko

Married April 15, 1945

*Thank you for
your presence here
today and for the
many expressions
of sympathy
that have been
extended to us
during our time of
loss. The family
would like to
acknowledge so
many individuals
who helped make
today's service
very special.*

Elorie Lonnie Melashenko, Kettering, OH (b. February 14, 1947)

Married to Jeannie Jones-Melashenko – August 27, 1967

Joedy Peter Melashenko, Paradise, CA (b. April 21, 1948)

Married to Judy Slusarenko-Melashenko – August 2, 1970

JoAnne Marie, Oroville, CA (husband Robert Poblano) b. February 18, 1971

Conner Robert, (b. August 20, 2000)

Taylor Marie b. (August 24, 2003)

Kaitlyn Marie b. (September 15, 2005)

James Peter, Oroville, CA (wife Carrie Clarke-Melashenko) b. April 24, 1975

Jason Ryan, Scottsdale, AZ (wife Stephanie Mashni-Melashenko) b. October 18, 1978

Kennedy Ryann (b. February 2, 2010)

Eden Michelle (b. July 10, 2012)

Dallas Lance Melashenko, McMinnville, OH (b. October 23, 1949)

Married to Donna Dietrich-Melashenko – June 19, 2005

Anne Melashenko, Orlando, FL b. June 24, 1976

River Thomas Anderson (b. January 26, 1997)

Dylan Lee Waters Richey (b. January 8, 2009)

Nicholas Dallas Melashenko, Orlando, FL (b. March 9, 1985)

Eugene Roger Melashenko, Waynesville, NC (b. October 26, 1950)

Married to Terri Beth Purgason-Melashenko – June 20, 1976

Matthew Jackson, Milo, OR (wife Cindy Holbrook-Melashenko) b. July 28, 1981

Kayla Marie (b. April 5, 2004)

Kirk Matthew (b. May 7, 2008)

Kira Minuet (b. December 6, 2012)

Tyler Altan (wife Melanie Meyhew Melashenko), Waynesville, NC (b. October 8, 1986)

Rudy Carson Melashenko, Paradise, CA (b. November 30, 1951)

Mark Jeffrey, Paradise, CA (b. June 10, 1980)

Jay Jonathan, Beaumont, CA (wife Tiffany Chaffee-Melashenko)

Jaden Zaker (b. May 30, 2005)

Colben Eli (b. July 10, 2008)

Paxton Lucas (b. April 22, 2011)



Joe Melashenko "The Voice of the Deep"

JULY 21, 2013 • 4:00PM



Prelude Music

Selections from Joe's Favorites and the Melashenko Family Singers.

Welcome

Lloyd Wyman

Congregational Hymn

"How Great Thou Art"

One of Joe's favorite Hymns (accompanied by Matt and Joe Melashenko)

Invocation

Pastors Ben and Mary Maxon

Life Sketch Video

Joe's Sister's Tribute

Virginia Melashenko Holbert

Nieces & Nephews Tribute

Randy Waring, Gaylene Melashenko-Bower

Daughters-in-law Tribute

Judy and Jeannie Melashenko

Grandchildren's Tribute

Video: "We Have This Moment"

Joe and Anne

Rudy's Tribute

Dad, the Poet, Writer of Creative Prose, Playwright and Word-Game Champ!

Music: "Little Man You've Had a Busy Day"

Rudy

Eugene's Tribute

Music: "Under His Wings"

The Impact of Dad's Music on People Everywhere

Joe

Dallas's Tribute

Music: "Their Hearts Were Full of Spring"

The Melashenko Version of the "Love Story!"

Dallas, Nic, Annie and Joedy

Joedy's Tribute

Dad, the Humorist!

Lonnie's Tribute

Music: "Dig a Little Deeper"

Dad, the Pastor and Evangelist

Lonnie, Joedy, Dallas, Eugene and Rudy

Reflections from a Close Friend

Bill Jamerson

Closing Comments

Music: "God Is Love/Faith of Our Fathers"

Lonnie

Melashenko Family

Obsequies

Lonnie

A Patriarchal Hymn of Praise

Video: "Lead Me Gently Home"

Joe

Benediction

Kenneth Melashenko

"As the glow of the descending sun lights up the mountain peaks long after the sun itself has sunk behind the hills, so the works of the pure, the holy, and the good shed light upon the world long after the actors themselves have passed away. Their works, their words, their example, will forever live. "The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance."

Ps. 112:6 —PATRIARCHS AND PROPHETS, PAGE 481



All are invited to join the members of the Melashenko Family in the Fellowship Hall at the conclusion of this service for fellowship and refreshments.

