

**How Great Thou Art**

O Lord my God When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout , The universe displayed

Chorus  
*Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!*

And when I think That God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in –  
That on the cross, My burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died To take away my sin!

Chorus  
*Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!*

When Christ shall come With shout of acclamation  
And take me home, What joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow In humble adoration  
And there proclaim, My God, how great Thou art!

Chorus  
*Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, My Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art, How great Thou art!*

**God Be With You Till We Meet Again**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.

Chorus  
*Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.*

God be with you till we meet again;  
When life's perils thick confound you,  
Put his arms unfailing round you.  
God be with you till we meet again.

Chorus  
*Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.*

God be with you till we meet again;  
Keep love's banner floating o'er you;  
Smite death's threat'ning wave before you.  
God be with you till we meet again.

Chorus  
*Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.*

**Guitarist..... Trent Dahlin**

# Norman McPhee

July 3, 1936 — November 3, 2024

**Millville City Cemetery  
Millville, Utah  
November, 12, 2024**

## Military Honors Ceremony

Opening Prayer: ..... Sara McPhee Lafkas

Song ..... “How Great Thou Art”

Eulogy ..... Rachel McPhee Benson

Memories of Grandpa ..... Ellie Lafkas, Reggie Benson

Musical Presentation: “Edelweiss” ..... sung by Caroline Lafkas

Speaker: ..... Jenny McPhee

Song: ..... “God Be With You ‘Til We Meet Again”

Closing Prayer: ..... Reyna Evelyn



Dedication of the Grave . . . . . John Lafkas

### PALLBEARERS:

Rob Benson, Richie Call, Robert Evelyn, John Lafkas, Gerold McPhee, Tom Smith

### HONORARY PALLBEARERS:

Kevin Hlavka, Doug Instenes, George Mangold, Dave Welch,  
Krista McPhee Smith, Ashleigh Allen Thompson

Norm was born on July 3, 1936, in Logan, Utah, to Charles and Gladys McPhee. He often delighted in sharing stories of his childhood adventures with family and friends. A graduate of Logan High School in 1954, Norm went on to study Theatre Arts at Utah State University, where he earned his BFA and later his MFA. His education, and his time working with his mentor Vosco Call, set the stage for a career that would span decades and inspire countless lives.

In 1959, Norm married Carol Christensen, and together they raised two daughters, Jennifer and Cari, while Norm served in the U.S. Navy as an instructor of Anti-submarine Warfare. After completing his military service, he returned to Utah State University to continue his graduate studies, where he honed his craft and deepened his love for theatre. Norm's early career took him to the Golden Bough Circle Theatre in Carmel, CA, and KUSU-TV, where he directed and produced the nationally aired documentary *DONE* about the building of the first transcontinental railroad in 1969.

In 1969, Norm was recruited to become the Managing/Artistic Director of the Racine Theatre Guild (RTG) in Racine, Wisconsin, a position he held from 1969 until 2001, although he continued to contribute to the Guild part-time until 2015. Over the course of his leadership, Norm directed more than 200 productions, with his first at RTG being Neil Simon's *Star Spangled Girl* in 1969 and his last as Managing/Artistic Director being *West Side Story* in 2001. His vision and dedication throughout this extraordinary era truly defined his impact.

During his time in Racine, Norm also welcomed a third daughter, Sara, with Carol in the 1970's, and a fourth daughter, Rachel, with his second wife Marsha Nelson, in the 1980's.

Norm's contributions to RTG were far-reaching. He oversaw the fundraising and construction of a new theatre facility on Northwestern Avenue, opened in 1976, and he initiated numerous outreach programs that brought the joy of theatre to young people across Racine. His international vision brought RTG to the world stage, pioneering cultural exchanges with countries such as the USSR, where he led the Guild's groundbreaking productions in 1989, and directed a separate residency in the Republic of Georgia during a Soviet coup. Norm also initiated international tours that took RTG productions to England, Austria, Japan, and more, earning the Guild national and international recognition.

Norm's leadership and artistry earned him numerous accolades, including the Wisconsin Governor's Award in Support of the Arts, the Cultural Achievement Award by the Theatre Society of the Republic of Georgia, the Life Service Award from the Wisconsin Theatre Association, and the 2020 David C. Bryant Outstanding Service Award from the American Association of Community Theatre (AACT). A founding member of AACT, Norm's influence extended far beyond Racine, strengthening community theatre nationwide.

Alongside his professional accomplishments, Norm was also deeply devoted to his family. Throughout his life, Norm cherished his role as a father and grandfather. He found immense joy in his daughters and their families.

Norm was also a lifelong member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and his faith, along with his love of history (especially Civil War history) and the outdoors, shaped his worldview. He loved to travel, tell stories, explore National Parks, and share good food with family and friends. His zest for life and his passion for creativity were contagious, inspiring all who had the privilege of working with him.

Norm McPhee's life was a remarkable journey—one that inspired, led, and enriched the lives of all who knew him. His legacy in the theatre world is unmatched, and his love for his family, friends, and the arts will never be forgotten. *"Keep on Truckin', Norm. We will always love and miss you."*

Norm is survived by his daughters, Jennifer "Jenny" McPhee of Los Angeles, CA; Sara McPhee Lafkas (John) and granddaughters Caroline (15) and Ellie (9) of Belmont, MA; and Rachel McPhee-Benson (Rob) and grandson Reggie (5), of New York, NY. He is further survived by his brother, Jerold "Jerry" McPhee (Terrell) of South Salt Lake City, UT; his nieces Krista McPhee Smith (Tom); Ashleigh Allen Thompson (Jim); and nephew, Bryn Allen (Bridget). He was grateful for the care given by his extended family and friends in his final days, particularly from Reyna Evelyn and Cristina Pitts.

Norm was preceded in death by his parents, Charles Benjamin and Gladys Jessop McPhee; his daughter Cari McPhee Evelyn; and his sister, Kathleen "Kathy/Kate" McPhee Allen.



*In Memory of*

**Norman Charles McPhee**

*July 3, 1936 — November 3, 2024*