



Mark Allen Ekstrom

MAY 26, 1958 - OCT 9, 2024



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Mark Ekstrom of Lakeland, Florida slipped into the presence of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on October 9th surrounded by family and friends.

Mark Ekstrom was born on May 26, 1958 in Indiana to parents Wayne and Ann Ekstrom. Mark grew up in Indiana and then Louisiana before settling in Lakeland, Florida where he met the love of his life, Juanita “Nita” Bass.

Mark and Nita were married on May 25, 1991, at Victory Church in Lakeland, Florida with Pastor Wayne Blackburn presiding. They had been married for 33 years at his passing.

Mark graduated from Purdue University with a Bachelor’s degree in hospitality management, but ultimately secured a position at the USDA where he took great pride in his work as an inspector for 33 years until his retirement in 2022.

Mark loved his church, Victory Church, and had the true heart of a servant. His friendly smile and welcoming spirit made him the perfect usher, and he took much pride in extending a hand of welcome to all every Sunday. He also had a passion for missions, and specifically, for serving on Victory’s annual Missions Trips. He served on an impressive 24 trips including to Honduras, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, and Ecuador, to name just a few.

Mark’s kind heart meant that he had many deep friendships in his Sunday School class, on the Usher team, in AdultPlus seniors, the Missions trip teams and several other groups.

He was preceded in death by His parents Wayne and Ann Ekstrom of Indiana, and a brother, Tom Ekstrom.

He is survived by wife, Juanita Ekstrom, of Lakeland, Florida and a brother, Steve Ekstrom, of Indianapolis, Indiana; plus numerous nieces, nephews, and special relationships with all of Nita’s family.

A Celebration Of Life service for Mark Ekstrom will take place on Tuesday, October



Obituary

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15 at 11am with Pastor Wayne Blackburn officiating at the Light Of Lights Chapel on the north campus of Victory Church at 1401 Griffin Rd. Lakeland, FL 33810. A time of public visitation will take place one hour before at 10am.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to the Victory Church "Mark Ekstrom Memorial Missions Fund" to continue impacting kids and families for Jesus around the world. You can give online at victorylakeland.org/give and designate gift as "Mark Ekstrom Memorial Missions Fund."



Events


Mark Allen Ekstrom

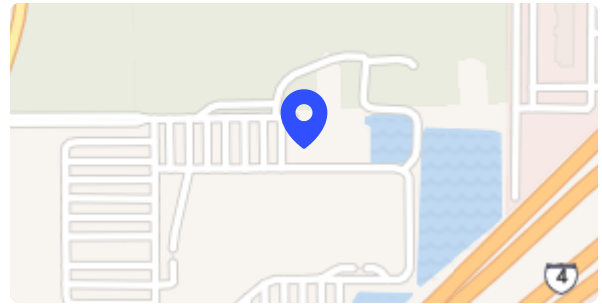
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Visitation

 **Tuesday**, October 15, 2024

 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET


 **Victory Church (Light of Lights Chapel)**
1401 Griffin Road , Lakeland FL 33810

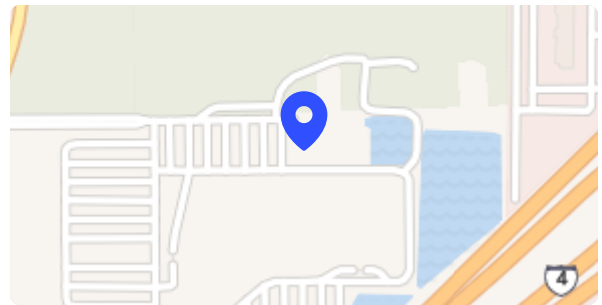


Celebration of Life Service

 **Tuesday**, October 15, 2024

 11:00 AM ET

 **Victory Church (Light of Lights Chapel)**
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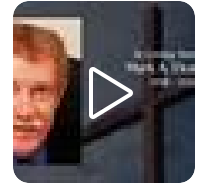
Tribute Wall

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Gentry-Morrison Funeral Homes shared a **Video**.



October 13 at 10:26 AM

CI Cheryl Isaac November 11 at 9:44 AM
Sorry that I am just learning of Mark's passing. He was a a great coworker. I always admired his desire to help people around the world. Sending my condolences, though, late but deeply felt. May God continue to comfort you and your family.

AM Anne Manning October 17 at 5:25 AM
What a great guy! Nita, I am so sorry for your loss, but glad you had him for so many years. You have our deepest prayers and condolences. May God bring you comfort and healing.



Mark Steinruck lit a candle in honor of Mark.



October 14 at 2:57 PM

GJ Gloria Jones October 15 at 5:45 AM
Nita, I am so sorry for our loss! I just recently heard of Mark's passing and was really heartbroken. I enjoyed our lunches and after work dinners together. I'm in a state of shock. Last time I spoke with him there was no indication there was anything wrong. He was enjoying his retirement!! You are in my heart, my prayers, and my thoughts. May God comfort you and hold you in His loving arms.Love,Gloria Jones

MS Mark Steinruck October 14 at 3:05 PM
I worked with Juanita when she worked at Summit and only knew Mark through her. She spoke of him frequently and I knew from her he was a kind, gentle and loving Christian man. Please know my heart and prayers are with Juanita and the entire family.



Media

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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mark by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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