

SHELBY MAYO
May 15, 1932 - June 22, 2010 (Age 78)



Rev. Dr. Shelby Mayo, 78, went home to be with his Lord, June 22, 2010 in Bay Pines, Fla. after a short illness. He had gladly served his Savior in the mission field of Indonesia, Singapore, and New Zealand for forty years as an Independent Baptist Missionary, after first pastoring churches in Ohio and Kentucky. Rev. Mayo also, proudly served his country in the Army during the Korean War. He held several educational degrees but was a humble man who would prefer not to draw attention to those accomplishments. Rev. Mayo was born in Louisa, Ky. to the late Charles and Alva Fairchild Mayo. Also, preceding him in death were siblings Eugene Mayo, Ronald Mayo, Mary Keesee and precious great-grandaughter Eliana Densmore. Funeral services will be held Thursday, July 1st at 11:00am at Ceredo-Kenova Funeral Home, Ceredo, W.Va. with Rev. James L. Johnson and Rev. Tommy Raley officiating. Burial will follow in Mayo Cemetery. He is survived by his

loving and faithful wife Stella Perry Mayo of Clearwater, Fla.: Children, Jeanetta Tibbetts of Kettering, Ohio, Shelby Dwight Mayo of Ripley, Ohio, Barbara Neville of New Zealand, and Paul Mayo of Pantego, Texas. Siblings: Alice Sperry, Bonnie Fitzpatrick, Charles Mayo, Freida Lowe, Martha Nelson and Timothy Mayo, all from the Huntington W.Va. area. Also, he leaves thirteen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Visitation will be at the funeral home from 10:00am until time of service. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Indonesian Missions Fund c/o Bible Baptist Church, 280 Riviere Road, Palm Harbor, Fla. 34683. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.ceredo-kenovafuneralhome.com.

A BAPTIST MISSIONARY

“The Fundamentalist” Fall 2010 by Brother Tommy Raley

You did not have to be around Shelby Mayo very long to discover that he was a capital letter BAPTIST. In over 50 years of ministry, he invested his life in local New Testament Baptist churches.

He and Stella spent 42 years as World Baptist Fellowship missionaries in Indonesia, New Zealand, Singapore and Hawaii. In each place they not only won souls, but they baptized those converts and organized them into local Independent Baptist churches. He trained preachers who went out and started other Baptist churches. There are between 100 and 200 Independent Baptist churches today in Indonesia that can be traced back to that first church in Jakarta. When Shelby was no longer able to stay in the tropical climate of Indonesia due to lung problems, he and Stella moved to New Zealand where he founded the East Coast Bays

Bible Baptist Church in Auckland.

Bro. Mayo firmly believed that the key to reaching a people with the Gospel was through trained national workers. In each field where he worked, the first thing he did was plant a church. The second was to begin Bible institutes to train national workers. There are national Bible institutes today in Indonesia, New Zealand and Singapore that were started by Bro. Shelby. Young believers who have surrendered to the Will of God come to these institutes and after graduation go to areas of their country that need the Gospel and plant new churches. That is the goal of every missionary; to see his work reproduced in the lives of the people he reaches with the Gospel.

During his ministry, Bro. Mayo had several health issues, including a torn esophagus that required emergency surgery, a stroke, and cancer. He did not allow any of these health problems to deter him from doing the work that the Lord had called him to do. Even while he was recovering from the stroke, he served in Singapore and was a tremendous blessing and help to the church and the Judson School of Theology that he founded.

During his last two years of life, failing health prohibited Bro. Mayo from working on the foreign field, but he continued his work for the Lord through what he called the "Timothy Ministry". He served as a mentor to young preachers through e-mail, phone calls and personal instruction. He also wrote a book on Missions that is now being printed and will soon be available.

Shelby and Stella were saved in 1958 in a tent revival at the Branch Hill Baptist Church. Shelby soon felt the call of God into the ministry. Before they began their missionary ministry, he served as pastor of the Pleasant View Baptist Church in Elliston, KY and the Maineville Baptist Church in Maineville, OH. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Cedarville College, his Master of Theology from Luther Rice Seminary, and his Doctor of Philosophy degree from Baptist Christian University. He and Stella completed 57 years of marriage on June 6, 2010.

Bro. Mayo was called into the presence of the Lord on June 22, 2010 after a valiant battle with cancer. Funeral services were held on July 1, 2010 in Ceredo, WV and burial was in the Mayo Family Cemetery in Huntington, WV. He was a Korean War veteran of the U. S. Army and he received full military honors at the cemetery.

Please continue to pray for Stella and the family during this time; especially for Stella as she adjusts to life without Shelby. They had been almost constant companions for 57 years and she misses him greatly.