

Dear Friends,

I won't be getting any more emails from him. He died last night.

While I was filling my plate, food no longer interested him as he lay dying.
While I was watching the Mariners getting beat by the Dodgers, he was dying.
While I was embroidering as the Mariners were losing, he was dying.
While I was struggling with my daily crossword, he was struggling to live as he was dying.
While I watched Letterman interview Meryl Streep, he had already died.

My friend....
My colleague....
My brother-in-Christ....
Pastor David Spencer....
Conquered death last night.

Dave was one of those rare kinds of preacher. If someone showed up at worship, he was pounding on their door that afternoon.....or at least sometime Monday.

Dave was one of those rare kinds of preacher. He preached from the appointed texts but always found a way to relate the given text to the real things happening in people's lives.

Dave was one of those rare kinds of preacher. He started churches from scratch and was like a magnet gathering people around God's Word.

Dave was one of those rare kinds of preacher. He started early in the morning, working late into the evening.

Dave was one of those rare kinds of preacher. He never quit being a preacher. Retirement only meant opening new doors for ministry, serving a small church in Arizona that otherwise wouldn't have had a pastor.

Dave was one of those rare kinds of preacher. Even after he was diagnosed with cancer, he entered into an agreement with one of his former congregations to serve as interim while the pastor was on a three month sabbatical.

Dave was one of those rare kinds of preacher. He continued his ministry via email until finally his cancer just took over.

Dave was one of those rare kinds of preacher. He practiced what he preached....living in Hope, embracing God's Grace, holding dearly to God's Promise of eternal life.

Last night....
A good man died.

Some day....
You and I will also die.

As we live and as we die let us hold on to this: "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want."

God bless the memory of Pastor David Spencer!

In Christ's love,

Al Solmonson