



## Rev. John Mendez

January 4, 2016

Rev. John Mendez, 89 of Charleston went home to be with the Lord on Monday, January 4, 2016 at Angels Touch Care Home in St. Albans.

Born in Lynch, KY, John was a son of the late Maximino Miquez and Felipa DeJesus Maria Medina Mendez. He was also preceded in death by his wife, Peggy Dean Woodyard Mendez.

He graduated from Welch High School and later served our country in the United States Air Force during World War II in Okinawa, Japan. He received his bachelor's degree from Asbury College and his master of divinity degree from Candler School of Theology - Emory University in Atlanta, GA. He was ordained as a minister in the United Methodist Church Conference in June of 1956. The first church he served at in the West Virginia Conference was Maybeury, WV, followed by Bluewell United Methodist Church, St. Peters United Methodist Church, Princeton-First United Methodist Church; he later retired from First United Methodist Church in South Charleston. He temporarily served at St. Andrew United Methodist Church in St. Albans and the First United Methodist Church in Parkersburg.

He served for five years as Superintendent of the Bluefield District of the UMC. During his tenure he served as Dean of the Bishop's Cabinet under Bishop William Boyd Grove.

He is survived by his special friend, Bonny Eskew; daughters, Gloria J. Lewis (James) of St. Albans and Tanya M. Kesner (Brent) of Charleston; son, John M. Mendez (Leah) of Myrtle Beach, SC; sisters, Thelma Voska of Winter Springs, Fla. and Maxine Counts of Deltona, Fla.; brother, Max Mendez from Port St. Lucie, Fla.; grandchildren, Jacob Long, Trapper Long, John Ryan Mendez, Erin Rimbach, Adam Mendez, Harrison Kesner and Haley Kesner and great grandchildren, Chase, Ali, Parker, John Crew, and Elin.

Funeral service will be held at 1:00 pm Friday, January 8, 2016 at St. Peters United Methodist Church, 2601 Forrestal Avenue, St. Albans with Rev. Barry Moll, Bishop William Boyd Grove and Rev. Ronald McCauley officiating. Entombment will be in Cunningham Memorial Park, St. Albans.

Friends may visit with the family Friday two hours prior to the service at the church.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to Rev. John and Peggy Mendez Ministerial Scholarship Trust, c/o UMF of WV, PO Box 3811, Charleston, WV 25338-3811.

You may also share memories or condolences with the family at [www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com](http://www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com).

Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home, family-owned and located at 409 Sixth Avenue, St. Albans, WV 25177 is honored to serve the Mendez family.

# Cemetery Details

## Cunningham Memorial Park

815 Cunningham Lane  
Saint Albans, WV 25177

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 8. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Peters United Methodist Church  
2601 Forrestal Avenue  
St. Albans, WV 25177

## Funeral Service

JAN 8. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Peters United Methodist Church  
2601 Forrestal Avenue  
St. Albans, WV 25177

# Tribute Wall

BM

“ *Butch Mattox lit a candle in memory of John Mendez*



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**Butch Mattox** - July 15, 2024 at 07:20 PM



“ *Rev. John Mendez*

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October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rev. John Mendez.*



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January 07, 2016 at 10:22 PM

DL

“ *The Lewis family sends our deepest condolences and sympathies to the Mendez family. Our family thought the world of Rev. Mendez, may his memory be eternal. Mike Lewis and the Lewis family.*

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**Dina Lewis** - January 07, 2016 at 04:03 PM

MM

“ *Max and Pat Mendez purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Rev. John Mendez.*



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**Max and Pat Mendez** - January 07, 2016 at 03:16 AM

DM

“ *Sorry to hear of Reverend Mendez passing. He was a great pastor to us at Bluewell United Methodist Church while serving here. My parents also thought a lot of him and his family. I remembered him going camping to Myrtle Beach with 13 families from Bluewell and the men teasing him because he wore pants instead of shorts like them. I always remember him and his professionalism. Great man! Prayers for Gloria, John Mark, Tonya and families!*  
*Dawn Scott Murphy*

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**Dawn Murphy** - January 06, 2016 at 10:08 PM

KS

“ *About 34 years ago Rev. Mendez taught me and was an amazing example and guide as I became one of the youngest lay speakers in WV at 16, I am now Assistant Pastor of a church in Princeton WV . I will always have fond memories of Rev. Mendez and the wonderful man of God he was. Feeling blessed to have known him and thankful he has finally reached the prize he so did gently ran the race for. Sincerely, Kelly Siner , Princeton, WV*

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**Kelly Siner** - January 06, 2016 at 03:45 PM

MF

“ *Maxine Counts and family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Rev. John Mendez.*



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**Maxine Counts and family** - January 06, 2016 at 12:21 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. John Mendez.*



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January 06, 2016 at 10:11 AM

BD

“ I regret that I am unable to attend visitation and memorial services for John because of a bronchitis infection. John and I have been good friends since our years together in the Bluefield District in the 1960's. We worked together a little and we laughed a lot. We told stories and we exaggerated our fishing tales, but we both had fun doing it, knowing that other didn't believe half the tales we told. Unfortunately, we never went fishing together, so neither of us could ever verify the stories. I had the privilege and the challenge of following John in one appointment (St. Peter's), then he followed me in another (First UMC, South Charleston), so I finally got even with him.

*As District Superintendent, John will be remembered as a fair, honest, and sincere servant of the Lord. Fortunately, Peggy was always there to assist, support, and keep him humble.*

*May our God, whom John served faithfully for many years, bless and keep you, and may you always be blessed with your memory of a father, grandfather, and friend who fought the good fight and kept the faith.*

*Rejoice in the Lord,*

*Bill Deel*

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**Bill Deel** - January 06, 2016 at 08:57 AM

JR

“ Maxine, I'm sorry to hear of your brothers passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and the family. Please contact me. Joan - Kollas Ramirez

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**Joan Kollas - Ramirez** - January 06, 2016 at 07:23 AM

Jack  
Foster

“ So many good memories come with the name John Mendez...he touched so many lives.. John Mark was one of my best buddies growing up ..we were called down by John during Service from the pulpit often .lol..your family is in my heart at this time.. Jack foster

Jack Foster - January 06, 2016 at 07:22 AM

JR

“ Joan Kollas - Ramirez lit a candle in memory of Rev. John Mendez



Joan Kollas - Ramirez - January 06, 2016 at 07:19 AM

TF

“ We were neighbors in St. Albans years ago. Please accept our deepest sympathies.

The Hypes Family - January 06, 2016 at 05:17 AM

BK

“ Tanya and family, I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your father. Words cannot ease the pain and grief but know that you all are in my thoughts and prayers

Barbara Keefer.

Barbara Keefer - January 06, 2016 at 05:11 AM

LG

“ After years of my girls being friends with 2 of Rev Mendez's grandchildren, his daughter Tanya and I learned that he was the minister who married my Mom and Stepdad decades earlier. Our deepest condolences to Rev. Mendez's family.

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**Leslie Galluan** - January 05, 2016 at 09:43 PM

MF

*John was my district superintendent for the first five years of my full-time ministry. John and Peggy were very supportive of me and my ministry. They made the ministers of the district feel like a family. I learned many useful things from John. I also remember how much he smiled and how much he laughed. I am thankful for the way in which his family shared him with the Bluefield District family. God bless you.*

*Mark Flynn*

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**Mark Flynn** - January 06, 2016 at 08:18 AM

BL

“ Loved seeing his smile while he was attending First United Meth Church, So Chas. And set in front of me for several years. I remember him being one of the most humble pastors we had. So sorry for your loss, but you have the blessed assurance of where he is now. God Bless. Becky and Barney Lilly

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**Becky Lilly** - January 05, 2016 at 06:10 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Rev. Mendez



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**Chapman Funeral Homes** - January 05, 2016 at 03:16 PM

BM

*My condolences to the Family.*

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**Bob Matheny** - January 06, 2016 at 07:01 AM

WY

*While growing up with his children in St. Albans, I was immeasurably blessed by having John Mendez as my pastor at St. Peter's. John led me to faith in Jesus Christ. Following ordination, I enjoyed the stupendous privilege of serving as his assistant in Princeton. John was my spiritual father and mentor. He taught me more about pastoral ministry and preaching than two seminary degrees! Gloria, John Mark, and Tanya—please accept my heart-felt condolences and sympathy. Countless others across the state of West Virginia share your grief—mixed with the comforting assurance that your father is now in the presence of the Lord he loved and so marvelously served. John 1:6-7 —“There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came for a witness, that he might bear witness of the Light, that all might believe through him.” For so many, John Mendez did that—just as the Baptizer did two thousand years ago.*

*Bill Young,  
Bozeman, Montana*

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**William Young** - January 07, 2016 at 02:37 PM