



## Harvey H. Price

July 7, 1924 - August 27, 2010

### From Farmboy to Chaplain

Early years for Harvey H. Price were spent on a farm in the mid-west. He spent about as many hours on a horse as off, including riding to school more than a mile from his home. Caught in a seemingly unending dust bowl, the family moved to Oregon when Harvey was about ten years old. They were able to rent a house that had lots of fruit and nut trees on the property for \$10 a month. In addition to the 2-story house, there was also a barn, a chicken house and ample land for a large garden.

While still quite young, Harvey was hired as a carpenter's helper. He worked hard and learned fast, rather quickly achieving journeyman status and eventually became a contractor himself. He built many homes in the Portland, Oregon vicinity then relocated to Denver, Colorado area to build there.

For many years he longed to be an educator but was aware that was not a realistic aspiration since he had never gone to high school. Nevertheless, over the years this passion escalated to the point that he decided to reach toward his dream. The "School of Hard Knocks" served him well, enabling him not only to easily pass the GED test, but also in his studies which were done simultaneously while holding down a full-time job. The Board of Education, noticing his spectacular achievements, approached him during his last year of

working toward a Bachelor's Degree. To his amazement, they asked if he would be willing to teach. He sputtered, "But I don't have my degree yet." They responded that they would happily provide a provisional certificate. Harvey was able to continue his evening and weekend classes thus the change in plans did not deter his graduation. With arrangements quickly in place, he became the instructor for the "work study" program of a high school in Westminster, Colorado. He was assigned to a class that generally had the most unruly students. Their progress and shift in attitude was so remarkable that he was invited to speak to a joint session of the State Legislature. Upon finishing, he received a standing ovation. The following year he decided to work toward a Master's Degree in Vocational Education and graduated Magna Cum Laude.

The ultimate goal for Harvey was to be an educational administrator. After three years in the class-room, he applied for and was offered the position of Placement Director for a community college in Sterling, Colorado. He was on a "soft money" two-year grant and hoped a local bond issue would continue to fund the program but it was defeated. Having made a mark at the college and within the community, he was urged to stay on as an instructor but Harvey declared, "I'm going to treat this like a promotion." Indeed it was, but it required moving away from the area.

In 1976 Harvey became the "Dean of Vocational Education" for a community college in the white mountains of Arizona. A fair amount of daytime travel was necessary since he was responsible for about half the college programs throughout the county and all its satellite locations, including several Indian reservations. Part of his duties involved writing grant requests to fund the diverse programs available. When the college's President accepted an offer from a large prestigious university, his replacement pressured Harvey to funnel grant money into his pet projects. "That's illegal and if you intend to do that, take my name off the grant!" he demanded. Though the family loved

living in Pinetop, due to moral, and possibly legal issues, Harvey decided it was best to move on. He was hired for the same position and comparable pay by Arizona Western College in Yuma, Arizona.

A heart attack in the early 1980's altered the course of Harvey's life. Unable to any longer handle the rigorous demands as an educator, Harvey tried his hand at real estate for a few years. By the mid 80's he was truly missing involvement with education thus agreed to be the interim principal for a small charter school in Fountain Hills for a year. Three years later he served as a liaison at a school for blind high school students in Phoenix, Arizona for a couple of years.

When his wife's father became terminally ill, a decision was made to move close by and provide much of the needed care. That was when Harvey discovered the joy of serving as the "Visitation Chaplain" for his church. For over twenty years, until ill health made it impossible, he devoted countless hours to this endeavor in a quest to touch the lives of others in meaningful ways.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Reflecting on Memories created a Tribute Video in memory of Harvey H. Price*



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**Reflecting on Memories** - June 21, 2016 at 02:22 PM



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**Reflecting on Memories** - October 12, 2012 at 08:38 AM



“ 52 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Reflecting on Memories** - October 12, 2012 at 08:42 AM