



## Philip Dickson Wilgers

October 19, 2021

Philip Dickson Wilgers, 81, of Fort Collins, Colorado passed away peacefully on the morning of Tuesday, October 19, 2021.

Phil was born on February 13, 1940 in Marysville, Kansas, to William D. and Marguerite (Dickson) Wilgers. He graduated from high school a year early so that he could attend the Naval Academy at Annapolis for seven months before deciding that path was not the right one for him. The right one involved walking down the aisle with his high school sweet-heart, Joyce Marie Bieker, and the two were wed on August 22, 1959.

Phil graduated from Kansas State University in 1961. Phil began his career in the workplace by holding various positions in commercial banks. From 1980-85, Phil enjoyed one of his favorite jobs as Business Manager and Company Pilot for the International Limousin Journal. For the next decade of his life, he worked as a Cost Administrator at the Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant. From 1998-2004, he was the Business Administrator and Associate Pastor at First Christian Church in Fort Collins.

While dutiful and more than capable in his various jobs, Phil's true passions lay outside of the workplace for much of his life. He loved spending time with his close-knit family or pursuing his love of knowledge and wisdom by continually being a student himself and a teacher to others. He also found

great joy in being a pilot.

Most of all, however, his life was centered on Christ. No one who knew Phil for long could doubt his love and commitment to his Savior and Friend, Jesus Christ. Time spent apart from work or family meant time spent in ministry, leading countless Bible studies and discipling many Christians, as exemplified by the time he spent as President of Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship. By the end of his career, Phil was able to match his passion with his work, as the last decade of his work life was spent pastoring the residents of the Water Valley Good Samaritan in Windsor.

Phil is survived by his wife Joyce Wilgers, his children David Wilgers, Chris (Tammy) Wilgers, Amy (Eric) Penniman, Laurie (Kent) Bowen, eight grandchildren, nine great grandchildren, his sister Mary Lee Warner (Nick), five nieces, two nephews and the countless others who were not related to him but whose lives he blessed nonetheless.

Phil's memorial service will be held at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Fort Collins on Thursday, Nov. 4 at 2 p.m., inurnment and cookie reception to follow service. For a live stream of the service, please go to [live.redeemerconnect.com](http://live.redeemerconnect.com). In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in honor of Phil to Pathways of Northern Colorado or Good Samaritan Water Valley Chapel Operations Fund, c/o John McElderry, 805 Compassion Drive, Windsor, CO 80550.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

NOV 4. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (MT)

Redeemer Lutheran Church  
7755 Greenstone Trail  
Fort Collins, CO 80525

# Tribute Wall



“ Philip Dickson Wilgers

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Tammy Wilgers - October 24, 2021 at 02:53 PM



“ With a friendship that spans almost 50 years, much could be said. But I believe the Word Phil loved so much provides the most fitting commentary: “Lord, you have assigned Phil his portion and his cup; you have made his lot secure. The boundary lines have fallen for Phil in pleasant places; Surely, he has a delightful inheritance. Phil has praised you Lord, Who counseled him; Even at night Phil’s heart instructed him. Phil set you, Lord, always before him. Because You were at Phil’s right hand, he was not shaken.” Dave Brown

Dave Brown - October 22, 2021 at 06:43 PM

JE

“ Phil will always be remembered as the person that made the most profound impact on my life of anyone. He not only prevented us from losing our home during a very dark period of our lives, but much more than that, Phil led me to a saving relationship with Jesus and saved my soul. I have been walking with the Lord for over 45 years now, and it is all thanks to Phil and his special kind of love that was contagious. I am sure his savior has welcomed him with open arms, a good and faithful servant. Jerry & Patti Ellmann

---

**Jerry & Patti Ellmann** - October 22, 2021 at 02:23 PM

RF

Phil was the first chaplain at the new Good Samaritan Society Water Valley resort . He made a huge impact on so many residents and their families Randy Fitzgerald RVP

---

**Randy Fitzgerald** - October 28, 2021 at 06:12 PM

BH

Phil was such a special person in my life. I sang in the choir at First Christian and one of my most favorite memories was the Sunday afternoon I helped him lead a hymn sing. It was so much fun and very special to sing some of those beautiful old hymns. Blessings & prayers to all of his family.

Bev Yonker Hagman

---

**Bev Hagman** - October 28, 2021 at 08:53 PM

NG

Phil left us with a wonderful example and witness. He was a testimony to a good Christian life. At First Christian he provided good fellowship and uplifting music for us. We will miss him but our appreciation for him and memories of his uplifting friendship will continue in us.

---

**Neil Grigg** - October 31, 2021 at 07:24 AM

SK

Phil was an inspiration to so many of us. I sang in the choir with Phil at 1st Christian. I marveled at his many times gifts. He had a beautiful voice.

---

**Sharon Kunze** - October 31, 2021 at 11:25 AM

AG

*Our paths crossed briefly in the spring of 1998. We both worked for a computer networking company in Wisconsin. How Phil wound up in Wisconsin I don't know. When he moved to Colorado in the summer of 1998, he invited me to visit him in Colorado, after I told him I was going to graduate school in Seattle, and he knew I was driving across the country. Although we worked for a fast-paced company, Phil was always calm and kept his cool whenever there was something that had to be done quickly. When I visited him in Colorado, he took me to church, and then afterward up to the Garden of the Gods, which was beautiful beyond my imagination. While driving through the Garden of the Gods, Phil asked me how I liked the church services. I said, "Phil, we're in church right now!" He paused for a moment, and then smiled. "You know, you're right!" I will never forget Phil, and I am going to visit the Garden of the Gods with my son and grandson next summer. - Andrew Grzadzielewski*

---

**Andrew Grzadzielewski** - November 02, 2021 at 05:46 PM