Kenneth Ray Mason, 67

Kenneth Ray Mason, 67, was born in Traverse City, Mich., the son of Virgil and Carol Mason. On July 27, 1968, he was united in marriage with Evelyn (Lynn) Reimers. Ken served in the Navy. Following his graduation from Central Christian College of the Bible in Moberly, Mo., he served as the minister in churches in Lawrence, Kan., Stanley, Wis., and Ethel, Mo.

He is survived by his wife, Lynn, of the home; four sons, David (Ann) of Clarence, Mo., Jonathan (Jessi) of LaCrosse, Wis., Nathaniel of LaCrosse, Wis., and Christopher (Erica) of DeForest, Wis.; one daughter, Rachel Nickerson (Tim) of Bridgewater, Mass.; 12 grandchildren; a sister, aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews and nieces.

Ken will be remembered for being ever ready to lend a helping hand to anyone in need, for his ability to forgive and not hold grievances. For his great love for God and preaching, and his many notes of encouragement sent to hundreds of recipients, and his love for his family and many friends.

Ken was preceded in death by his parents.

Gareth Reese, one of Ken's former teachers at Central Christian College of the Bible conducted the funeral service on Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2013, at 1 p.m., at the Ethel Christian Church. The Freedom Riders were in attendance. Interment was at the VA cemetery in Jacksonville, Mo.

A military salute, the playing of Taps and the unfolding and refolding of the flag, which was then presented to his widow, concluded the service at the cemetery.