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'He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds'. Psalm 147:3

Those of you who are family, close friends or on social media probably already know that I lost my husband and best friend, Larry on August 30. He was admitted to the hospital with covid pneumonia on August 3 which ironically was his 23<sup>rd</sup> spiritual birthday. We both tested positive on July 30, but he was much sicker than I was. We were praying in faith that God would restore him, but he passed away the evening of August 30. I know he is in heaven and I will see him again, but this is something I never thought would happen to us. It is quite an adjustment to say the last and will take some time for me to heal. We had a celebration of life service for Larry on September 4 in Hope. Bro. John Ogden who was with Larry on August 3, 1998 when he was saved officiated. Several ADC chaplains were there and shared how much Larry meant to them and the inmates. There were also some former inmates there who shared how Larry had impacted their lives. Larry will definitely be missed in the prison system.

We were planning to go to Sturgis, SD for the bike rally before all this happened. The ADC started letting volunteers back in the units the first week of June. They were required to wear a mask and had to take a covid test before they could enter. Larry was so happy to be able to go back to the Tucker Unit. The first few times he went back, it reminded me of when he first started in the prison ministry. He was excited and came home and told me about the men he had talked to. Being able to go back in the prison lifted his spirits. He hadn't been there since March of 2020 and although we stayed in contact with some of the men by mail, it just isn't the same. Larry truly loved this ministry that God called him to and didn't like staying home and not being able to minister.

I am so thankful for my family, friends and neighbors who continue to check on me. I have had several people ask what will happen with the ministry. I'm planning to meet with our board members soon and see where we feel the Lord is leading us. I correspond with several prisoners and I will continue to do that. I would like to continue the Christmas Behind Bars outreach even if it is on a smaller scale. The pandemic has caused so many changes in the prisons and bike rallies that we haven't done as much as we used to do. I would ask for your prayers for me and for our board as we make these decisions. I am thankful for all of you who supported us over the years with your finances, prayers, and other support. God bless you!

Kathy Medford