

**THE REVEREND RAY L. FORSTROM**  
October 24, 1926 - December 21, 2020

Ray L. Forstrom, 94, formerly of Old Pittsfield Road, Youngsville, PA, died and entered the Church Triumphant on December 21, 2020 at the Rouse Home where he had resided for the past three years. He was born in Evanston, IL on October 24, 1926.

Ray served in the U.S. Air Force stationed in the Philippines in 1945-46. Following his discharge, he enrolled in Augustana College, graduating in 1951. He then entered Augustana Seminary and was ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament on June 19, 1955.

Pastor Forstrom served congregations in Minnesota, Illinois, and Ohio prior to accepting a call to the Brokenstraw Parish (Saron, Youngsville and Berea, Pittsfield, PA) in 1970.

Following his retirement in 1994, Ray continued to be an active member of the Saron and Berea shared ministry, often serving as an interim or supply pastor, reading the scripture lessons and offering prayer. He also served the congregation of Nazareth Lutheran, Wilcox, PA as an interim pastor in the mid-1990s. He was a kind and supportive mentor to many new pastors. In the fall of 2020, Pastor Forstrom was recognized for his 65 years of faithful service to the Lutheran Church.

Ray was also community minded, providing leadership to the local AAL Branch, Warren Barbershoppers, the Youngsville Lions Club, and the Cemetery Association.

Ray was preceded in death by his first wife, Arlene in 1966. On October 21, 1977, Ray married Eleanor Danielson who passed away on March 1, 2020. They had over 42 wonderful years together.

Pastor Forstrom is survived by three sons and their families: Paul of Wisconsin, Michael of Illinois, and Jonathan of Tennessee.

A memorial service will be scheduled in the summer of 2021 with burial in the Berea Lutheran Cemetery.