

A LITURGY IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF

ROLLIN ANTHONY “TONY” ROGERS

MARCH 7, 1940 – JUNE 18, 2024

Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Episcopal/Anglican

ZABRISKIE CHAPEL

3606 Seminary Road
Alexandria, Virginia

September 26, 2024



11:00 a.m.

R. ANTHONY “TONY” ROGERS

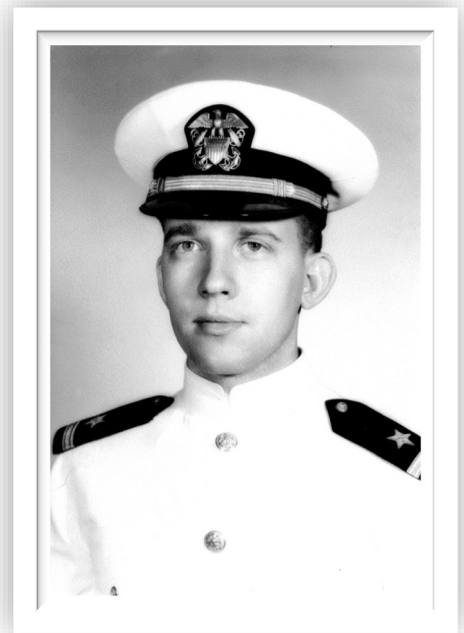
R. Anthony "Tony" Rogers, 84, a veteran litigator who devoted his career to the land and water rights of American Indians, died on June 18, 2024 after a long illness. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Dane Rogers of Alexandria, VA; son, Mark Rogers (Anne Nelson) of San Francisco, CA and daughter, Laura Ellis (Richard Ellis) of Arlington, VA.

A retired Senior Trial Attorney for the Land and Natural Resources Division of the United States Department of Justice, Tony was born in Fort Pierce, FL but raised in Miami where his father, Rollin Rogers covered politics for the Miami Herald and his mother, Martha, was a legal secretary. A graduate of Coral Gables High School, he received a B.A. in American History from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he forged lifelong friendships at his beloved Wesley House and nurtured a passion for politics that led to an internship with a New Jersey Congressman, law school, a Washington future and the jackpot: Season tickets to the Nats.

He graduated from UNC in 1962 when the Vietnam War was underway and joined the Navy. After completing Officer Candidate School, he served on two ships: The USS Okinawa (LPH-3) and the USS Ogden (LPD-5), a newly commissioned amphibious assault ship that transported troops and small boats to Da Nang.

Tony continued his studies after his discharge. He graduated from the UVA School of Law in 1969, secured a judicial clerkship in Washington with U.S. District Court Judge, George L. Hart, Jr. and moved his young family to Alexandria. He became an active member of Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill, serving as a Senior Warden and usher over the years and joined the Candlelighters Foundation, a parents' group that lobbied Congress to fund a Childhood Cancer cure. He also drew political cartoons and stumped for local politicians and national candidates.

After the clerkship, Tony continued his legal career in private practice in D.C. He joined Wilkinson, Cragun & Barker, a firm known for representing numerous tribes in complex Indian Claims cases nationwide. He made his own contributions as a partner, primarily by protecting the rights of multiple tribes including the Northern Arapaho of Wyoming's Wind River Reservation. He served as chair of the Indian Resources Committee of the American Bar Association for two years and traveled West so often that clients and colleagues nicknamed him "Tony Take-a-Trip." In 1987, he joined the Department of Justice where his experience and litigation skills earned him a prestigious John Marshall Award. He retired in 2005



In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to one of the following:



Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill
The Tony Rogers Memorial Fund
3606 Seminary Road
Alexandria, VA 22304

UNC Wesley Campus Ministry's
The Rev. Robert L. Johnson Fund
201 E. Rosemary Street
Chapel Hill, NC 27514



UVA Law School Foundation
580 Massie Road
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD, RITE I

Page numbers refer to the *red Book of Common Prayer*.
Numbered hymns can be found in [The Hymnal 1982](#).

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Prelude: | “Air on the G String” | Johann Sebastian Bach |
| | “Canon in D Major” | Johann Pachelbel |
| | “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” | Johann Sebastian Bach |

The liturgy for the dead is an Easter liturgy. It finds all its meaning in the resurrection. Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we too, shall be raised.

The liturgy, therefore, is characterized by joy, in the certainty that "neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

This joy, however, does not make human grief unchristian. The very love we have for each other in Christ brings deep sorrow when we are parted by death. Jesus himself wept at the grave of his friend. So, while we rejoice that one we love has entered into the nearer presence of our Lord, we sorrow in sympathy with those who mourn.

All please stand while the following anthems are said. ([Book of Common Prayer](#), page 469)

Opening Sentences:

I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord;
he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live;
and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth,
and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth;
and though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God;
whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold,
and not as a stranger.

For none of us liveth to himself,
and no man dieth to himself.
For if we live, we live unto the Lord.
and if we die, we die unto the Lord.
Whether we live, therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord;
even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

Clergy: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with thy spirit.*

Clergy: Let us pray.

Collect: O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept our prayers on behalf of thy servant Anthony, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy, in the fellowship of thy saints; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Lesson: Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

read by Mr. Mark H. Rogers

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted; A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

What profit hath he that worketh in that wherein he laboureth? I have seen the travail, which God hath given to the sons of men to be exercised in it. He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.

The Word of the Lord
People: *Thanks be to God*

Psalm 121 *Levavi oculos*

led by Mrs. Laura Lee Ellis

- 1 I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills,*
from whence cometh my help.
- 2 My help cometh from the Lord,*
which made heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved:.*
he that keepeth thee will not slumber.
- 4 Behold, he that keepeth Israel*
shall neither slumber nor sleep.
- 5 The Lord is thy keeper:.*
the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.
- 6 The sun shall not smite thee by day,*
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil:.*
he shall preserve thy soul.
- 8 The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in*
from this time forth, and even for evermore.

The Epistle: 2 Timothy 4:6 - 8

read by Mrs. Mary Page Jones

A reading of Paul's second letter to Timothy.

For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

Psalm 23 *Dominus regit me* (KJV)

read by Mr. Bryant Mitchell

1. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
- 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Hymn 175: "Hail thee festival day"

verses 1, 2,7, and 8

Salve festa dies

The Holy Gospel : John 14:1-6

Clergy: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John

Response: *Glory be to thee, O Lord*

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

The Gospel of the Lord

Response: *Praise be to thee, O Christ.*

The Homily: The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.*

The Prayers

led by The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of thy Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we beseech thee, to thy whole Church in paradise and on earth, thy light and thy peace. *Amen.*

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life, and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection. *Amen.*

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that thy Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. *Amen.*

Grant to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind. *Amen.*

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in thy fatherly care, that, casting all their grief on thee, they may know the consolation of thy love. *Amen.*

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a reasonable and holy hope, in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love. *Amen.*

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting. *Amen.*

Grant us grace to entrust Tony to thy never-failing love; receive him into the arms of thy mercy, and remember him according to the favor which thou bearest unto thy people. *Amen.*

Grant that, increasing in knowledge and love of thee, he may go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service in thy heavenly kingdom. *Amen.*

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in thy eternal and everlasting glory, and, with blessed Paul, John, Saint Anthony of Padua, and all thy saints, to receive the crown of life which thou dost promise to all who share in the victory of thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE COMMENDATION

The Clergy take their places at the urn.

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Thou only art immortal, the creator and maker of mankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return. For so thou didst ordain when thou createdst me, saying, "Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." All we go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ, to thy servant with thy saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

The Clergy, facing the urn, say

Into thy hands, O merciful Savior, we commend thy servant Tony. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech thee, a sheep of thine own fold, a lamb of thine own flock, a sinner of thine own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of thy mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. ***Amen.***

The Blessing

The Dismissal:

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: ***Thanks be to God.***

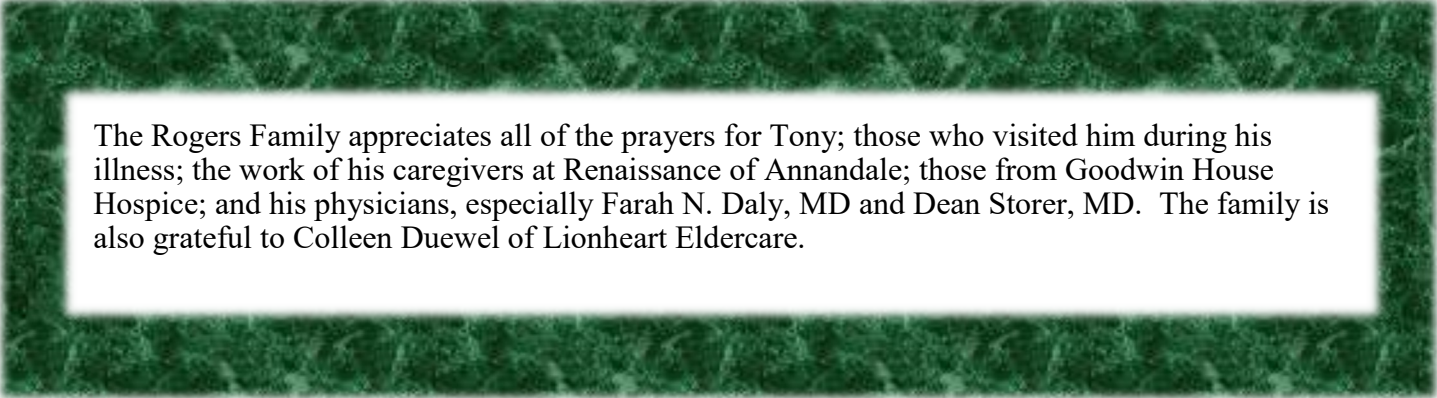
Recessional Hymn 608: "Eternal Father, strong to save"

Melita

***After the singing of the recessional hymn,
please follow the usher to the Parish Hall for a reception hosted by the family.***

Postlude: Ode to Joy

Ludwig van Beethoven



The Rogers Family appreciates all of the prayers for Tony; those who visited him during his illness; the work of his caregivers at Renaissance of Annandale; those from Goodwin House Hospice; and his physicians, especially Farah N. Daly, MD and Dean Storer, MD. The family is also grateful to Colleen Duewel of Lionheart Eldercare.

SERVING TODAY:

Officiant:

The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander, Jr.
Rector, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Assisting Clergy:

The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs
Assistant Rector, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Crucifer:

Ms. Karen W. Besser

Readers:

Mr. Mark Rogers, *son*
Mrs. Laura Rogers Ellis, *daughter*
Mrs. Mary Page Jones
Mr. Bryant Mitchell

Intercessor:

The Rev. Sarah Spurlock Biggs

Musician:

Dr. Jane Tavernier
Director of Music, Immanuel Church-on-the-Hill

Ushers:

Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Debbie Hewson
Mr. Tom Kerns

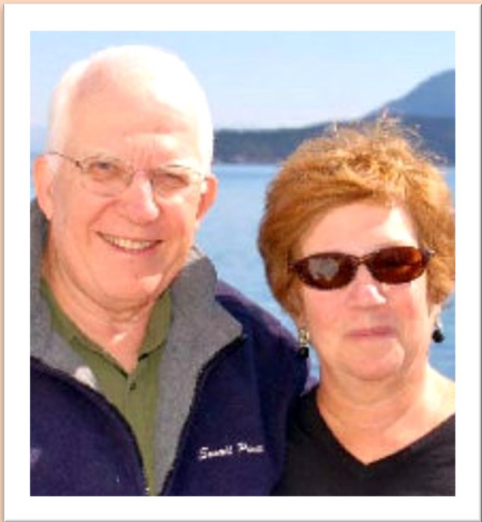
Flower Arrangements:

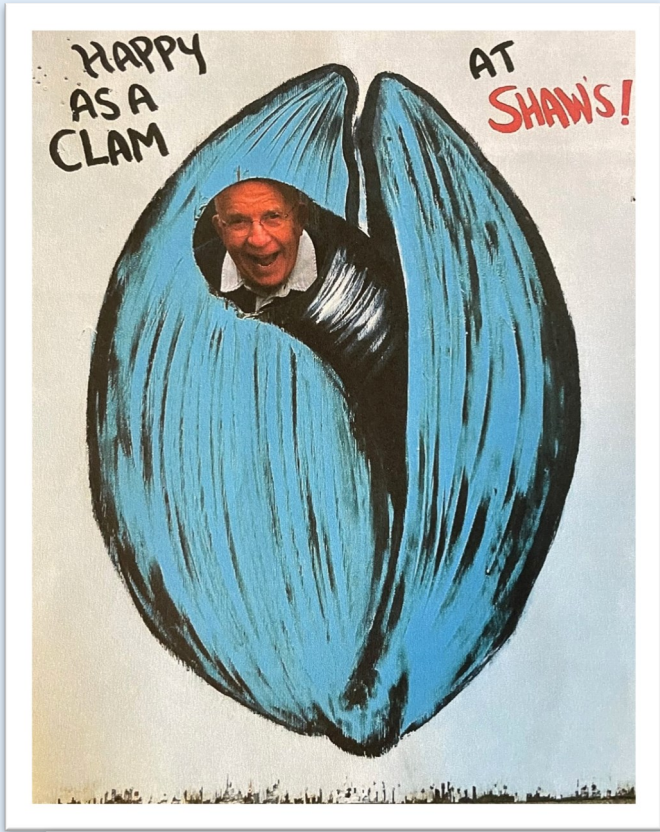
Mrs. Kerry Kelly Wade
Immanuel Flower Guild

AV Technician:

Ms. Tamika Martin







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