

The Reverend Paul Miller Ruff died on November 6, 2009 in Fayetteville, GA after a very long and healthy life. Pastor Ruff was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania on May 26, 1918, a son of Samuel and Amanda Miller Ruff, who were life long residents of Westmoreland County. Pastor Ruff was educated in the Greensburg schools and at St Vincent College, Latrobe. As a boy, he attended Harrold's Schoolhouse #8 and was instrumental in the restoration of this same schoolhouse by the Baltzer Meyer Historical Society, which he founded in 1993.

He was married to Lydia Zundel (1920-1996) and Zella Chanon (d2001). He is survived by his children Margaret and Jim Aldredge of Fairburn, GA and Jeremy and Joyce Ruff of Cary, NC, five grandchildren, and eleven great grandchildren. (Rachel Bartolomei and Vicent and Gabriel of this congregation.)

Following his seminary preparation at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia (Pa) in 1943, Pastor Ruff served four congregations, First English Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ashtabula, Ohio, St Paul's Lutheran Church in Jefferson, Ohio, House of Prayer Lutheran Church in Aliquippa, PA and Grace Lutheran Church in Pittsburgh, PA (Troy Hill). Following his retirement in 1990, he served several congregations in Western Pennsylvania as an interim Pastor. During this time, he also pursued his retirement vocation of transcribing Church Records from German script into English. These transcriptions have been published and are available from the Baltzer Meyer Historical Society through their website <http://baltzermeyer.pa-roots.com>.

In addition to his interest in genealogy and local history, he was true to his farm roots and was an avid vegetable gardener. He organized local Farmers' Markets in Beaver County and in Westmoreland County that are still in existence today. He specialized in blueberries, strawberries and garlic.