

In Loving Memory

September and October have gone by so fast! Here we are in the last part of 2020 and I am wondering what the next 2 months hold.

Let me share with you a couple of the important events from the last 2 months.



In September, our dear friend and missionary **Steve Townsend** passed away unexpectedly. Steve had served with IGO for nearly 20 years. Originally, Steve and Nannette came to us as Biker Missionaries. (*Yes, that's a thing*).

They were chaplains with Hell's Angels Motorcycle Club and really looked the part. Over the years, they transitioned into working in Mexico, and working with a local biker's organization to help missionaries and build churches around the world.

Personally, I enjoyed their humor, their fun loving, can-do mindset, and their commitment to taking the Gospel of the Kingdom to the world through as many avenues as they could.

In October, we received devastating news that **IGO Vice President, Steve Farmer** was in the Hospital with

the COVID 19 virus. We were really caught off guard by the news. We lost Steve on October 6th, 2020.

Steve became VP of IGO in 1994 shortly after the death of our founder Bertist Rouse. Steve Farmer was more than qualified to run IGO as President, his greatest gift was coming along side us as a trusted friend, counsel, and voice of reason. Many times, he was who I leaned on as I had to make decisions and process the needs and issues of the organization. He was indispensable to us.

Not only was Steve important to us, he made an impact globally. Steve served as the President of EME Ministries. Their focus is to assist front-line churches and related projects in Southeastern Europe, the Middle East & North Africa with personnel, training and provisions to effectively do their ministry, with an emphasis on business and educational programs. Strengthening local churches throughout the Mediterranean and middle east has been a large part of that work.

In addition, Steve served as the chairman of the Craighead County Republican Committee, and in the Arkansas Governor's office as superintendent of the Jonesboro Human Development Center. He was also a veteran from the US Army during the Vietnam era. Farmer also served as a chaplain for the Jonesboro Fire Department. In 2010, he was selected NEA Firefighter of the Year and Brookland VFD Firefighter of the Year. Steve was the coordinator for the Craighead County Crisis Response Team and was a former board member of the Arkansas Crisis Response Team

As busy as Steve was, he was never too busy to be a friend. More than anything that is how he will be remembered. Steve is survived by a wonderful and strong family. Judy Davis-Farmer (wife), and their three daughters and eleven grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren.

