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JOHN R. SCOTT
MARCH 18, 1943 - NOVEMBER 21, 1999

Scott, John R. (P.67;F.72)(U.)(S.) SCA 67 School 70 Claypool 72 Huachuca City 73 Tucson: Christ (Assoc.) 75 Phoenix: Garfield PSW 77 Phoenix: Garfield 81 Restored (7-1-79) granted D/L DSW 84 (Sep 1) D/L

John Richard Scott was born March 18, 1943 in Tucson, Arizona. He died November 21, 1999 in Seattle, Washington. John became an active member of First United Methodist Church, Tucson, during his years at the University of Arizona (1961-66) where he completed a double major in economics and philosophy. His passion for the Methodist Student Movement cultivated his leadership and later he became president of the Wesley Foundation at First United Methodist Church. John was also an active member of the ecumenical student Christian movement. These years initiated his call to ordained ministry.

After college, John was trained for the ministry at Drew University in New Jersey and at Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas. It was at Perkins that he met MarLu, another student. They were married in the Philippines on February 14, 1970. John completed seminary the following May.

Early in his ministry John served churches at Claypool and Huachuca City. John was also associate pastor at Christ Church in Tucson and was appointed to Garfield Church in Phoenix. John loved parish ministry and it showed. He took time to call in the homes of his people. His kind and gentle manner brought a healing touch to those he visited in the hospitals and nursing homes. John related very well to the elderly. He was an only child, born late in life to his parents. So even in his youth he was surrounded by older persons. He loved them. He understood them.

One parishioner's comment captured John's passion for preaching, "Oh, how I love John Scott! How much I appreciate his sermons!" He further said, "No preacher has ever spoken to my heart like John." John gave serious thought to his sermon preparation. He carefully studied Scriptures to draw relevant messages. He delivered his sermons with clarity, sincerity, and conviction. He spoke to the needs of people in the pew. They listened. Their lives were changed.

John loved to travel. Summers during his seminary days were spent working at the National Park Service as a chaplain. Those assignments took him to Acadia National Park in Maine and Lassen National Park in Northern California where he took MarLu during one of their vacations. He loved to drive in the countryside. (No cops!) He was also a philatelist. He tended his massive stamp collection meticulously and patiently. His impressive library evidenced his love for reading. Because of John's unpretentiously tacit demeanor, he surprised those around him with his gift of delightful wit and humor.

Almost twenty years ago, John was struck by a rare disabling neurological disease (cerebellar ataxia). He was eventually granted disability status in 1981 by an executive session of the Southern California-Arizona Conference under Bishop Jack Tuell. During this time he did not lose heart. He echoed the words, "work with the given." In whatever situation he found himself John looked for the positive and moved on. He was an epitome of strength, courage, and faith until the very end.

A foundation in his honor, The John R. Scott Foundation for Clergy in Crisis, has been established through the Desert Southwest Conference Foundation. This legacy will provide funds for clergy and their families when medical emergencies arise. A compilation of his sermons, entitled "Work with the Given", will be published in November, 2000.

In collaboration with special mentors: Don Sapp and Lee Scott.

MarLu P. Scott, Wife



*Stilwell, Don
53 Hanna, 54
Conf Ex Sec-
Red Bird Miss-
Adams, DSW*



He also
seven year