

United Methodist News Service

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United Methodist Bishop Slater dies in Dallas March 11

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by United Methodist News Service

Retired United Methodist Bishop O. Eugene Slater, 90, died March 11 in Dallas of natural causes.

Slater, was elected a bishop in The Methodist Church in 1960 and appointed head of the Kansas Area. In 1964, he was assigned to the San Antonio Area where he served until his retirement in 1976.

Prior to his election as bishop, the Louisiana native served pastorates in six Texas cities -- Rochelle, Menard, Ozona, San Antonio, Houston and Amarillo. He married Eva B. Richardson in November 1931.

He was born Sept. 10, 1906 in Sibley, La.

Slater held degrees from Southern Methodist University, Dallas; Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University; McMurry College, Abilene, Texas; and Baker University, Baldwin, Kan.

He served on several churchwide agencies including: Board of Education, Board of Lay Activities, Board of Global Ministries, Interboard Committee on Enlistment for Church Occupations, and Commission on Archives and History. In 1972 he represented the United Methodist Council of Bishops at the British Methodist Conference. He also was the liaison bishop from the U.S. to the Korean Methodist Church.

He was president of the United Methodist Council of Bishops 1972-73.

Slater has been a trustee of several institutions including: Southern Methodist University, Dallas; Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas; Southwest Texas Methodist Hospital, San Antonio; Ecumenical Center for Religion and Health, San Antonio; and Morningside Manor, San Antonio.

He is survived by his wife Eva; a daughter, Susan and her husband Kip Edinborough of Berkley, Calif.; a son Stewart Eugene of San Jose, Calif.; 4 grandchildren; and one great grandchild.

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BISHOP EUGENE SLATER

Elected on the 1st ballot, at noon June 23, at the South Central Jurisdictional Conference, San Antonio, Texas. Received 204 votes; 187 were required to elect.

Born: September 10, 1906 in Sibley, La.

Education: B.A., Southern Methodist University, 1930
B.D., Perkins School of Theology, S.M.U., 1932
D.D., McMurry College, Abilene, Texas, 1951

Married: Eva B. Richardson of Dallas, Tex., an SMU graduate, in Nov. 1931.

Children: Mrs. H. Kipling Edenborough, Princeton, N. J.
Stewart, a senior in high school

Pastorate:

Joined Southwest Texas Conference in Oct. 1932. He served four churches in the San Antonio vicinity (Rochelle, Maynard, Woodlawn and Osene). In 1944 he became pastor of the Bering Memorial Methodist Church. In 1950 he became pastor of the Pelk Street Methodist Church in Amarillo, Texas, transferring to the Northwest Texas Conference at that time. He had been pastor of the Pelk St. Church when he was elected bishop.

Past offices; and activities.

1952 - Dean of the Texas Conference School of Missions
1952, In August he was one of 16 guests of the U. S. Navy on a cruise to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
1954 - He was an accredited visitor to the Evanston Assembly of the World Council of Churches.
Past president - Amarillo Ministerial Association
1956 - He and Mrs. Slater visited Methodist missions in 6 countries of South America during Nov. and Dec.

Present positions:

Chairman of the Administrative Council of the Northwest Texas Conference
Chairman of the Texas Methodist Commission on Christian Higher Education
Member of the Board of Trustees of Texas Wesleyan College, Ft. Worth
" " " " " " " McMurry College, Abilene

Delegates:

1948 South Central Jurisdictional Conference, El Paso, Texas
1956 General Conference, and Jurisdictional Conf. of 1956