

The Wayne E. Oates Institute Pays Special Tribute to the Life and Work of Andrew D. Lester



Andrew D. Lester, 70, died Thursday, June 10, 2010, in Fort Worth, Texas. His Memorial service will be at 4 p.m. Sunday, June 13 at Broadway Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas. Andy Lester was born to Andrew and Dorothy Lester on Aug. 8, 1939. He met Judy, his wife of 50 years, in the eighth grade in Coral Gables, Florida. Andy and Judy both graduated from Mississippi College.

Having experienced a call to ministry during a Baptist retreat in high school, Andy pursued a career in pastoral care and counseling at Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, Ky. As a professor, counselor and author serving at Southern Baptist Seminary and Texas Christian University's Brite Divinity School, Andy touched the lives of countless ministers and their families.

As a licensed marriage and family therapist, Andy guided many families through the challenges and crises of life. As a team, Andy and Judy provided marriage enrichment workshops that have strengthened marriages for decades.

Andy authored seminal books - impacting the field of pastoral care and counseling. His writings addressed hope, anger, marriage, relating to aging parents, and caring for children in crises. His books included:

- *Hope in Pastoral Care and Counseling* by Andrew D. Lester (Paperback - Jan. 1, 1995)
- *The Angry Christian* by Andrew D. Lester (Paperback - Jan. 1, 2003)
- *Anger: Discovering Your Spiritual Ally* by Andrew D. Lester (Paperback - May 1, 2007)
- *It Takes Two* by Andrew D. Lester (Paperback - Jan. 1, 1998)
- *When Children Suffer* by Andrew D. Lester (Paperback - Jan. 1, 1987)
- *Understanding Aging Parents* (Christian Care Books, 8) by Andrew D. Lester and Judith L. Lester (Paperback - Sept. 1980)

Having served as a close colleague and friend of Wayne E. Oates, Andy co-authored the book, *Spiritual Dimensions of Pastoral Care: Witness to the Ministry of Wayne E. Oates* by Gerald L. Borchert and Andrew D. Lester (Paperback - Apr. 1985)

Andy's greatest gift to the world was his unconditional love, a love which was extended to family, friends, students, mentees, congregants, counselees, and Sunday school members. Andy treated everyone with the same level of respect and showed genuine interest and care for everyone with whom he came into contact.