

Ralph Wahlen Funeral

October 29, 2005

Welcome

- Welcome to all that are here
- Express thanks on behalf of the Wahlen family
 - Support this past week
 - Service over the past few years

Ralph Wahlen

- Moved into our ward not that long ago from Farmington Ward
 - When it was clear that he and Lylus could not take care of each other
- Bro Wahlen attended Farmington Ward so Shelly Gale could attend her ward meetings
 - Except for a couple of occasions when Lylus was under 24 hour care
- I would speak representing members of our ward and the Farmington Ward who knew and loved him
 - To the family gathered here
 - When I was in the hospital this week Ralph said to me:
 - "We didn't really get to *work* together"
 - Indicative of his outlook on life
 - Not "I didn't get to know you well" but "we didn't get to work together"
 - The one consistent thing when you listen to others describe Ralph was his Christ like attitude and treatment toward others
 - I witnessed this even in the hospital this week
 - I was amazed at his clarity of mind
 - I was touched by his loving concern for Lylus
 - Holding her hand
 - Saying I love you
 - We spoke of things
 - My father
 - College Football

- I was touched by two things when I was visiting him at the hospital this week
 - First: his concern for others
 - I witnessed him speaking words of comfort and encouragement to his daughters and sons-in-law
 - His obvious love and concern for Lylus
 - Making light of his circumstances to lift others
 - Second: his peace of mind
 - What a precious gift that is to receive from God
 - To witness the Spirit whispering peace to him
 - We can receive those whisperings:
 - When we feel "void of offense toward God and man"
 - When we have hope, faith, understanding and trust in God and of his plan of happiness for us.
 - When we know that death is but a new beginning to another phase of our existence
 - When we have hope and belief in the power of the atonement and resurrection
 - That as Christ lives we too may rise and live again
- It was so right in the Spirit of God, in those few minutes he and I were alone and as he spoke a few words to his bishop to leave with him my blessing of peace
- I'm sure that Bro Wahlen would want his family and friends to have this same peace
- Testify - And so we can