



John 3:16 (NKJV) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

On several occasions during Rod's illness, we discussed his wishes and funeral plans. It was a very real possibility that he might not make it so plans were in his and our best interests.

It's not easy to think about funeral plans for anyone, but especially for someone you love. I remember asking Rod questions like who he would like to be his pallbearers and what hymns he would want sung. We would talk about mine and our daughter's futures without him. It wasn't an easy task and definitely not uplifting conversation.

Not long before his death, Jesus told his disciples he would be leaving them and naturally they were distraught. But he told them not to be troubled and he encouraged them with the fact that even though he was leaving, one day he would return. He would see them again and they would always be together.

John 14:1-3 (NLT) "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me. There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am."

Thinking about a funeral was a sobering thought and forced me to accept the reality that Rod could be leaving me. It was something that I prayed would not happen but because Rod had made plans for his eternal life, I knew that even if he died, I would see him again in heaven. You see, years before, Rod had trusted in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior guaranteeing that when he left this earth he would just change his home address to a permanent one in heaven. God had already prepared a place for him. That's true for anyone who believes in God's Son, Jesus Christ. Believing and trusting Jesus' words, comforted my troubled heart.

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