

September 29, 2010

A precious part of Happy Feet International has gone on to Heaven. Butch Rice, a dear friend and partner in the ministry, has been called by our Lord to join Him in Heaven. Butch and his wife Brenda are longtime friends and have been going on 3-5 mission trips a year with Happy Feet for many years now. He was much more than a friend but a true ministry partner.

Butch and I met years ago as he and Brenda took their first trip to Ecuador through Wylie First Baptist Church (Wylie Texas). They moved to Cleveland Texas (outside of Houston Texas) soon after to take care of their parents. They continued to do many trips each year and supported the ministry in a tremendous way. Butch and I grew very close over the years and our families became just that "FAMILY". I watched Butch grow in his faith and share the Gospel with literally thousands of people over the past several years. There is no telling how many must be in Heaven today simply because of his obedience and love to GO AND TELL.

The lessons I personally learned from him will last a life-time and I will carry him in my heart on all of my future trips. Please keep Brenda in your prayers as she will surely miss him along with his children Michael, Gregory, and Julia. I shared at his funeral service how he has left a great legacy behind for all of us to follow. He will be missed and I will forever be a better man for having him in my life. Thank you, Lord Jesus, for my brother, Franklin David "Butch" Rice.

Lastly, I will be taking a team to Costa Rica Oct. 23 on an Extreme trip so please be in prayer about our safety and that many will come to Jesus.

Serving Him together,  
Bill Conlee

