

Philip Terrell Chandler, age 71, of McCalla, Alabama, passed away on August 19, 2026. He was born on September 23, 1954 in Fort Bragg, North Carolina to Dean and Frances Chandler.

Phil grew up in Montgomery, Alabama and graduated from Sydney Lanier High School. He earned a Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance and pursued a Master in Choral Conducting from the University of Alabama. He also obtained a Master of Christian Education from Reformed Theological Seminary (Jackson, MS).

He integrated his love of doctrine and of musical excellence in service to congregations in Stone Mountain, GA; Naples, FL; Fort Myers, FL; and Hickory, PA. In retirement he supported the worship and ministry of churches in Memphis, TN, and McCalla, AL.

A choir director and organist known for his faith, sharp wit, love of books, and passion for Alabama football, he was a natural teacher even without an official classroom. He never stopped learning, reading (especially theology, history, and fiction), and sharing excerpts with anyone who would listen.

He loved his family fiercely and is survived by his wife of 51 years, Jennifer Swann Chandler; children Elizabeth Chandler, Rebecca Harmon (Matthew), Katherine McClure (Matthew), Philip Chandler (Lesley née Wildes), and Savannah Overheim (Steven); thirteen grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

A service will be held on September 5 at 10:30 a.m. at Tannehill Valley Baptist Church, 12858 Tannehill Parkway, McCalla, AL, 35111.

