



Ambassador
Nurturing the life of the Institute

Special Ambassador Update

Ambassadors nurture the life of the Institute for Discipleship through their prayers, advocacy, and financial support, advancing the Kingdom of God worldwide.



Richard Byrd Wilke (1930-2025)

Bishop Richard Wilke, co-founder of the Institute for Discipleship, died peacefully on Easter morning, April 20, with family members at his side. He was 94 years old.

Dick and Julia Wilke co-wrote the Disciple Bible Study, which has been used by more than three million persons to strengthen their own Bible literacy and faith. In 2001, the Wilkes founded the Richard and Julia Wilke Institute for Discipleship at

Southwestern College, dedicating it to providing online Christian educational resources and encouraging small-group study

Funeral services will be at 11 am. Tuesday, May 6, at First United Methodist Church in Winfield.

For a full obituary and more details, visit the Institute for Discipleship website at [this link](#).

[Obituary Link](#)

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