

Anthony "Tony" Floyd Adams

May 23, 1942 - October 24, 2015

Following a private burial service, a celebration of life service for Anthony "Tony" Adams, 73, of Tyler, is scheduled for 10:00 AM., Saturday, October 31, 2015 at West Erwin Church of Christ, Tyler, with Dr. Jay Lockhart and Don Crawford officiating under the direction of Stewart Family Funeral Home. This service is open to everyone who would like to attend. Visitation in the foyer of the Church will follow the celebration of life service. Mr. Adams passed from this life on Saturday, October 24, 2015, in his home with his wife Mary at his side.

He was born May 23, 1942 in Alice, Texas to Floyd William and Leta Maxine Erwin Adams. He was a graduate of Gaston High School, Kilgore College and East Texas State University in Commerce. He was a member of Glenwood Church of Christ for 15 years and West Erwin Church of Christ for 35 years. Also, he contributed to the building fund at Whitehouse Church of Christ where he attended his last church service before his death.

He taught woodworking at Kilgore High School, demonstrating his own furniture building techniques as examples for his students. Also he worked as a draftsman at Howe-Baker, and with that experience, returned to his life's calling-teaching. He spent 44 of his 49 years teaching drafting-engineering graphics and design at Chapel Hill High School where he was currently employed.

Under his leadership, his students won numerous awards that lead to fifteen State Championships and five National Championships in drafting, especially

in bridge and architectural design. Also, he was honored as the top teacher in the State of Texas, followed by being awarded the top drafting program in the State. However when asked how he wanted to be remembered, he always answered, "As a Christian, Christ died for me, and that is the greatest honor and gift anyone could ever receive." He lived what he believed and daily preached his own funeral through his exemplary life.

Survivors include his wife of over 50 years, Mary B. Wright Adams; daughter, Abby Adams; son, Mark Adams, all of Tyler; and two sisters, Tommie and husband Roy Vinson and Linda and husband Rickey Chapman all of Henderson, Texas. Also, he is survived by many nieces and nephews, as well as great nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents Floyd and Maxine Adams, and brother, Gene Adams.

Pallbearers are Mark Adams, James Surber, Stan Mallory, Frank Debenport, Charles Payne and Lamond Deen.

Honorary pallbearers are Roland Lane and Dewayne Bethea.

Mr. Adams wanted to express a special appreciation for his caring doctors; Dr. Thomas Buzbee and his professional staff at TIMA in Tyler; Drs. Patel, Thomas, John and Olson at Clements of UT Southwestern in Dallas. Tony also wanted to thank the hard-working nurses who cared for him on floor 12 at Clements. Bless each one of you.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to The Hospice of East Texas, 4111 University Blvd., Tyler 75701, www.hospiceofeasttexas.org. West Erwin Church of Christ, 420 W. Erwin, Tyler, 75702 or Whitehouse Church of Christ, P O Box 183, Whitehouse, 75791.

Previous Events

Service

OCT **31**. 10:00 AM (CT)

West Erwin Church of Christ
420 W. Erwin St
Tyler, TX 75703

Visitation and reception after service

OCT **31**. 11:00 AM (CT)

West Erwin Church of Christ
420 W. Erwin St
Tyler, TX 75703

Tribute Wall

SO

“ *Mr Adams taught me drafting and was such a wonderful teacher. He was so kind & truly cared about each student. He will be missed tremendously but heaven has gained a truly good man. RIP sir.* ”

Sue Maynard Ohnheiser - September 09, 2016 at 10:12 PM

 Larry
Thompson

“ *Thank you for being so dedicated to your calling. You will be missed.* ”

Larry Thompson class of 78

Larry Thompson - October 31, 2015 at 02:29 PM



“ *Mr. Adams was a very important person in the lives of a great many people. My dad taught me a great many things about how many things work. With that knowledge along with Mr. Adams' instruction in the "Language of Industry", aka drafting, I have been able to earn a great living for my family. I'm quite certain many who went through his class find themselves in the same situation. He always conducted himself in a respectful manor which made everyone put forth considerable effort to rise to his standard. There was never any doubt he was a Christian. He sure knew how to "Walk the Walk." Thank you Mr. Adams from me and my family.* ”

Justin Jackson, Class of '87

Justin Jackson - October 30, 2015 at 11:43 PM

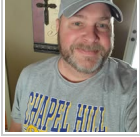
SH

“ For Mary, Abby, and Mark--

Indeed, I was sad to hear of Tony's passing. From the first time I met him, I could sense his kindness and compassion for others. He always struck me as one who was very supportive of his Mary. Although you will miss him, I hope that you can reflect on all the positive differences he has made in so many lives. Just reading some of these tributes has made me smile because they have captured what really matters about humanity: as part of God's creation, we should leave the world a better place from having been and lived in it. Tony more than met that goal. May God bless you.

*With love from,
Sarah Harrison*

Sarah Harrison - October 30, 2015 at 06:06 PM



“ I am saddened to hear of Mr. Adam's passing, but am very happy that he is in a much better place now and receiving many, many blessings for all of the help and positive influence he had on us students. I had three years of drafting with him and he had an enormous influence on my career and success in mechanical engineering. He once told me, "if you can make what you love into your profession, then you will be naturally successful and happy for all your days". So true Mr. Adams. I had intended to visit with him on my next trip to Tyler and I am sorry that I missed the opportunity to personally express the depths of my gratitude for the influence he had on my career and my life, a truly wonderful man, with a great sense of humor and the best possible role model, whom will be truly missed.

I wish peace and comfort to all family and friends. My heart and prayers go out to you.

~Tracy Milliff - Class of '82

Tracy Milliff - October 30, 2015 at 05:11 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Anthony "Tony" Floyd Adams.



October 30, 2015 at 03:56 PM

FR

“ I was sadden to hear about Tony. I was looking forward to visiting with him again this year at the awards ceremony. He was a good conversationalist and easy to talk with.
May God comfort and bless you and your family during this time.
Frank and Jackie Rucker

Frank Rucker - October 30, 2015 at 10:44 AM



“ I am so sad to hear of your passing.... You were my favorite teacher of all and always had a kind word and encouragement for each one. You never let us say we couldn't do something because you believed we could do anything! Such a wonderful teacher, man and loved his family. You will definitely be missed but heaven gained an angel.



Teresa Rains - October 29, 2015 at 09:30 PM

JJ

“ Mr Adams will be greatly missed. His direction and constant seeking of excellence were things I was blessed to have as an example. His teachings stayed with me still to this day and have helped me throughout life. His ability to maintain a calm demeanor while facing stress and seeking excellence provided a lifelong example which I used during my 21 year USAF career and continue as a government contractor. James Jones (83)



James Jones - October 29, 2015 at 07:23 PM

SG

“ I worked with Tony at Chapel Hill. He was a wonderful man. He will be greatly missed.

Shirley Gilley - October 29, 2015 at 06:54 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Anthony "Tony" Floyd Adams.



October 29, 2015 at 06:38 PM

SO

“ Mr. Adams will be greatly missed. He taught me drafting in HS at CHS. Loved that class. Very gentle & kind teacher!prayers for his family.



Sue Ohnheiser - October 29, 2015 at 06:17 PM

CW

“ Anthony was the kindest of men and had the sweetest spirit. He was much admired and will be missed by many. He has earned his place in heaven, a true man of God.

Carole Walker - October 29, 2015 at 05:49 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Anthony "Tony" Floyd Adams.*



October 29, 2015 at 04:25 PM



“ *"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."*
Well done Mr. Adams. ... susan patterson

Susan Patterson - October 29, 2015 at 12:43 PM



“ *I am so sad to hear of Mr. Adams passing. I have many memories of Mr. Adams and drafting class. He greeted ALL of his students at the door with a smile! He was one of my favorite teachers. My condolences to you, Mrs. Adams (I loved you as a teacher too!) and your family.*

Phyllis Cain Wells

Phyllis Wells - October 29, 2015 at 10:20 AM

 Alan
Johnston

“ *Mr. Adams always had a peaceful, sincere, gentle and kind disposition. During the years we worked together he never once said a negative word, seemed to have a bad day or complain. His kind spirit and servants heart will certainly be missed but the memories of how to embrace each other will live forever. I know God welcomed him with open arms and said "job well done my son"*

Our thoughts and prayers are with Tony's family and friends

Sincerely,

Coach Alan and Leann Johnston

Alan Johnston - October 29, 2015 at 08:49 AM

GP

“ *Words cannot express how we feel. Sympathy to you, Abbie and Mark. We have so many good memories of years gone by. May God Bless all of you.*

Charles and Gayle Payne

Gayle & Charles Payne - October 29, 2015 at 08:13 AM

DM

“ *All my life when asked who is someone that I admire and look up to, my person has always been Mr. Adams. He sent me on a career path that I am still on today. I had the greatest pleasure of having him for a teacher for three years ,being his first national TSA winner and working beside him for four. I learned how to letter extremely well because he always caught me with gum and I had to do lettering sheets over and over and over. He will always have a place in my heart! I'm so glad you are not suffering anymore Mr. Adams. You are going to be an awesome angel!*

DeAnna Williams Molloy. Class of 1989

Coworker 1998 to 2002

DeAnna Molloy - October 28, 2015 at 10:38 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Anthony "Tony" Floyd Adams.*



October 28, 2015 at 10:35 PM



“ *Mr. Adams was such a great teacher and role model. Prayers to his family. Class of '93*



Kristi Mordhorst - October 28, 2015 at 09:17 PM



“ *I took Drafting class from Mr. Adams in the late 70's. He was a great instructor and a good good man. Some of what I learned was very helpful to me in my later career. He was always very cheerful and had a passion for sharing his knowledge.*

Erich Wilson - October 28, 2015 at 09:02 PM



“ *Tony Adams was a friend and a guide! He loved a good laugh and enjoyed the time that God gave him. I will miss his that sharp sense of humor. God's blessings to Mrs. Adams and the entire family. God has given Mr. Adams a special place in heaven!*

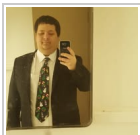
Krummie

Lisa Krumm - October 28, 2015 at 08:35 PM

BM

“ *Mr. Adams was truly exemplary and inspirational, both as a teacher and as a Christian, with such a kind, loving spirit... our loss, but Heaven's gain. We send deepest condolences to Mary, Mark, and Abby. Bettye Morris*

Bettye Morris - October 28, 2015 at 07:09 PM



“ *My frist day in high school i got lost but mr.adams help me out and i am grateful to have met an amazing Christian man*



Bryan Jones - October 28, 2015 at 06:49 PM



“ *The first engine I ever rebuilt in high school auto mechanics was the one in Mr.Adams Volkswagen. He was a great teacher and role model to us all. May he find a restful place in Heaven. My condolences and prayers are with his family.*

Mark Morrison - October 28, 2015 at 05:16 PM

DB

“ *I am sure the good Lord had 75 angels walk Mr. Adams through the gates of Heaven. Anyone who was ever late to his class will understand why. He demanded perfection no matter how small the project, a valuable lesson that most do no put in the time to teach anymore. I was blessed to get to spend 3 years of my life in his classroom and look forward to hearing him tell about the flea, the fly, and the flue when the Lord calls my name. Rest in Peace Mr. Adams, thank you for all the memories.*
-David Byrd (Class of '08)

DAVID BYRD - October 28, 2015 at 04:13 PM

BB

“ I am sorry to say I did not know Mr. Adams, but wished I did. I missed out on a great experience. Remarkable Christian man! God's comfort be with his family and all who knew him. You were blessed.



Becky A Bonilla
TJC

Becky A Bonilla - October 28, 2015 at 03:48 PM

TB


“ The year - 1976. First in-service meeting of the new school year at Chapel Hill High School and principal, T. Y. Harp assigned Tony Adams to be "buddy and mentor" to a first year theatre teacher. What a blessing that was for me! Although, I am sure at times Tony must have thought it was curse! I would make that long walk up the hill for advice and guidance many times in the next 32 years and he would always greet me with a warm smile, gentle hug and the best words of wisdom. Great educator, fellow faculty member and friend to all. What a life, what a legacy of students, what a man! Tony will be missed. Terri Procell Bowen

Terri Procell Bowen - October 28, 2015 at 03:44 PM

CL

“ As much hell as I gave this man as his student, as man I am truly blessed and grateful for the time he vested into me. He gave me the knowledge to earn scholarships to college, led me to carrier path I have yet to wavier from, and now blessed to care for my family by his teachings. He mentored me even when he wanted to probably kill me. I qualify as the only student he ever kicked out of class on the first day of school.... there may be others.
Mr. Adams thank you for everything and truly a blessing to my life and soul. RIP Sweet "T"... sorry I had to for good times sake

Cody Luke - October 28, 2015 at 02:38 PM

 Laura
Glover
Woods

“ Mr Adams was one of my favorite teachers. I really enjoyed his class everyday. I had a lot of fun in his class...he will be missed!!! Class of '91!!



Laura Glover Woods - October 28, 2015 at 01:36 PM

DW

“ I was sad to hear of Anthony's passing. I send my condolences to Mary and her family.

David Wright - October 28, 2015 at 01:34 PM

MT

“ Such an amazing man. My favorite teacher at CHHS (class of '92) for 4 years, he always saw more in me than I saw in myself. God bless the family, heaven received an angel.



Michelle (Bullington) Threadgill - October 28, 2015 at 12:48 PM



“ A favorite teacher to me and many. It's hard to believe that I was one of the lucky who was a drafting student of Mr. Adams - 32 years ago. Wow! You have made an impact on so many young people's lives. You will truly be missed. My condolences to all your family and friends.



Joe Reider - October 28, 2015 at 11:42 AM



“ Mr. Adams started me on the path to being an architect and designer. His encouragement and his ability to embrace change in that field really propelled Chapel Hill's drafting department. His ability to laugh and smile provided a safe environment to grow and learn. He was my favorite teacher and am so sad to hear of his passing. My thoughts go out to the family.... what a tremendous loss.

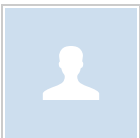
Marci Roberts

Marci Roberts - October 28, 2015 at 11:37 AM



“ Such a great man. I have many fond memories of Mr. Adams. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

Jan Harp - October 28, 2015 at 11:27 AM



“ Fruits and Blooms Basket was purchased for the family of Anthony "Tony" Floyd Adams.



October 27, 2015 at 09:25 AM

RA

“ *I will miss you pawpaw
RAM*

ram - October 27, 2015 at 08:07 AM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of
Anthony "Tony" Floyd Adams.*



October 26, 2015 at 10:45 PM

RD

“ *A fine teacher, a fine man. He will be missed. Condolences to the
family.*

Robert Durham - October 26, 2015 at 10:26 PM

NR

“ *In loving memory of my first cousin, Anthony. I will always cherish
special memories that all us cousins made growing up. You will be
missed. Sue*

Nancy Sue Rogers - October 26, 2015 at 09:05 PM



“ *Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for
the family of Anthony "Tony" Floyd Adams.*



October 26, 2015 at 08:33 PM