



Tom Shrum

September 24, 1942 - September 16, 2023

Tommy Starr Shrum, aged 80, passed away on Saturday, September 16, 2023, at Washington Regional Medical Center in Fayetteville. He was born on Thursday, September 24, 1942, at Pryor, Oklahoma, to Julian Curtis and Roma Jean Holt Shrum.

Tom was united in marriage with Mary Reed on October 4, 1985, and became a family with her son, Travis Reed. That family included his children, Todd and Cindy; and later their grandchildren. Tom was co-owner of Madison County Telephone and Cable Company, which his parents purchased in 1957. He also served in many ways for the Arkansas Telephone Association as a member and where he made many lifelong friends. Tom was also a farmer for 30 years and took great pride in the family farm that he worked. He and Mary found joy in their travels over the years, with their most cherished trips being those shared with their grandchildren skiing and beach vacations with family and friends. Tom took pride in his Cherokee Indian heritage and enjoyed sharing it with others through his Indian Card. Tom had an incredible love for people, and people loved him in return. He also had a unique sense of humor, often teasing his loved ones, which was his way of showing affection, and had the best belly laugh! He was known to give nicknames to his friends and loved ones. When asked what he wanted said in his obituary, he said laughing, "Tell them I'm dead and I'm not coming back!" That was Tom.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents, Curtis and Roma Jean Shrum, as well as his daughter, Cindy Jackson, and son, Todd Shrum. He leaves behind his wife, Mary Shrum, of the home and his legacy continues through his son and daughter-in-law, Travis and Jennifer Reed, of Fayetteville, and seven cherished grandchildren, Slater Shrum, Cutter Shrum, Taylor Shrum, Tasha Jackson, Hunter Reed, Spencer Reed, and Grace Reed. Tom also leaves behind his brother and sister-in-law, Joe and Claudette Shrum, of Huntsville; his many dear friends, and his adored dogs, Belle and Sadie.

Tom will be remembered and missed. We will hold his memory in our hearts. He was so loved. Tom was special. At the root of grief is love, and love heals all.

A memorial service to celebrate Tom's life will be held at 10:00 AM, Thursday, September 21, 2023, at Brashears Funeral Home, with Robert Trinkle and Travis Dotson officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that memorial donations in Tom's name be made to The Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America (myasthenia.org). Services are entrusted to Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory of Huntsville.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP 21. 10:00 AM (CT)

Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory
509 North Gaskill Street
Huntsville, AR 72740
(479) 738-2123
<https://www.brashearsfuneralhome.net/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Tom Shrum*



Brashears Funeral Home and Crematory, Inc. - September 19, 2023 at 04:22 PM

EM

“ *Sending a most heart felt message of love for Tom and all of his wonderful family... prayers through this difficult time.. / Euna McKnight*

Euna McKnight - September 21, 2023 at 05:18 PM

JS

“ *Our prayers go out for the family Jamie Sparks and Janet Coger.*

Jamie Sparks - September 21, 2023 at 12:20 PM

KI

“ *He was such a blessing to my son! So many amazing times for Lou and friends at “The Farm.”*

Kim - September 21, 2023 at 11:27 AM

BL

“ I met Tom in Hawaii in 1988, and really got acquainted on the road to Hana.

Tom's mannerisms reminded me of an older brother who I had lost 10 years earlier. I learned two things on the trip-one was that he would become a very close friend and -two that I could not drink as much beer as He.

We remained friends through many shared trips to Telephone meetings and especially on trips for fun in Destin.

One special characteristic Tom had was that he would not allow anyone to be the last giver. Do something for Tom and be sure to watch for his answer to that gift with a gift for you.

I loved Tom like a Brother and will miss him and his presence Tremendously.

Buddy Lovell

buddy LOVELL - September 21, 2023 at 09:53 AM

WB

“ Tom pulls up smoking his cigar and I just finished mowing his yard, he gets out and says - I don't think you need to mow this week, yard looks good. I replied, yeah, I just got done lol.

Wavey Boyd - September 20, 2023 at 07:20 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Tom Shrum.

September 20, 2023 at 01:02 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Tom Shrum.*



September 20, 2023 at 01:02 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Tom Shrum.*



September 20, 2023 at 12:02 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Tom Shrum.*

September 20, 2023 at 10:40 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Tom Shrum.*



September 20, 2023 at 10:40 AM

BW

“ Prayers for Tom’s family and friends.

Tommy and Billie Whorton

Billie Whorton - September 20, 2023 at 10:34 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Tom Shrum.

September 20, 2023 at 08:55 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Tom Shrum.



September 20, 2023 at 08:55 AM

CR

“ So sorry for your loss. Prayers for the family.

Charlinda Reeves - September 20, 2023 at 03:24 AM

CG

“ You are in our thoughts and prayers

Charles and Betty Jo Gurley - September 20, 2023 at 03:22 AM

CG

“ You are in our thoughts and prayers,

Charles and Betty Jo Gurley - September 20, 2023 at 03:21 AM

JR

“ *Mary and family, we are so very sorry for your loss of Tom. I know he will be missed greatly. Our prayers go out to you and all the family.* ”

Jeff and Sara Reeves - September 20, 2023 at 01:46 AM

FR

“ *Tom was one of the finest gentlemen I have ever had the pleasure to be around. His sense of humor and contagious laugh were one of a kind.* ”

Franklin Ray - September 19, 2023 at 04:57 PM

CC

“ *Central Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Tom Shrum.* ”



Central Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, - September 19, 2023 at 03:35 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Tom Shrum.* ”



September 19, 2023 at 03:31 PM