



## Edward Reese Sharpe

April 5, 1936 - October 16, 2024

Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford

Edward Reese Sharpe of Oxford, MS, loving family member, teacher, and role model passed away peacefully at the age of 88 on Wednesday October 16, 2024, at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Oxford.

Ed was predeceased by his parents Beverly and Carrie Sharpe; his sister, Beverly Dance; her husband Philip Dance; and nephew-in-law, Tom Downs.

He is survived by nieces and nephews: Libby Nix (George); Carol Downs; Darrell Dance (Mary); Allen Dance (Pam); and numerous great nieces and nephews. Ed also took a significant fatherly role in the lives of Rodney Isbell (Kathy); Michael Scott (Amy); and members of their families, creating many great memories and holiday traditions together.

After graduating from Messick High School, Ed attended the University of Mississippi. He honorably served in the U.S. Army and started out in law enforcement as a deputy sheriff with Shelby County. Young at heart, Ed transitioned to education, where he found immense joy teaching for many years. Ed retired from both the Memphis City Schools as well as Oxford High School and later became an instructor at the University of Mississippi. A passionate scholar of history and geography, Ed excelled in teaching social

studies to his students. He also coached golf and swimming as well as led numerous programs such as the HI-Y club, youth legislature, and mock trial. Ed sponsored a German foreign exchange program at Oxford High leading to ongoing post-retirement visits to Germany to spend time and visit friends. He was known for his extraordinary storytelling, great sense of humor, generous spirit, and joy for life. Ed was a selfless soul who volunteered with various charities and was a longtime member of the Lion's Club.

The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to the amazing staff at The Pinnacle of Oxford Assisted Living, as well as his medical practitioners, for the compassionate care and support they provided to Ed over the past year.

Ed was a devoted member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Oxford, MS. A memorial service and visitation will be held on Friday, November 1, starting at 10:00 AM, followed by the funeral service at 11:00 AM at the church, located at 113 South 9th Street, Oxford, MS 38655.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Oxford Lions Club, PO Box 1751, Oxford, MS 38655.

Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford staff is honored to serve the family during this challenging season of life. Online condolences may be composed on his tribute wall at [www.colemanfuneralhomeox.com](http://www.colemanfuneralhomeox.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
113 South 9th Street  
Oxford, MS 38655

## Memorial Service

NOV 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
113 South 9th Street  
Oxford, MS 38655

# Tribute Wall

KJ

“ I knew Mr. Sharpe when I was a student at Hillcrest Jr./Sr. High School in Memphis. I had him for homeroom in seventh grade, and American history in eighth grade. Because of our differing sports loyalties, we always gave each other a hard time; in fact, some of my friends from those days might be surprised to see me writing such nice things about him! The truth is, he was one of my all-time favorite teachers. I developed an interest in history when I was little, and Mr. Sharpe helped turn that interest into a passion for history that continues to this day. I enjoyed reconnecting with him on Facebook, and even though he'd gotten in on years, he was still the same old Mr. Sharpe! Of course, by that time I also had some years and maturity on me, so I gained a new respect for his knowledge and wisdom. He will be missed, but he leaves a long legacy of students he influenced through the years. Condolences to his family and friends who remain.

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**Ken Jones** - March 20 at 11:28 AM

EN

“ Of all the teachers at Whitehaven High School, 1966-70, Mr Sharpe was one of the best, most enjoyable and well liked in the school. He was I think the only teacher from our years there to attend several of our reunions. I will always remember his expression "you little kiddie babes..."....God Bless

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**Ernie Norsworthy** - October 26, 2024 at 11:31 AM

JH

“ More than 20 years ago, Ed was especially kind to Marco, our German exchange student at Oxford High. This tribute wall shows that his great kindness extended to a great many, including large numbers of international visitors. What a generous life!

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**Joan Wylie Hall** - October 24, 2024 at 02:16 PM

RJ

“ How we will miss our dear Ed. He was my St. Peter's contact with Memphis for he taught at Shelby County Schools.

*When I borrowed his little Saturn car, for I had no car in those days, Ed sold it to me for \$30.00.*

*Ed was a faithful driver and worker for our dance project that toured Delta and other schools. He was always one to jump in and help a good cause.*

*And of course, he was a participant in St. Peter's Telling leading the music for our compassionate work at NMRC.*

*He was always able to loan us a truck when we needed hauling. The Jernigan Family will miss him.*

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**rebecca jernigan** - October 23, 2024 at 05:42 PM

HS

“ *I will always joyfully remember my time with Ed! He helped us so much at Yocona International Folk Festival, and all our guests from Romania, Finland, Togo, Egypt and all over the world loved being with him, too.*

*Ed challenged conventional wisdom for me, like when he put forth that Americans were and perhaps are still very rebellious - cause for my self-reflection. He also appreciated quality work and expressed it beautifully.*

*With gratitude and joy, my sincerest condolences to the family of a great man, a servant to others.*

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**Hugh Sloan** - October 23, 2024 at 03:39 PM

MW

“ Ed was a great help with our Yocona International Folk Festival. He served as driver, but also delightful and informative group guide in Oxford and across our North Mississippi tours to Clarksdale, Marks, Tupelo, Indianola.

Oxford Lions Club will miss Ed for his active service in the community, especially in vision testing as well as providing glasses to disadvantaged people who needed them.

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**Mary Weatherwax** - October 23, 2024 at 03:28 PM