



Harry Wesley Byrum

August 15, 2014

Harry Wesley Byrum, 71, died Friday, August 15, 2014, at the Oxford Health and Rehab Center in Oxford, MS.

Born in Shelby County, MO, Mr. Byrum had lived in the Oxford area since 1974 after moving here from Missouri. He taught school for 38 years in Oxford and in Missouri. After retiring, Mr. Byrum enjoyed several activities including a hobby farm, a ham radio operator, a member of the American Legion and the NRA. He was a Methodist.

Visitation will be held Sunday, August 17, 2014, 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. at Coleman Funeral Home Branch Facility, 106 Allison Cove, Oxford, MS. A graveside service will be held Monday, August 18, 2014, at 11:00 a.m. at the Sturgis City Cemetery, Sturgis, MS. Rev. Sarah Jo Adams-Wilson will officiate. Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford will be in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Patricia Frazier Byrum of Oxford, MS and one sister, Clara Cain of Ft. Myers, FL.

Memorials may be made to the Palmer Home for Children, P.O. Box 746, Columbus, MS 39703.

Online condolences may be left on the Coleman Funeral Home Tribute Wall.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 17. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Coleman Funeral Home of Oxford
601 Commerce Parkway
Oxford, MS 38655
(662) 234-3900
info@colemanfuneralhome.com
<https://www.colemanfuneralhome.com/>

Graveside Service

AUG 18. 11:00 AM (CT)

Sturgis City Cemetery
Sturgis, MS 39769

Tribute Wall

HM

“ *Mr. Byrum was a gifted educator, mentor, and friend. I was privileged to be a co-worker of his at the old Oxford Middle School. May his soul rest in peace.*
Horace L. McKay(OMS-1994-1998)

Horace McKay - August 19, 2014 at 08:49 PM

NR

“ *Mr. Byrum also taught at College Hill Academy I had Spanish under him and we spent many hours outside school together hunting which he loved very much. He was a good friend and person to be around as a growing teenager.*

Norris Robbins - August 18, 2014 at 04:55 AM

SL

“ *Mr. Byrum had the rare gift of imparting a deep love of the English Language to students who were otherwise unaware of it's beauty. I can still recall him reciting in Middle English, and feeling captivated by hearing my own language sound so foreign. He was a good man. A thing that is all too rare.*

Rest in Peace, Sir.

Stuart M. Lacy - August 17, 2014 at 10:03 PM

C(

“ *Mr. Byrum touched my life with his love of literature. He made me fall in love with it as well. The way he told stories and made you feel as if you were there. To this day I can't read *The Red Pony* or *Where the Red Fern Grows* without thinking of him. He told me it was ok to cry while reading a great book. I once saw him long after I graduated high school and thanked him for being such an amazing teacher and influence. He smiled and humbly said he was just doing what he loved. You are loved Mr. Byrum. You will be missed. Prayers of peace to your family.*

Chastity Wofford (Manor) - August 17, 2014 at 09:33 PM

PF

“ *Rest in Peace and God's Love, Mr. Byrum. You were the BEST!*

Portia Pray Franks - August 17, 2014 at 09:26 PM

MH

“ *Mr Byrum was my 7th grade english teacher back in the late 1980's He was a great teacher and I actually like coming to class. All I know is that I passed his class and had a lot of laughs. Mr. Byrum will be missed. My thoughts go out to his family.*

Martha Hill - August 17, 2014 at 08:22 PM

LA

“ *Mr. Byrum was one of my favorite teachers. He was funny, kind, and made English class something we all looked forward to. Throughout the years I've never forgotten him. He will be missed by so many. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.*

Linda Arrington - August 17, 2014 at 08:04 PM

LI

“ *Mr. Byrum was my English teacher in 7th grade at Oxford Jr. High in the late 1970s. That class was the first time I realized that there was such a thing as an "English" teacher as opposed to elementary teachers who always seemed to do a bit of everything. He was mesmerizing. I had many wonderful teachers who inspired me, and he was one. I'm now an English Professor at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. Thanks, Mr. Byrum. I'm praying for peace for his family.*

Lauren Sewell Ingraham - August 17, 2014 at 06:44 PM

RC

“ *Mr. By rum made learning fun. He was such a positive influence on hundreds of us.*

Ron Cox - August 17, 2014 at 04:21 PM

 Audra
Hale-
Maddox

“ *So many of us have such good memories of classes with Mr. Byrum! We read aloud a number of old English ballads in his class, and his love of the richness of the language always shone through. I pray that he will rest in peace and that good memories will comfort his loved ones. - Audra Hale-Maddox*

Audra Hale-Maddox - August 17, 2014 at 04:08 PM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Harry Wesley Byrum.*



August 16, 2014 at 12:49 PM

AS

“ Many Oxford School District faculty and staff will remember Harry from his years teaching English, first at the old Junior High down the hill, then up the hill at the new Middle School.

Mr. Byrum was a gifted teacher. He inspired his students to appreciate the richness of the English language, and motivated them to be curious and interested in many facets of knowledge. He never talked down to them; they returned his respect.

Harry was a beloved colleague. He was steady, calm, reliable, and kind, and had a dry sense of humor. A raised eyebrow and twinkle in his eye were the only indicators that a droll remark was about to issue forth.

Wearing his trademark suspenders and sporting his "Ernest Hemingway" beard, Mr. Byrum was unique figure in the OMS halls. It was a joy to be his colleague and friend.

Anne Steel

Anne Steel - August 15, 2014 at 09:55 PM

SL

Harry was one of those teachers who inspired his students. He taught my son Stuart and always asked about him. He also was a cat person like me and my family. He was one of those special teachers that students always remember. His legacy will live on through those students.

Sarah T. Lacy - August 17, 2014 at 09:49 AM

Cynthia Kahler

All students who had Harry and all teachers who worked with him will always remember Harry's calm and quiet demeanor and his sense of humor. A wonderful man who all students and teachers loved. Prayers for his wife Pat at this time.

Cynthia Kahler - August 17, 2014 at 04:57 PM



He taught us all a little something about life, love, and english. I will miss him dearly! He was one of my best teachers.

Karissa Marler - August 18, 2014 at 08:22 AM