



Joe Mack Crews

April 12, 1941 - August 6, 2025

Joe Mack Crews was born April 12, 1941, in Arden, AR to Joe C. and Mary Lou Crews.

He attended elementary school in Arden and graduated from Ashdown High School in 1959.

Joe went on to further his education by attending Southwestern Bible College in Waxahachie, TX, and receiving his Bachelor of Science Degree at Arkansas State College in Jonesboro, AR.

Joe met Cindy at a Wednesday night church service in Beebee, AR. They were married on May 31st, 1964. They began a beautiful long life together in Arden, AR.

Joe always had a love for gardening which stemmed from his parents and grandparents pioneering spirits. He ran the family farm for over 60 years. His passion for agriculture included raising poultry, cattle, hogs, and a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, and flowers. He was known for his knowledge of grafting trees and raising premium produce to sell, including truckloads of watermelons.

Joe's most important contribution to agriculture was his gift for teaching. He

touched the lives of thousands of students during his 41 years as an educator, bus driver, and mentor. He always treated each child as his own, meaning they were blessed as his son Shannon and daughter, Deann.

Through the years, the family spent time raising livestock and cultivating the land. As the kids grew, they brought countless friends to the house where “Mr. Joe & Mrs. Cindy” helped raise them all.

Joe is preceded in death by his wife of 59 years Francis Lousidney Crews, his parents Joe C. & Mary Lou Crews, son-n-law Eddie Hays, and son Mark Anthony.

Joe is Survived by his son Shannon Crews and wife Jennifer of Arden, AR, his daughter Deann Hays of Arden, AR, one brother Mike Crews and wife Janie of Van Buren, AR, one sister Mary Jane Ambler and husband Travis of Arden, AR. One step granddaughter Haley North or Ponder, TX, two step great granddaughters Grayson and Mayce.

A visitation will be held Friday August 8, 2025, from 6-8pm at Madden Funeral Home in Ashdown, AR. Funeral Services will be Saturday August 9, 2025, at 10am at Madden Funeral Home with interment to follow at Arden, Cemetery with Roy Cromer officiating.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 8. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Madden Funeral Home - Ashdown
371 N 3rd Street
PO Box 428
Ashdown, AR 71822
(870) 898-3331
<https://maddenfuneralservice.com/>

Funeral Service

AUG 9. 10:00 AM (CT)

Madden Funeral Home - Ashdown
371 N 3rd Street
PO Box 428
Ashdown, AR 71822
(870) 898-3331
<https://maddenfuneralservice.com/>

Interment

AUG 9 (CT)

Arden Cemetery
390 LR 11
Ashdown, AR 71822

Tribute Wall



“ *Madden Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Joe Mack Crews*



Madden Funeral Home - August 07, 2025 at 06:20 PM

BF

Praying for the family. I drove bus when Mr. Joe, was there. And enjoyed talks about his kids on the bus. Wood working and gardening He will be miss.

Billy & Kay Fowler - August 08, 2025 at 10:36 AM

CS

Much love to the family. May you be comforted by the love and peace of Christ. I am so sorry for you loss. Claudia Steed

Claudia Steed - August 08, 2025 at 09:32 PM

D(

Our family wishes to express our sorrow at the passing of Joe Mack/Mr. Crews. His kindness and his caring attitude toward his students will not be forgotten. Pat (Burns) Richardson and children Todd & Debbie

Debbie (Richardson) - August 10, 2025 at 05:10 PM

HP

Joe Mack and Cindy were our neighbors in the early 80s. He taught me a greenhorn the elements of gardening and raising livestock. He was also a fine Christian gentleman. You and Cindy enjoy eternity with our blessed Savior Jesus. I dont know about streets of gold but green pastures and black Brangus cows would be fine.

Harlie Patterson - August 13, 2025 at 10:26 AM

MF

“ Memories linger of Joe, I met him when he enrolled at Arkansas State and his years of teaching vocational agriculture. Joe served as a night policeman while enrolled in college, checking doors etc on campus
My condolences to the family and may the LORD bless each of 3

Marion Fletcher - August 10, 2025 at 07:23 PM

RB

“ Joe Mack was a very caring and good man. He was also a very good and inciteful teacher that was very knowledgeable in many areas and not just studies, about life itself. He was also a very good family friend over the many yrs that I've known him and he will be no doubt missed by the many people that knew him. Sure sorry for y'all's loss Shannon and De Ann. Reuben Ray Burke

Reuben Ray Burke - August 09, 2025 at 07:36 PM

SB

“ Condolences to all the family! I remember Joe Mack as a really nice young man in our '59 AHS class. It was always pleasant at our Reunions. He must had a green arm (not just a green thumb!) I viewed all the video! RIP, Joe Mack

Sara & Herman Barnett - August 09, 2025 at 04:16 PM

BG

“ I absolutely loved substituting for Mr. Crews. He would smile and tell me that I was the only substitute who used the wood lathe and make baseball bats for the students. He would request me and this meant the world to me knowing he trusted me in his shop. While managing Big Jake’s he would come in and let me buy all the second tomato’s for my salsa. He was the kindest most genuine man and had a contagious smile. His love for others is definitely seen in his children. He will be missed so bad. I thank God I had the opportunity to know him.

Beverly Glanville - August 09, 2025 at 03:45 PM

BS

“ Bobbie L Schuetz lit a candle in memory of Joe Mack Crews



Bobbie L Schuetz - August 08, 2025 at 09:24 PM

TW

“ Mr Crews was my bus driver for many years. He was stern but fair and always kind. We always knew when he pulled the bus over by the bank we were in for a loooong talking to - no A/C or breeze blowing through the open windows. But everyone respected him and he always kept us safe. Such a gentle and kind soul. Praying for Deann and Shannon as they mourn the loss of both their sweet parents.

Tammy Barton Winters - August 08, 2025 at 11:16 AM

PL

“ Praying 🙏 for the family. Mr Crews was always a friendly person to all..

Patsy little - August 08, 2025 at 09:29 AM

DI

“ Dave and Gwlynda Irek planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joe Mack Crews.

Dave and Gwlynda Irek - August 08, 2025 at 12:10 AM

DI

“ Dave and Gwlynda Irek purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Joe Mack Crews.



Dave and Gwlynda Irek - August 08, 2025 at 12:10 AM

TR

“ Some teachers teach lessons that stay in our minds for a while. You taught lessons that will stay in my heart for a lifetime. I loved my favorite teacher, I even took agri because of him. I will cherish all the memories!!!! Till we meet again Mr.Crews!!!

Tracie Snead Robinson - August 08, 2025 at 12:10 AM

DW

A good friend, great Christian man and very talented man. Will be missed by many people. See you later, Joe.

Donnie Walden - August 08, 2025 at 07:13 PM

TC

“ *Mr. Crews was wonderful man.
He taught my children in school. He was my bus driver, my
children's bus driver and 2 of my grandsons rode his bus. It was
always a nice surprise to run into him in town. Prayers for the family.*

Teresa Cowart - August 07, 2025 at 06:12 PM