



## Odis E. Crudup

August 15, 1949 - May 3, 2021

Odis E. Crudup Jr., 71, of Hot Springs passed away, Monday, May 3, 2021. He was born August 15, 1949 in Hot Springs to the late Odis & Elizabeth Hill Crudup Sr. He retired after 42 years of service with the Hot Springs School district as a teacher and bus driver; he was an avid Dallas Cowboys fan and was Church of Christ faith.

He was predeceased by his parents; wife, Barbara Crudup; daughter, Erika Crudup and son, Christopher Crudup.

He is survived by his daughters, Kimberly (Anthony) Walker, Tiffany Crudup; sister, Brendalyn (Stephen) Crudup Appoh; his special friend, Belinda Johnson; a daughter-in-law, Christy Crudup; grandchildren, Anthony "Nick" Walker, Ryan Walker, Makayla Crudup, Quinton Crudup, Sidney Perkins and Jordan Perkins.

Visitation will be 3:00 to 5:30 PM Friday at Hot Springs Funeral Home with service to follow a 6:00 P.M.

Burial will be private.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **14.** 3:00 AM - 5:30 AM (CT)

Hot Springs Funeral Home  
1017 Central Avenue

# Tribute Wall

JE

“ I met Odis when we were patrol boys. He was a Goldenstin. I was at Douglas Elementary. We also were in the Boy Scouts together. Then when we got to Langston we were in a lot of classes together. Oh yeah and we played football together. So we did a lot of things together. I know he has no more pain. It still is very hard letting him go. I loved Odis as a brother. RIP my brother see you in Heaven!

*Rev Jerry J Evans*

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**Jerry J Evans** - May 14, 2021 at 01:52 PM

CF

“ Cousin. Ruth & Tony and Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Odis E. Crudup.



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**Cousin. Ruth & Tony and Family** - May 14, 2021 at 01:08 PM

B(

“ My sincere condolences to family of Odis, he was an all around great guy. Praying for all.



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**Beverly Thompson (Felton)** - May 13, 2021 at 01:31 PM

PB

*Odis was a kind, sweet and loving man. He had to bear so much pain and loss. My mom had told me there were relatives named Crudup and we met through an acquaintance after her death. ODIS took a piece of my heart with him when he went to be with the Lord. I thank God for allowing me the short time we had to visit and fellowship, and for the many laughs. Our time was precious. Sending thoughts and prayers to the family as they hold love and memories in their hearts, especially Makayla.*

*-- Patricia P. Banks*

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**Pat Percy Banks** - May 18, 2021 at 05:40 AM

AR

“ You never know what an impact someone will make on you - Mr. Crudup had that impact on me, and he never knew it. I was a shy eleven-year-old from the west coast who had the wrong pants, the wrong hair, and the wrong skin color to fit in on Mr. Crudup's bus. It was 1981, and I was one of the only white kids on his route. I got on the bus that first day and as I walked down the aisle every stare said "This seat's taken." I had nowhere to go.

*Mr. Crudup turned off the music, which he always played at full volume to drown out the kids (I still remember the song - "More Bounce to the Ounce" by Zapp) and everyone got quiet. "We ain't gonna be like that, y'all... this young man needs a place to sit."*

*And so his bus, 'The BlueBird,' sat there motionless until someone offered me a seat - a shy girl who would later become one of my best friends.*

*A black man, refusing to move his bus until the white kid was given a seat - a kind of Rosa Parks in reverse, I later came to recognize, except this time HE was the hero. Mr. Crudup stood up for me that day. When I saw his obituary in the paper, that memory came flooding back. I had to share it.*

*After that morning, whenever it was available, I sat in the seat right behind the driver and shouted at him over Rick James, The Gap Band, or Carl Carlton. He was a friend to me when I desperately needed one. That was forty years ago, and I STILL REMEMBER THE SONG THAT WAS PLAYING.*

*You never know what an impact someone will make on you, when kindness will make all the difference.*

*Alan Robinette  
Royal, Arkansas*

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Alan Robinette - May 12, 2021 at 04:19 PM

MA

*My sincere condolences to the Crudup family in their loss. May God comfort you and give a peace that surpasses all understanding.*  
*Miltonetta Atwater*

Miltonetta Atwater - May 13, 2021 at 11:18 PM

LS

*Mr Crudup was a special person! He had a way of handling things with humor and light. I rode the school bus everyday for 6 years while attending Rix then to Langston. Being a couple of the others and 1 of the 4 Clowers Family kids along with my cousin Dolores Mothers had that was crazy about Mr Crudup. He was an excellent teachers! Mr Crudup had way of keeping everyone in line without ever having to move from his seat. All he did was look back in the mirror with those eyes all while usually making a pun or funny comment that made everyone stop and listen. My sincere condolences to the family. Rest in peace Mr C!*

Laurie Sheets - December 19, 2021 at 10:28 AM

TA

“ *The Atwater's purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Odis E. Crudup.*



The Atwater's - May 11, 2021 at 10:47 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Odis E. Crudup.*



May 11, 2021 at 09:52 PM



“ *Memories of Ash St. and Odis Crudup's family brings back some beautiful memories. I have known Odis since I was a little child when his family and my grandmother lived on Ash St. here in Hot Springs. He was always a kind man and very pleasant to everyone. My mom was especially fond of him and his family. Though my heart is saddened for the loss of Odis, I feel we really haven't lost him because his memory will live on and continue to bring smiles to those who knew him. It is his time to rest in the arms of Our Savior. My heart goes out to his family and those who loved him. May the Holy Spirit give you peace and comfort during this season.*



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**Claudia Cravens** - May 11, 2021 at 02:36 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Odis E. Crudup.*



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May 09, 2021 at 02:44 PM



“ *Mr.C rest on my friend /teacher helped me out with my summer jobs as a young man. Thank you for all your work.*

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**Wallace Logan** - May 09, 2021 at 10:33 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Odis E. Crudup.*



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May 07, 2021 at 04:05 PM



“ *Odis and I worked together for many years at Southwest Junior High and also when it became the Middle School. Even with all the changes in name, changing the building design, changing the new program we were to implement every year, Odis never changed. From the day I met him in the early 70's, until I retired, Odis stayed the same. He loved his family, his church, and those we affectionately called "those knucklehead" kids. He was a great coworker. I always knew I could depend on his big old smile! But he was more than my coworker, he was my friend. I will miss him. This world needs more men like Odis Crudup!*

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**Nancy Campbell Lewis** - May 07, 2021 at 02:37 PM



*RIL MR. CRUDUP*

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**Lorenzo cleveland** - May 07, 2021 at 09:07 PM



“ *John 14 tells us Jesus went away to prepare a place for us. That place is filled with many mansions. Each mansion is filled with many rooms. Each one of us have a room. Mr. Odis' room was ready and Jesus came for him. You will be missed.*

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**Peaches Smith** - May 07, 2021 at 09:23 AM

BO

“ *Mr. C has been a part of my life from childhood, on. He would pick us up for school and even come directly by the house if we weren't waiting at the bus stop as he knew we would be in trouble if we missed the bus! When my daddy passed away 12/18, I called on Mr. C , who graciously provided his heartfelt sympathies. Mr. C will always be a shining light in my heart and so many others, as he shared himself with so many people. Prayers of love and comfort for the Crudup family~*

Becka Ostrom - May 06, 2021 at 04:20 PM

LC

“ *I meet Mr Crudup when my Neice n Nephew was in school he was a nice man n a Blessed man*

Loomer Conway - May 06, 2021 at 03:55 PM

SB

“ *Mr. Crudup was my 6th grade teacher & bus driver for school, field trips, etc. My family has known he & his family for yrs. Condolences & prayers are w/the family now & in the days ahead. Rest easy, Mr. Crudup.*

*Sharon Burt-Smith & The Burt Family*

Sharon Burt-Smith - May 06, 2021 at 01:30 PM

ES

*Odis was one of the fastest Bulldogs of all time.*

ELBERT SHAW - May 07, 2021 at 08:44 AM

JH

“ On behalf of the Hill Family - Palmetto Street (now just Joyce Hill White and yours truly, Dr. Janie Hill Hatton), we extend our heartfelt sympathies to Odis' family and friends. He was Joyce's classmate - C/O 1967 and Ark. A.M. & N. College, (now UAPB) C/O 1971. Odis would offer be the one to tickle your funny bones, share his brillilance, especially in math, and gave us rides home from college. I am sure his giant heart was the springboard for many fond memories. Rest in the bosom of the Heavenly Father, for your Homegoing is to be celebrated. We hold fond memories of his beloved parents, as well. They gave of themselves to we Langstonians.

Joyce A. White, Kansas City, Mo  
Dr. Janie Hatton, Milwaukee, WI

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**Janie Hatton** - May 06, 2021 at 12:19 PM

BG

“ Such a great Man! A big ol' teddy bear! He will be missed.

Bethany (Abernathy) Griffis



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**Bethany K Griffis** - May 06, 2021 at 11:56 AM

VM

“ This was a kind and gentle man. I haven't known him all my life as others but the times spent was a blessing. It was an honor to call him my friend. The hot springs community and the TROJAN family will miss him so much. My condolences to the family!

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**Vanessa Means** - May 06, 2021 at 10:56 AM

MG

“ *Mr Crudup was an awesome man. Known him since 6th grade. Big heart and very nice. R.i.p*

Mark Garner - May 06, 2021 at 02:29 AM



“ *Mr. Crudup was my bus driver when I was little. He was such a great person. He always had a way to make you laugh. He will be truly missed. I'm so lucky that I had a chance to be able to meet such a great guy. My heart goes out to his family.*



Crystal Hamilton Moore - May 05, 2021 at 08:07 PM

AS

“ *Crudup Family,  
So sorry for your loss of Mr. Odis. He was one of the sweetest, kind neighbor we have had. I know he will be greatly missed by all.  
Angela and Jerry Stewart*



Angela Stewart - May 05, 2021 at 02:15 PM

CB

*So sorry hear this. Prayers for his family.  
Cendi Bailey*

Cendi bailey - May 05, 2021 at 10:20 PM

JC

“ *Odis, I've known you since I was in the 4th grade. I will miss you as I've missed Jean. I know you are in a better place but as with Jean, Shelly, Chris and Mama it doesn't make it any easier. With all my love and until we meet again.....Janice*

Janice Calvin-Stringer - May 05, 2021 at 01:58 PM

TF

“ *Condolences to the Family of Mr. Crudup. May you find peace and comfort in the Lord and your memories of the life he lived and you had the chance to witness and experience.*

*The Coleman Family  
Joyce, John, Yolanda*

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**The Coleman Family** - May 05, 2021 at 01:44 PM

JW

“ *Odis and I went to Goldstein, Langston and graduated from Ark. A.M,& N. The class of 1967 will miss you- Rest In Peace.*

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**Joyce White** - May 05, 2021 at 11:38 AM

PG

“ *Hands down the best teacher I ever had, changed my life.  
Godspeed Mr. Crudup*

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**Paul Geurin** - May 05, 2021 at 08:51 AM

SJ

“ *Thank you for always being there for me, my Mom, and the girls*



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**Sage Johnson** - May 05, 2021 at 07:58 AM

SJ

“ We will miss you



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**Sage Johnson** - May 05, 2021 at 07:52 AM

VH

“ Mr Crudup. You were my 6th grade teacher and then in 1995 you drove the bus that my children road to school in. You always had a smile  
You're presence in my life was well appreciated and you will always be remembered  
Virginia Chambers Hill

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**virginia hill** - May 04, 2021 at 11:09 PM

SJ

“ Prayers to the family. He will be forever missed.  
Johnny and Sherry Johnson

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**Sherry Johnson** - May 04, 2021 at 10:55 PM

MW

“ Odis was always willing to help others. Loved driving the bus to games so we could see our kids play. Rest OC in His love 🙏

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**Mary Wilson** - May 04, 2021 at 10:44 PM

LC

“ Mr. Crudup was my bus driver when I went to school back in the 80-90. He was a very nice man. Always had a smile on his face. He will be deeply missed. The Efird kids  
Lindakay, Becky, Michael, Herschel

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**Linda Kay Efird Craven** - May 04, 2021 at 10:10 PM

KH

“ I have known Mr. Crudup since the first time he drove my bus in the second grade. I always thought he was such a very nice man and loved when he would play music on the Blue Bird. He would pick me up at Gardner school and drive us to Rix school in n 1977. The world has lost a great man, teacher, father, and mentor.

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**Keith Henderson** - May 04, 2021 at 09:39 PM

HO

“ You were such a great teacher, there will be a great void in the teaching world. RIP...Helen Perdue Oliver

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**Helen Perdue Oliver** - May 04, 2021 at 09:20 PM

JS

“ Sending peace and comfort to the Crudup family, you were a very nice person and you will be missed.

Joyce A. ( Holliman ) Smith

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**Joyce A Smith** - May 04, 2021 at 06:35 PM

VP

“ Wow.words cannot express how I feel..Mr.Crudup you were an amazing person \ teacher Rest in Love. Vivian Robinson-Pridgeon.

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**vivian pridgeon-Robinson** - May 04, 2021 at 05:06 PM

Kayla Hall

“ You will be missed Mr. Crudup.



Kayla Hall - May 04, 2021 at 04:21 PM

MW

Will be missed very geat guy

Melissa Walker - May 04, 2021 at 11:56 PM

GM

You will be missed. I love you and you family. You were one of the best.

Ginger miller - May 05, 2021 at 10:17 AM

PS

When I first began teaching, I worked with Odis. He cared about his students and was a great example for all of us. His students loved him! I had the pleasure of teaching Chris and I can only imagine how happy Chris and Odis are to be together again. Praying for all of his family and friends.

Penny Smothers

Penny Smothers - May 06, 2021 at 03:52 PM

DW

Odis's earthly schedule is over. His timecard is closed.  
He has gotten his wings.  
Rest in love my friend as you link with your family.

Diane White Guiden '68

Anita White Pruitt '67

Jacques White & Families

Diane White - May 07, 2021 at 12:07 AM



*I had Mr. Crudup in 6th grade at Langston back in 85-86. He was a great teacher.....funny, firm, patient, and compassionate. He was a legend. God bless his family here on earth and those rejoicing in Heaven.*

*Carrie Carpenter Robertson*

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**Carrie Carpenter Robertson** - May 07, 2021 at 02:50 PM

JC

*Some of my earliest playground memories at Rix are if Mr Crudup. He kicked a football on the playground for us and it went as high as I've ever seen, I swear it went out of site. He also was my bus driver for cones rd and teacher in 5th grade. He was always the kindest man and I was a wimpy white kid. I spent many hrs with Mr Crudup in the 70s at Rix. Loved him still do.*

*Jimmy Clowers*

*Last class of Rix 1978*

*Rest in Peace Mr Crudup*

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**Jimmy Clowers** - December 19, 2021 at 10:08 AM