



Wendell Adrian Rankin

May 2, 1911 - January 27, 2011

Funeral Services for Wendell Adrian Rankin, 99, of Tishomingo will be held on Friday, February 4th, 2011 at 2:00 p. m. in the First Baptist Church with Rev. Steve Gniech officiating, assisted by Rev. Kenneth McCarthick. Interment will follow in the Tishomingo Cemetery. Masonic rites will be provided by the Tishomingo Masonic Lodge #91. Mr. Rankin passed away on January 27th at the Johnston Memorial Hospital.

Adrian was born on May 2, 1911 in Magazine, Arkansas to George Howard Rankin and Jessie Lee Atkins Rankin. He attended school in Soper, Oklahoma and later moved to Clarita, Oklahoma where he graduated from high school in 1929. He attended Oklahoma A & M College for one year and graduated from Central State University in 1937. He married Vonnie Marie Arnold-Anderson on March 6, 1937. He later received his Master's Degree in Psychology from Phillips University in Enid, Oklahoma. Mr. Rankin taught school for 36 years, 23 years in Administration and 13 years in Counseling. He taught in his first school at Big 4 in Kingfisher County and was the Superintendent of that school. At that time he was the youngest Superintendent in Oklahoma, at the age of 25. He served in the United States Army during WWII in Africa & Europe, receiving several citations. He was a 60 year member of the American Legion, a 50 year member of the Masonic Lodge, the Order of the Eastern Star and the Royal Order of Amaranth. He was also a member and Deacon of the First Baptist Church in Tishomingo.

Mr. Rankin was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Vonnie; two brothers and three sisters.

He is survived by his son, Jim Rankin of Norman, Oklahoma and three sisters, June Murphy of Seattle, Washington, Marshallene Morgan of Ypsilanti, Michigan and D'Lene Leggett of Denison, Texas. Numerous other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers for the service will be: Don Hall, Donnie Rowland, Ronnie Coppedge, Donald McDaniel, Edd Clary and Clayton Pryor.

MEMORIAL MAY BE MADE TO THE TISHOMINGO MASONIC LODGE #91
in care of Clark Funeral Service, 305 E. Main, Tishomingo, Oklahoma 73460

Tribute Wall



“ *Wendell Adrian Rankin*

October 05, 2023 at 07:47 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you as you go through this challenging time. We are so sorry we can't be there with you, as we are currently in Dayton, Ohio.*

Don & Martha Martin

Don and Martha Martin - February 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mr Rankin was my Freshmen Okla History teacher. He was a great teacher. He made me leave class and stand in the hall because I couldn't stop laughing. I have thought about Mr Rankin over the years. He was one of my favorites.*

Leota Kitzmiller Chester - February 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mr. Rankin taught me in high school in Minco, OK in the 1950s. A great teacher leaves the world a much better place with his teachings. God Bless.*

Clifford Barnard - February 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PE

“ *Mr. Rankin was my Oklahoma history teacher in Minco, OK in the 50's.
I remember him as my favorite teacher who made class more fun and interesting.*

Patsy Redding Englebretson - February 04, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. We are part of the Cades Cove Gang who knew and loved Adrian and Vonnie and knew them for a number of years. We will always cherish their fiendship.*

Bucky and Pat Sims - February 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

VH

“ *Mr. Rankin was one of my high school teachers at Minco, Oklahoma in the 1950's. I graduated in 1957. I remember Jim as a young boy in school.*

Virginia Wakefield Hayes - February 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM