



Willis Ray Haws

July 28, 1938 - October 28, 2025

Willis Ray Haws, formerly of Beauty, Kentucky, passed away on Tuesday, October 28, in Bean Station, Tennessee.

He was born on July 28, 1938, in West Virginia to the late Janie Blackburn and Hezekiah

Haws. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his wife, Shirley Haws.

Willis graduated with his bachelor's degree in 1960 from the University of Kentucky, where he also earned three Master's Degrees. He went on to work in education as a principal, high school counselor and school administrator for many years. In the early 80's he worked in the central office as Director of Buildings, Grounds and Transportation for a brief time. He retired from education in September of 1994. He was a member of the Warfield Masonic Lodge #882 for over 50 years, a Shriner, and a 32nd Degree Mason. He was also a member of the Kentucky Retired Teachers Association, the Big Sandy Retired Teachers and the Martin County Retired Teachers. He was also a member of the Gideons International.

Willis married his beloved wife, Shirley, on July 19, 1969.

He is survived by his daughter, Teddi of Warsaw, Kentucky; brothers, John

David (Ruth) Fleming of Taylorsville, Kentucky, and Hayes (Elizabeth) Moore of Bean Station, Tennessee; grandchildren, Shalynda (Dalton) Harris and Jamie Oscar Scott; great-granddaughter, Aubryn Ray Harris; and a special friend of the family, Kelly Coffey. He is also survived by his nieces, nephews, David Hayes Moore of Riverside, CA, Savannah Moore-Holmes of Mainesville, OH, and Sabrina Moore of Johnson County.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00am on Saturday, November 1, 2025 at the Martin County Middle School, 130 Middle School Dr., Warfield, KY with Wayman McGuire and Fred Wiles officiating. Burial will follow at the Richmond Cemetery in Prestonsburg, KY. Friends may visit at the Callaham Funeral Home in Inez on Friday from 6:00-9:00pm with special services and Masonic rites starting at 6:30. In memory of Willis, Donations can be made to Gideons International. Arrangements are under the direction of the Callaham Funeral Home, Inez, KY.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **31**. 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Callaham Funeral Home, Inez Location
278 West Main St.
Inez, KY 41224
(606) 298-3501
kellycallaham@yahoo.com
<http://www.richmond-callaham.com>

funeral

NOV **1**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Martin County Middle School
130 Middle School Dr.
Warfield, KY

Tribute Wall

JH

“ *My deepest sympathies to Teddy and all of the family. Mr Haws was my Elementary Principal. He was truly a wonderful man and friend to so many of his students for years after being out of school. I remember he also helped my husband and I with doing our taxes when first married. I was so delighted on Facebook to add Willis Haws as my friend and be in contact with him in his later years. I know he was a blessing to know to me and so many others throughout his life. Rest in peace Mr. Haws. You will definitely be missed and remembered for all your good deeds.*

Jeanie Harmon - November 01, 2025 at 01:51 AM

JH

“ *Jeanie Harmon lit a candle in memory of Willis Ray Haws*



Jeanie Harmon - November 01, 2025 at 01:41 AM

LP

“ Willis was a friend to both myself and my wife, Ada and we always made a point of stopping by to see him when we arrived in Martin County. Our age prevents those visits now but we have great memories of those visits. Every year we would send him a Christmas basket to remind him that he was in our thoughts and prayers and that we missed him and his company. Both Ada and I will miss his great gift of gab and our ability to catch up on what was going on around the town. Fly with the angels Willis and enjoy your time with your wonderful wife. We love you. With condolences to the family and friends, we are Ada and Lewis Pinson.

Lewis and Ada Pinson - October 31, 2025 at 10:04 PM

LZ

“ Willis was the first principal I had in my long teaching career. (1978) I moved from New Hampshire to Warfield to teach first grade and what a big change the hills of KY were. Willis encouraged me and directed me to those who could help guide this young new teacher. I have many fond memories but the best is when I had surgery on my foot and had to walk on crutches. I failed miserably at this (and even took a few falls on the playground), until Willis taught me how to manage the crutches correctly. There were so many other life tasks he helped with in instruction and skill. I visited Willis a few years ago and we connected right where we left off when I left Kentucky in 1982. My heartfelt condolences to the Haws family.

~Lynn Zito-Fawcett

Lynn Zito-Fawcett - October 31, 2025 at 08:44 PM

MA

“ *Maria, Matt, Angeline purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Willis Ray Haws.*



Maria, Matt, Angeline - October 31, 2025 at 05:51 PM



“ *Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Willis Ray Haws.*



October 31, 2025 at 02:37 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Willis Ray Haws.*



October 31, 2025 at 08:05 AM

LS

“ *Lesley, John and Carolyn Stout planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Willis Ray Haws.*

Lesley, John and Carolyn Stout - October 31, 2025 at 08:05 AM

RS

“ *An awesome man. Each day when I would visit my sister and brother I law at the nursing home he would always say hello and a short chat. Martin County has lost of its finest. Prayers for his family*

Rita Dials Stafford - October 30, 2025 at 09:16 PM

LC

“ *Prayers for the family.*



Letitia & Hazel Campbell - October 30, 2025 at 12:46 PM

EB

Prayers for the family 🙏

Edgar Blankenship - October 30, 2025 at 06:13 PM