



## Mr. Mike Reaves Jr.

July 3, 1949 - August 16, 2022

He has a smile that makes you smile too, even now. Born on July 3, 1949, Mike Reaves, Jr., was the oldest son of the late Mike Reaves, Sr., and Maudie Lee “Mudear” Reaves of Jackson, Tennessee.

A quiet mama’s boy, “Junior” showed an early interest in sports. Growing up on Eastern Avenue, now known as James Buchanan Drive, he excelled in baseball and basketball in the neighborhood. He later went on to play basketball and football for Merry High School, the 1967 graduate serving as captain of the school’s basketball and football teams.

He was always protective of his older sister, Lawanda Faye. She said she could “never get a boyfriend in school!” While a young man spoke to her at the locker, she fondly recalled her brother saying “You better leave my sister alone!” Junior showed up for those he loved and when he loved you, you knew it.

It was during his Junior year of high school, when he met Linda Muse, the young lady who would become the love of his life. The Merry High sophomore used to always wonder why the cute guy was giving Lawanda Faye a hug in home economics. She later learned the pair were siblings.

After three years of dating, Mike and Linda said “ I do” on November 17, 1968.

For nearly 54 years, the couple built a life together in Jackson, Tennessee, sharing a passion for sports, travel and music. Mike would eventually serve as the road manager for Lanier & Company, covering thousands of miles for the band's many performances.

A U.S. Army Veteran, Mike served his country from 1969 to 1971, deploying to Korea during his tenure. He would later work several jobs before landing at the U.S. Postal Service from 1987-2009. Still, for this doting father, no job compared to his role as dad.

For years, Mike worked overnights, unloading mail trucks and arriving home in time to drop his daughter, Shayla, off at school each morning. He was always first in the school pickup line each afternoon. He always knew what to say when life felt tough.

From graduations to awards ceremonies, the proud father never missed a moment to talk about his only daughter. "You need to get you one of these," he once said to a young reporter, proudly holding Shayla's first Emmy award. When he would go for haircuts, he always wanted to make sure he got out before noon to watch her television broadcasts on his Kindle.

For more than 50 years, he was a member of the Tabernacle of David the House of Israel, affectionately known to many as "Brother Mike" and "Brother Mac." He would become a minister, passionate about his faith and his church family.

Mike Reaves, Jr., was preceded in death by his parents, Mike Reaves, Sr., and Maudie Lee Banks Reaves of Jackson, Tennessee, and his brother, Joseph Allen Reaves.

He is survived by his wife, Linda Muse Reaves of Jackson, Tennessee;

daughter, Shayla Reaves Bhojani (Shawn) of Minneapolis, Minnesota; his sister Lawanda Faye Crayton of Jackson, Tennessee; sister-in-law, Sharinda Denise Muse, of Jackson, Tennessee; and a host of nieces, nephews, and close friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Church Of Israel Cemetery

Hurts Chapel Road  
Jackson, TN 38301

# Previous Events

## Family Hour

AUG **23**. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Stephenson-Shaw Funeral Home, Inc.  
807 N. Hays Avenue  
Jackson, TN 38301  
(731) 427-7411  
info@stephenson-shaw.com  
<https://www.stephenson-shaw.com>

## Service

AUG **24**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Stephenson-Shaw Funeral Home, Inc.  
807 N. Hays Avenue  
Jackson, TN 38301  
(731) 427-7411  
info@stephenson-shaw.com  
<https://www.stephenson-shaw.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Stephenson-Shaw Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mr. Mike Reaves Jr.* ”



Stephenson-Shaw Funeral Home, Inc - August 24, 2022 at 10:47 AM



“ *Mr. Mike Reaves Jr.* ”

January 28, 2023 at 12:37 PM



“ *Cheryl Ratliff Hopewell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Mike Reaves Jr.* ”



Cheryl Ratliff Hopewell - August 27, 2022 at 12:51 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Mike Reaves Jr..* ”



August 24, 2022 at 11:55 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams* was purchased for the family of Mr. Mike Reaves Jr..



---

August 22, 2022 at 03:45 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Mr. Mike Reaves Jr..



---

August 22, 2022 at 02:32 PM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of Mr. Mike Reaves Jr..



---

August 21, 2022 at 06:27 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket* was purchased for the family of Mr. Mike Reaves Jr..



---

August 21, 2022 at 06:23 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Mike Reaves Jr..*



---

August 20, 2022 at 11:20 AM



“ *Brenda Cooper Tatum lit a candle in memory of Mr. Mike Reaves Jr.*



---

**Brenda Cooper Tatum** - August 20, 2022 at 07:45 AM



“ *Linda, so sorry to hear of Mikes passing. You and Shayla definitely will be in my prayers of comfort. Be Blessed....Carolyn Brooks*



---

**Carolyn Brooks** - August 19, 2022 at 10:38 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Mike Reaves Jr..*



---

August 19, 2022 at 03:52 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Mike Reaves Jr..*



---

August 19, 2022 at 03:00 PM



“ *Phyllis Staten lit a candle in memory of Mr. Mike Reaves Jr.*



---

**Phyllis Staten** - August 18, 2022 at 07:21 PM



“ *The Reaves and Whitelaw families have done so many things together that developed a close friendship. Mike might not be with us on this earthly plain, but the memories we've made will be cherished forever. Rest will dear friend. We will be missed. ❤️❤️🙏🙏 The Whitelaw Family*



---

**Gwendolyn J. Whitelaw** - August 16, 2022 at 11:37 PM



*Mike and Linda were the perfect couple that I knew. Ups and downs like some couples. But was always there for each other and their family. Best friends anyone could ever have. And Shayla made 3! Love y'all ❤️*

---

**Phyllis Staten** - August 18, 2022 at 07:25 PM