



Earl "Brother" Adkins

September 13, 1933 - January 24, 2023

Earl "Brother" Adkins passed away Tuesday in Jasper Indiana. He was the son of the late Earl and Edith Tisdale of Ashland, KY.

Earl attended Putnam Junior High and Ashland High School. He graduated from the University of Kentucky, obtained his master's degree in Education from Western Kentucky University, earned his Rank I and 40 hours above.

He spent 34 years in Kentucky's education system coaching basketball at South Hopkins, Union County and Harrodsburg High Schools, principal at Cairo and Morganfield elementary schools and retiring from the Union County Board of Education where he served as assistant superintendent .

As a player, coach, and administrator Earl made significant contributions to sports in the state of Kentucky. Among his many accomplishments, as a young boy, he led Oakview Elementary School and Y.M.C.A. sports teams to many victories and championships. He became a great three sport star at Ashland High School in the 1950's. As an All-State running back in football he was offered a football scholarship at the University of Kentucky by Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant, but chose to play basketball for Adolph Rupp. In 1953 he was selected as Captain of the Courier Journal's All State Basketball Team, voted All-American and given the title of Kentucky's "Mr. Basketball". Earl was MVP of the 1953 North-South All-Star Game and received the "Chuck Taylor"

award as top basketball player in the Nation. He was recruited by Adolph Rupp and was a member of the "Fiddlin' Five" 1958 NCAA Championship team. In 2006 Earl was inducted into the KHSAA Hall of Fame. Earl's life of coaching, teaching, and administrative work all involving tutoring, developing and leading the young people whose lives he touched.

In addition to his parents, Earl was preceded in death by his wife Beverly of 62 years and his brother Ray Adkins.

He is survived by his daughter Linda Rouser of Louisville, KY; 2 sons Mike Adkins and wife Ginger of Birdseye, IN and Greg Adkins of Indianapolis, IN; 3 grandchildren: Amanda and husband Brent Burleson, Christine and husband Derek Szesny, Evan Adkins and Tyler Stigers; sister in-law Nancy Hawkins and husband Paul of Henderson, KY and 3 great-grandchildren.

Relatives and friends are invited to Earl's Life Celebration from 12:00 p.m. until the service time on Sunday, January 29, 2023, at Benton-Glunt & Tapp Funeral Home in Henderson, KY. The memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday at the funeral home.

Arrangements entrusted to Benton-Glunt & Tapp Funeral Home, A Life Celebration® Home, online condolences may be made at www.bentongluntandtappfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Life Celebration

JAN **29**. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Benton-Glunt & Tapp Funeral Home
629 S. Green St.
Henderson, KY 42420
(270) 827-3535
email@bentonglunttapp.com
<https://www.bentongluntandtappfuneralhome.com/>

Memorial Service

JAN **29**. 2:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall

CB

“ I didnt know Mr. Adkins very well, only thru my friendship with his daughter Linda. But he had a formidable presence that I will never forget. I was honored to go with the family to a UK game in Indiana some years ago. The coach was Pitino. I am probably a poster person for having the least knowledge about sports even with Linda trying to teach me. I am also quite fat and didn't sit well in those nice seats at that ballgame. I was very uncomfortable and had trouble paying attention to the game until...Uk was loosing. Mr. Adkins was noticeably upset and getting more upset by the minute. His face grew dark, his body looked larger and I thought he might actually combust. It sure made me forget my fat hips squeezed into that seat. I prayed UK would win!!! I am sorry he is gone but he left his mark on many! Lovev and prayers for family and loved ones.

carole buskirk - January 30, 2023 at 05:35 PM

LR

Carole, our friendship of 30 yrs goes beyond our bond through nursing. We have both lost our parents over those years and have grieved together over those losses. Thank you for your post and condolences to the family. Always wishing you and your family the best.
Linda

Linda Rouser - January 31, 2023 at 09:21 AM

RM

“ To the Adkins family

I was sorry to hear about your loss....I feel like I have known "Brother" Adkins most of my life, even though I was only around him a few times. Between my Grandfather Ernie Chattin who was heavily involved in Ashland sports, my mother Jennie who just loved your mother Beverly, and my father Bob who speaks of him very fondly to this day, I knew Mr. Adkins sports history very well. I am sure he was a treasure to your family like ours as my Dad is currently heading to his 92nd birthday. The stories they shared with us with all of their adventures in Athletics I am sure will be passed down to our grandchildren and generations following. It is sad to lose great men like your father, but the examples they are leaving behind is their gift to us.

God Bless

Rob Mulcahy

Rob Mulcahy - January 30, 2023 at 11:22 AM

BF

“ *From the 1953 reunion class of Ashland High School: Brother was a dear friend and loyal supporter of our class reunions. The first question any member asked was "Will Brother be there?" He drove long distances to be at our reunions. Most of our conversations centered around him as we shared many memories of our years together in High School. He will be missed, but memories of Brother will always be with us, and we will remember him and love him as long as we live.*

barbara falconer - January 29, 2023 at 11:42 AM

LR

Barbara, Dad's memorial was a celebration of memories from friends, colleagues and former players. Thank you so much for your post. Ashland was his home and in his heart. He spoke often of his high school days and all his friends.

Linda

Linda Rouser - January 30, 2023 at 08:03 AM

JE

“ Mike, Ginger and the entire Adkins family, Miriam and I want express our condolences for your loss. We had the pleasure of meeting with and talking to your father during a Kentucky basketball game. It was so enjoyable to meet and listen to his stories. He will be missed. Jon and Miriam Eckerle

Jon Eckerle - January 28, 2023 at 04:54 AM

PN

“ I have so many great memories of Brother and Beverly. I wish I could be there Sunday to say goodbye - but I certainly send lots of love to you Linda, Mike, and Greg. Tishie

Pat Neat - January 27, 2023 at 10:18 PM

LR

Tishie, I tried and tried to locate you to let you know about Dad. So good to hear from you. Love you much. If you can reach out to me Linda

Linda Rouser - January 27, 2023 at 10:41 PM

LB

“ Earl was a team member with John Crigler, who I married in 1959. He was one of the nicest men I knew in my college days at UK. My condolences go to all family members who will miss him.

LuAnnette Butler - January 27, 2023 at 08:14 PM

LR

LuAnnette

*"Crigler" as Dad called him was one of Dads favorites. He loved Mr Crigler and spoke of him often after he moved to Indiana. He missed those Wednesday visits. Thank you for your condolences
Linda*

Linda Rouser - January 27, 2023 at 10:47 PM



“ 70 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Benton-Glunt Funeral Home - January 27, 2023 at 03:52 PM

PP

“ *Mike, Linda and Greg -*

*Ron and I send our deepest sympathy for the loss of your father. I looked up to your dad and am heartbroken to hear about his death. I admired him in many ways but mostly because of the love and care he gave to your mom. I have such fond and fun memories of the Adkins family. May he rest in peace and may you find comfort in the wonderful memories that you have of him.
Paula Hagan Podoll*

Paula Hagan Podoll - January 27, 2023 at 02:54 PM

LR

*Thank you Paula. Lots of memories of us all, years ago.
Linda*

Linda Rouser - January 27, 2023 at 08:15 PM

MP

“ So sorry to hear of your loss. My husband, C. G. Sherrell, was coach at Madisonville when Earl was at South Hopkins and they became very good friends. I remember visiting with your Mom and Dad during those days and enjoying being with them so much. Remembering the good times and the friends you make along the way is such a blessing. My husband passed away suddenly in 1962 and his assistant, Pete Waldrop, took his place as coach. May your memories help you in the days ahead. Margaret “Cookie” Porter

margaret porter - January 27, 2023 at 11:48 AM

LR

*Cookie, thank you so much for your post. My Dad, Pete and your husband are all gone now but the good times are not forgotten and comfort us.
Linda*

Linda Rouser - January 27, 2023 at 12:43 PM

JW

Cookie, Those were the days my friend. I thought theyd never end. Great guys: Earl, Pete, Sherial. Each made the people around them better.

Joy Waldrop - January 31, 2023 at 12:52 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Earl "Brother" Adkins.



January 27, 2023 at 09:49 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Earl "Brother" Adkins.*



January 26, 2023 at 03:27 PM



“ *I meat Earl at the Cheese Store in Georgetown, KY. He came with his friend John Grigler. Who had been the basketball coach of the men that hung out at the cheese store. He became friends with everyone there. We all missed him when he moved to Jasper. He was well thought of here. Phyllis Green*

Phyllis Green - January 26, 2023 at 10:33 AM



Thank you Phyllis. I know he enjoyed the time he spent with you all. Greg Adkins

Greg Adkins - January 26, 2023 at 01:03 PM



We miss your dad. Jim had tried to call many times in last few months. He had been calling every week before. The last Tim we talked in was in assisted living. Your parents came to our house many times. What I will always remember, when your mom got sick, he said I will take care of Bev. Several years later he came and sat at our table and he feed her. I told him that I didn't think he could do what he had been doing las few years. And he loo across and said do you know what that is? LOVE. Jim worked with him in the school system. We loved your dad and will be missed more now that he is gone. We loved him and your mom very much. But he is very happy with his love of his life Bev.

James and Janett Davenport - January 26, 2023 at 03:35 PM

KB

“ My condolences to the family of Mr. Adkins. I remember him well as the principal of Morganfield Elementary School where I was a student in the mid 70's. Mr. Adkins seemed to be a giant to us back then...he was so very tall to us children. He seemed invincible. My favorite memory is of him using us kids as "arm weights." We would latch on to his forearms with our hands and he would lift us off the ground as if weighed nothing. He could easily lift two of us on each arm at the same time. He never knew that he was part of the inspiration that led me into elementary education as a teacher for 20+years. My thoughts and prayers are with those who loved him.

Karen Beasley - January 25, 2023 at 08:29 PM

LR

Thank you Karen for your remembrance. He would be touched that he was a part of your eventual career choice.
Linda Adkins Rouser

Linda Rouser - January 25, 2023 at 10:50 PM

CW

“ A cherished friend and colleague. The adventures we shared!
Condolences to the family.

Charles M Woodward - January 25, 2023 at 06:27 PM

LR

Thank you Mr Woodward
Linda

Linda Rouser - January 25, 2023 at 08:20 PM

LT

“ So sorry to hear. My thoughts and prayers for all the Adkins family.

Linda Terrell - January 25, 2023 at 05:16 PM

LR

*Linda, I remember all our good times together. Thank you so much.
Linda*

Linda Rouser - January 25, 2023 at 08:21 PM

JW

“*Earl was truly like a brother to my Pete. I hope they find each other again in Heaven. Love and prayers for his children. Pete loved them too. Joy WALDROP*

Joy WALDROP - January 25, 2023 at 02:14 PM

LR

Joy, I remember the day Pete brought you to our house in Madisonville, too long ago to even think about. Love you, Linda

Linda Rouser - January 25, 2023 at 08:18 PM

JW

Linda, I remember your wedding. You were, like your Mom, drop dead gorgeous. My wonderful, crazy, wild daughter stepped on your veil and tore it at the reception. I was horrified. You were very forgiving. She now lives in Louisville. I'd love to see you sometime when I am there.

Joy Waldrop - January 31, 2023 at 12:58 PM



“*Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of Earl "Brother" Adkins.*



January 25, 2023 at 12:36 PM