



Mr. Michael W. Adams

August 24, 1938 - February 10, 2021

Michael W. Adams, 82, died at Capstone Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center in Easley, on Wednesday, February 10, 2021.

A native of Seneca, SC, Michael was born August 24, 1938, to the late Clay W. and Geraldine Talley Adams. Surviving are former spouses: Betty Littleton Adams of Seneca, SC and Bonnie Coggins Adams of Easley, SC; son: Kevin C. Adams of Seneca, SC; daughter: Lisa Michelle Adams-Upchurch of Seneca, SC; stepdaughters: Jennifer Arrowood of Easley, SC and Ashley Miller of Taft, TN; and grandchildren: Matthew E. Adams of Seneca, SC, Lauren Michelle Upchurch of Clinton, SC and Brian Arrowood and Clay Arrowood of Easley, SC. Mr. Adams was preceded in death by his sister: Caroline Adams Grubbs Salmans (Van, Jerry).

Michael worked for his father's business, Oconee Concrete Company during the 1950's and 60's. Michael then started his own business, Tri-State Auto Crushers, which operated out of Seneca until 2014. He had one of the first portable car crushers in SC and traveled all over Upstate SC, Northeast GA and the mountain of Western NC, buying junk cars and hauling them to shredders to be recycled. He initially worked with the Georgia Mountain Commission and Tennessee Valley Authority in the late 60's as they were looking for people to clean up years of scrap in Appalachia that had accumulated before recycling cars began in earnest in the South.

Michael started racing cars when he was a teenager and ran with some of Nascar's greats and their families before they were well known, at small tracks all over SC, NC and GA. He ran outlaw, Amateur Class, Sportsman Class and in NASCAR GT Circuit races in the 1960's and early 1970's. Mike got into Bobtail Truck Racing when it started and won the World's First Truck Race at Atlanta International Raceway in 1977 driving a GMC truck, he had been using in the car crushing business. The truck was called "Junkyard Dog" and carried his #97 on the side. It came straight off the road from pulling the car crusher and had a rollbar added. This race was featured in one of the Smokey and the Bandit movies. Mike built several more trucks with help from several locals who went on the pit crew with him to races. Mike won and placed in more truck races all over the country during the 1980's and early 1990's racing with ATRA (American Truck Racing Association) and GATR (Great American Truck Racing). Michael also had a pilot's license for a few years.

Michael served in the Seneca National Guard in the 1950's and was on standby in Florida during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Michael was a volunteer fireman with the Seneca Fire Department from the time he was a teenager until the late 1980's. Michael served on the Seneca City Council during the early 90's. Michael was a member of Airport Baptist Church in Greer, SC and a former member of Seneca Baptist Church. He had been an usher and Sunday School teacher.

Funeral Services will be conducted at 11:00 AM, Saturday, February 13, 2021, at Davenport Funeral Home Chapel with burial to follow at Oconee Memorial Park.

The family will receive friends from 10:00-11:00 AM, Saturday, prior to the service, at Davenport Funeral Home.

Flowers are accepted or memorials may be made to the Whitten Center, P.O. Box 239, Clinton, SC 29325.

The family is at their respective homes.

Cemetery Details

Oconeememorialpark

1923 Blue Ridge Boulevard
Seneca, SC 29672
<http://oconeememorialpark.com?>

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 13. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Davenport Funeral Home
311 S Highway 11
West Union, SC 29696
(864) 638-3611
davenportfhome@gmail.com
<https://www.davenportfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

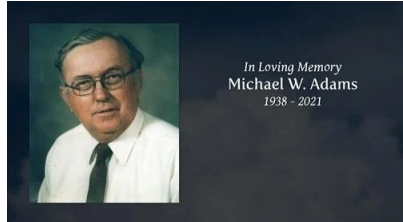
FEB 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Davenport Funeral Home
311 S Highway 11
West Union, SC 29696
(864) 638-3611
davenportfhome@gmail.com
<https://www.davenportfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Davenport Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams*



Davenport Funeral Home - February 12, 2021 at 02:50 PM



“ *I learned so many things from this man, he always had a way when there was none , he made things happen when it seemed impossible, I'm was thinking of putting a Detroit in my Chevy tool truck and Mike came to mind and I searched his name and found his obituary,my heart is saddened,if heaven has interstates I know he is blazing down them loaded heavy,,,, I hope to see you when my time comes my friend*

William Cleveland Lothar - August 13, 2025 at 12:29 AM



“ *Mr. Michael W. Adams*

January 28, 2023 at 01:03 PM

LF

“ *Linda Fuller-Freeman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams*



Linda Fuller-Freeman - February 17, 2021 at 06:09 PM

SH

“ *When Mike got to Heaven I know the Lord said welcome home son my good and faithful servant. RIP Mike Adams.*

Shirley Howard - February 14, 2021 at 07:57 AM

WR

“ *I will never forget the thousands of miles that we traveled together. Even a few at the speed limit. May he rest in peace.*

William Riley

William Riley - February 14, 2021 at 12:45 AM

PG

“ Today is a sad day for us. Not only is it my late mother's (Caroline's) birthday, we are burying my uncle, her only sibling, Mike. Mother treasured her brother. Uncle Mike was a genuine person. He always made me laugh. Whether it was leaving his car running with the door open when he went inside, the fact that his pants legs were always hung up on his boots, the way he let me drive all over the curb trying to learn to back a car, or coming in with Krispy Kreme doughnuts. He was always fun! Kevin, Michelle, Ray, and I would pile in the bed with Grandpa Adams and he (grandpa) would tell us ghost stories. I remember when Michael put a sheet over his head and came in the room making sounds like a ghost. We all screamed and ducked under the covers until I peeked and saw those unmistakable boots. "Aww, it's just Uncle Mike" I said. Yes, he was a character! A goodhearted, God loving, man. I will miss you dearly. I love you. Phyllis C. Grubbs

Phyllis C. GRUBBS - February 13, 2021 at 10:26 AM



“ Praying for peace and comfort during this difficult time.

Rhonda Grant - February 12, 2021 at 10:56 PM

LR

“ Louise Rochester lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams



Louise Rochester - February 12, 2021 at 09:00 PM

LR

“ Gene will miss those monthly chats about their racing days. They have been friends since they were teenagers. Prayers for your family. Love yall. Gene and Louise Rochester

Louise Rochester - February 12, 2021 at 08:59 PM



“ Robin Burns lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams



Robin Burns - February 12, 2021 at 12:15 PM

KA

“ Kathy Addis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams



Kathy addis - February 12, 2021 at 12:30 AM



“ Wayne F Barton sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams



Wayne F Barton - February 11, 2021 at 09:28 PM

AD

“ Mike was a good friend . so sorry for your loss
.He will be missed by many .

..



Annette D.Leroy - February 11, 2021 at 07:53 PM

AR

“ Alvin Rochester lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Michael W. Adams



Alvin Rochester - February 11, 2021 at 07:53 PM

AO

“ Anne Opperman sent a virtual gift in memory of
Mr. Michael W. Adams



Anne Opperman - February 11, 2021 at 05:34 PM

MG

“ Melva Gibson lit a candle in memory of Mr.
Michael W. Adams



melva gibson - February 11, 2021 at 04:10 PM

RT

“ *Reg Tatum lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams*



Reg Tatum - February 11, 2021 at 03:02 PM

JS

“ *Jerry Salmans (Boston MA)
Kevin & Michelle (and family)-
You are in my thoughts & prayers.*



Jerry Salmans - February 11, 2021 at 03:00 PM

JS

“ *Jerry Salmans lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams*



Jerry Salmans - February 11, 2021 at 02:54 PM

MM

“ *Kevin & Michelle (and family)-
I am so sorry about the loss of your father.
You will be in my thoughts & prayers at this
very hard time.
Michelle Moore*



Michelle Moore - February 11, 2021 at 12:28 PM

OW

“ Oscar Wilbanks lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams



Oscar Wilbanks - February 11, 2021 at 10:28 AM

BS

“ Kevin, so sorry! You are in our thoughts and prayers. Bill and Janet Sloan.

Bill Sloan - February 11, 2021 at 08:12 AM

MA

“ To the Michael Adam's families,
You accomplishment much in your lifetime on
this earth. God will welcome you home now.
Prayers for each of your family members.
LC Alexander



Mary Alexanddr - February 11, 2021 at 05:58 AM

FB

“ Frankie Burrell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams



Frankie Burrell - February 11, 2021 at 04:20 AM

HA

“ *HAROLD ALEXANDER lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams*



HAROLD ALEXANDER - February 10, 2021 at 10:36 PM

AG

“ *Alan Knight / Jimmy McCoy (Augusta, GA) purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Michael W. Adams.*



Alan Knight / Jimmy McCoy (Augusta, GA) - February 10, 2021 at 09:25 PM



“ *Wayne F Barton sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams*



Wayne F Barton - February 10, 2021 at 08:55 PM

BL

“ *Burgess (Bird) Laye lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams*



Burgess (Bird) Laye - February 10, 2021 at 08:30 PM

RA

“ Rod & Katherine Albertson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams



Rod & Katherine Albertson - February 10, 2021 at 07:59 PM

GM

“ I've heard many stories of Mike Adams from my dad, L.D. Mauldin. Mike and Daddy drove race cars together in the 60's then years later both were in the trucking business. To the family and close friends of Mike you have my deepest sympathy.



Gaynes Mauldin - February 10, 2021 at 07:56 PM

GM

Glynes Mauldin

Glynes Mauldin - February 12, 2021 at 12:22 PM

DA

“ Don Albertson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams



Don Albertson - February 10, 2021 at 07:52 PM

EM

“ *Eddie Moore lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams*



Eddie Moore - February 10, 2021 at 07:40 PM

PP

“ *Pete Price lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams*



Pete Price - February 10, 2021 at 06:31 PM

JB

“ *Jimmy And Jeannie Barker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams*



Jimmy and Jeannie Barker - February 10, 2021 at 04:39 PM

JP

“ *JackieT.Palmer Palmer lit a candle in memory of Mr. Michael W. Adams*



JackieT.Palmer palmer - February 10, 2021 at 04:17 PM