



## Bro. Rick Reaves

April 15, 2021

A funeral service for Bro. Rick Reaves, 71 of Oxford, will be on Sunday, April 18, 2021 at 4:00 pm at Mt. Zion Baptist Church with Donnie Cates and Bro. Garry Ragsdale officiating. A burial will follow the service at Maple Grove Cemetery. The family will receive friends on the same day from 1:00 pm until the time of the service.

Bro. Rick went home to be with his Lord on April 15, 2021, at his home surrounded by his loving family.

He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Janice Reaves; children, Chris Reaves (Amy) and Gina Evans (Lance); grandchildren, Berit Lovelady, Kaylee Reaves, Holland Lovelady, Brynne Reaves, Brock Reaves; sister, Gail Cates (Donnie), and a host of extended family members and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Lee and Frances Reaves.

Pallbearers will be Gerald Cates, Greg Ragsdale, Curry Cates, Lott Cates, Owen Gilbert, and Jadon Gilbert.

Honorary pallbearers will be pastors who have served alongside him throughout his many years of ministry.

Bro. Rick Reaves (a.k.a. Poppy) was a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend. In 1970 he began his ministry as a youth pastor at Antioch Baptist Church, where he remained for the next 7 years. In 1977 he answered the call to become the youth minister at Moore Avenue Baptist Church (which later changed its name to Hill Crest Baptist Church). On October 18, 1987, in a service at Hill Crest Baptist Church, Bro. Rick announced his call to preach the gospel. He remained at Hill Crest until 2017, serving as associate pastor and youth pastor for a total of 15 years, and as its senior pastor for 25 years. During his tenure at Hill Crest, he baptized 3,471 people. - What an amazing legacy!

Since his retirement in 2017, Bro. Rick has enjoyed spending time with his family, fishing, working on his farm, and preaching in churches throughout the South. He loved his family fiercely! He was married to his high school sweetheart for 51 beautiful years, and their marriage has been an example to all who know them. He could often be found at the ballfield, the football games, the basketball gym, the golf course, or wherever his children or grandchildren happened to be playing or performing. - He never missed a moment with any of them. They knew that if they looked toward the stands, there he would be - smiling and cheering them on. Although he has passed, they know that he is still smiling and cheering them on today.

Bro. Rick's infectious laugh, big smile, quick wit, and charm will be missed by all who knew him. He was generous and quick to show love to all around him. There is no way to know on this side of Heaven, just how many lives were forever changed because of his ministry. Our hearts are broken, but our spirits are rejoicing that he is now worshiping at the feet of his Savior! - And no doubt eating a big bowl of banana pudding!

# Cemetery Details

## Maple Grove Cemetery

Cane Creek Farm Rd  
Alexandria, AL 36250

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 18. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
Alexandria, AL

## Service

APR 18. 4:00 PM (CT)

Mt. Zion Baptist Church  
Alexandria, AL

# Tribute Wall

DR

“ *Janice and family, I want to express my belated condolences in the home-going of Brother Rick. For the years I knew him, being the son-in-law of Brother Paul Peace, and even going fishing with him and Brother Brown,. he was a neat guy. I know this void in your life will never be filled, but trust you are and will continually sense the presence of the Lord to the degree that you are able to experience His peace, grace and mercy. I want to convey my love to you and your family.*

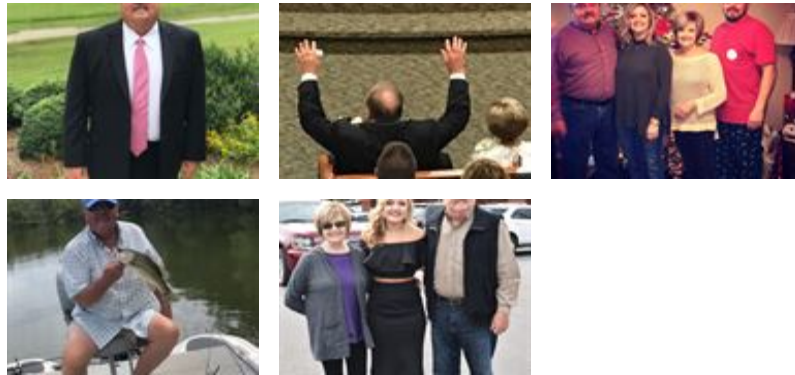
*Dr. Ron Ross  
Muncie, Indiana*

---

**Dr. Ron Ross** - April 29, 2021 at 09:59 AM



“ *89 files added to the album Life Tributes*



---

**Miller Funeral Home** - April 17, 2021 at 04:06 PM

GE

*Rickey Reaves was a major part in initiating and nourishing my relationship with Christ. I was one of the original youth group members in 1979. Many wonderful memories and seeds were planted in my life due to his love to share the gospel and disciple believers. Thank you sir for showing me Christ and teaching me the gospel. Gary Evans*

**Gary Evans** - April 17, 2021 at 07:21 PM

JB

*He captivated all who had the privilege of hearing him preach the gospel!!!*

**Jim Bynum** - April 17, 2021 at 08:27 PM

VB

*“ Bro. Rick was our Pastor for 22 years before we moved back to CA. He was truly a servant of the Lord with a mission to take as many souls with him to heaven as he could! And he was gifted at it! Services with Bro. Rick preaching were never dull or boring...he poured Jesus into all who would listen. I'm glad he is totally healed and walking with the King of kings now and my husband Don in glory but will be so missed here on earth. What a GREAT reunion it's going to be someday!  
My love and prayers go out to Janice and the family.  
Vera Boozer*

**Vera Boozer** - April 17, 2021 at 12:00 PM

MF

*Where is rick's gravesite?*

**Mark fields** - May 24, 2021 at 07:27 AM

DC

“*Bro Rick was my pastor at Hill Crest Baptist also. I have really missed him since he retired, and the wonderful services with him there. My brother Ricky Cunningham, who passed away in 2015, truly loved Bro. Rick in the Lord. I know they are rejoicing together again! He will be missed by so many. He left us too soon. Sister Janice, dear sweet lady, I know you and your children are in sorrow, but also know God will comfort you in your grief.*

*Dianne Cunningham*

---

**Dianne Cunningham** - April 17, 2021 at 11:18 AM

WA

“*Bro Rick was such an inspiration. He could make you laugh and he could make you cry. He let the Lord lead the services. The time I spent at Hillcrest with him as my pastor will always be a very special part of my life.*

---

**Wanda,Wyatt** - April 17, 2021 at 11:00 AM

JB

“*I remember when the Holy Spirit would come down and we could feel his presence and Brother Rick would just get out of the way let the Holy Spirit take over and the whole church would come to the Alter and silence would prevail and we would all worship the Great I am!! Brother Rick's heart was always on the salvation of the lost!!*

---

**Jim Bynum** - April 17, 2021 at 10:40 AM

WA

*I remember those days as well.*

---

**Wanda,Wyatt** - April 17, 2021 at 11:00 AM

TS

“ He loved people, he loved his church,,,but more than anything he loved His Savior. You could see that in his personality! He is now in the presence of the One who loved Him enough to die for him on a Cruel Cross. JESUS!

Terry Smith - April 17, 2021 at 09:16 AM

AT

“ What a wonderful man that was welcomed home by our savior. His personality was dynamic, his smile was contagious. He was on fire for our God and his life consisted of serving Jesus and others. He will forever be missed and my family is praying for his family.



Amanda Thacker - April 17, 2021 at 08:28 AM

DJ

“ A true man of God who was not afraid to preach straight from the Bible. He didn't try to sugar coat the Word of God and was not afraid to step on toes. Rick will truly be missed by many, loved that man. Praying for peace and comfort for his family.

Donna Dunaway Jenkins - April 16, 2021 at 11:35 PM

EC

“ We loved Bro. Rick!!!! He was our pastor and friend for many many years. He was always there when someone needed him. He never hesitated to go to a home to visit the sick or visit in the time of a death or any need. Bro. Rick will be greatly missed by so many.

Earl & Joyce Comer - April 16, 2021 at 10:33 PM

GE

“ *He was a Bible preaching man of God! I loved to hear him and will be praying for his family. But Praise God he’s home! We can celebrate a life of a true servant of God!* ”

---

**Gayle Echols** - April 16, 2021 at 09:59 PM

TJ

“ BROTHER RICK

*A prince among men  
Went home today  
And for his family  
I humbly pray*

*A faithful servant  
Who sowed the seed  
With love he met  
Our greatest need*

*In our MASTER'S vineyard  
He was gifted to serve  
Our faith in CHRIST  
He worked to preserve*

*For the children of GOD  
He was truly a blessing  
Into our hearts and lives  
He was ever investing*

*A faithful expositor  
Of the eternal word  
And one of the best  
I've ever heard*

*Defending our faith  
And sharing our LORD  
With his final breath  
His spirit soared*

*With crowns to lay  
At our SAVIOR'S feet  
Brother Rick has gone  
Our LORD to meet*

*Timothy Jarmon*  
*Copyright 2021*

---

**Timothy Jarmon** - April 16, 2021 at 09:30 PM

LS

“ Prayers 🙏🙏🙏



---

**Louis & Cathy Skinner** - April 16, 2021 at 09:02 PM

AP

“ *Alice Parris lit a candle in memory of Bro.  
Rick Reaves*



---

**Alice Parris** - April 16, 2021 at 08:45 PM

CL

“ *He was a dear friend. One memory I  
remember was when the elevator was being  
installed at church . Rick went in to check  
progress and stepped inside elevator doors  
but car was not on the level he was so he fell  
down the shaft and got scratched. Was thankful he wasn't hurt  
serious. Standing joke look before getting on elevator.*



---

**Claudetta** - April 16, 2021 at 08:23 PM

GW

“ *To Mrs. Janice and all the family, you are in our prayers, but we rejoice that Bro. Rick is now in heaven with his Savior!*



---

**Gail Williams** - April 16, 2021 at 08:22 PM