



Adren Lee Duncan

April 4, 1946 - October 5, 2025

Graveside services for Adren Lee Duncan will be at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, October 11, 2025 at Fairview Cemetery north of Alva with Brother Lanis Lindsey, officiating. Services are under the direction of Marshall Funeral Home of Alva. There will be a Celebration of Life service at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, October 18, 2025, at the Village Creek Baptist Church, 13224 Sardis Road, Mabelvale, Arkansas 72103.

Adren Lee Duncan, son of Bufford Andrew Duncan and Vera Pearl (Barham) Duncan, was born April 4, 1946, in Perry County, Tennessee, and passed away October 5, 2025, in Little Rock, Arkansas, at the age of 79 years and 6 months and 1 day.

Adren has struggled with vision loss since a youth. At age 11, Adren had partial vision and had to have glasses. At age 12, Adren had cataracts that were removed 10 years later. Adren attended Perry County High School in Linden, TN, and graduated in 1965. After graduation, he went to Michigan and worked almost four years. He sold home products, worked in a car wash and at the Marathon Oil Refinery. He returned to Tennessee in 1969-1970 and had eye surgery. He and Alton Lynch became great friends and traveled a lot. Then in 1971, Adren worked in Totty's Shoe Shop in Linden, Tennessee, with Randel Totty and family. In May of 1972, Adren moved to Little Rock for six months and went to work at Lion's World. He learned Braille, typing, and

mobility skills for the blind. Barbara, his future wife, taught him Braille.

Adren graduated from Austin Peay State University in 1977, with a double major in psychology and sociology and with a certification to teach in 38 states. He taught 18 years at Arkansas Enterprises/World Services for the Blind in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Adren married Barbara Kay Thornberry, December 15, 1978, in Little Rock where they made their home. He never let the fact that he had challenges with his sight keep him from doing anything that he decided to do.

Adren gave back to his community. He has served as a youth director, Sunday school teacher, activities director, and he helped with the bus ministry. He and Barbara started attending Village Creek Baptist Church in 2013. Adren also worked for the Dept. of Human Services for the Blind under the DHS umbrella. After retiring from different positions, he continued to return to work in new areas and capacities. He worked with tax and unemployment benefits, Hog Man's Hog Pen, and the Dept. of Workforce Services for the Blind.

Adren has been a Toastmaster for 38 years and has six Distinguished Toastmaster (DTM) awards from Toastmaster International and earned a total of 152 Educational Awards. He was a Division Director 3 times, Area Director 3 times, and Club Officer 54 times and was a Club Coach 4 times, Club Mentor 1 time, and Club Sponsor twice. He also works with eight other Toastmaster clubs. At various times in his Toastmasters Career, he was a member of 15 different clubs. Also, he was an active member of the Lions Club and a Gideon. He was a loyal Sigma Chi member.

Adren was a co-founder of the FirstCare OutReach Ministry for the Blind and Vision Impaired at the First Lutheran Church and a co-founder of the Kingdom Toastmasters at the same location. He worked with the church board to start a

Grief Sharing Support Group.

In the 1980's, Adren assisted the Deaf & Blind. They went to state and national conventions where he interpreted for the deaf/blind attendees. Adren took Spanish for five years, Arabic for two years, and took almost a year of German and Russian. Adren served on the Arkansas Rehab Council for the Blind and served on the Board of Directors for Main Stream from 1981 to the present. T.J. Hargett and Adren co-authored a book, "Tougher Than Nails" that was published in 2021.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife Barbara Duncan, his brother Alfred Duncan, and many dear friends.

Survivors include his sisters and brother, Nola Chandler of Columbia, TN, Hazel Rice of Charleston, AR, and Marvin (Brenda) Duncan of Maryville, eight nieces and a host of other loving family members and many friends.

Contributions may be made in his memory through the funeral home to the Fairview Cemetery by mailing to Marshall Funeral Home, P.O. Box 804, Alva, OK 73717.

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery

Noble Road at CR 430
OK 73717

Previous Events

Graveside service

OCT 11. 11:00 AM (CT)

Fairview Cemetery North of Alva
36°58'21.9"N 98°41'18.8"W

Tribute Wall

JH

“ Dear Friends, we remember Adren as one of the most kind & most determined students on campus. Seeing him walking to class made us step a little bit faster. No doubt that he is enjoying our Savior's Love in Heaven & waiting for us to join him - God's healing Spirit will turn grief into loving memories. Kind Regards, Jim H. (APSU '77).

J. Huggins - November 17, 2025 at 08:32 PM

RD

“ Adren was a joy to be around. He spread sunshine and always made my day when we met for taxes every year. I'll miss him and Barbara. Rachel Davis

Rachel Davis - October 20, 2025 at 10:54 AM

DH

“ Adren was a true friend to many people! Adren was very supportive in helping start the First Lutheran Support Group for the Blind & Visually Impaired. Adren provided leadership and provided many monthly programs.
Adren was a faithful Christian and demonstrated Jesus' love to everyone. He was faithful in his witness of what Jesus has done for us.
Dale Hoff

Dale Hoff - October 20, 2025 at 10:13 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Graveside Service*



Marshall Funeral Homes - October 11, 2025 at 01:38 PM

LI

“ *Adren, your determination, positive attitude, and loving heart has been a huge influence on my life. I pray I can carry those qualities forward in your honor! Love you!*

Leah Irvin - October 11, 2025 at 01:13 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Video Tribute*



Marshall Funeral Homes - October 10, 2025 at 05:40 PM

MB

“ *I've known you for going on almost 15 years. You always had a smile on your face. And really patient never in a rush. Even in some really hard times smiling. You always cared about others. Never in a rush and always willing to listen. Always full of joy and willing to help out. I'm thankful I got a chance to return my time to you. To be able to help you, even then as usual never in a huge rush. I will miss you.*

Micheal Beesley - October 10, 2025 at 07:18 AM

RH

Thank you so much Mr Beesley you have been a God send and I know I'm not the only one that is thankful for you. God Bless You. Rick Horner cousin of Adrian

Rick D Horner - October 11, 2025 at 08:41 AM

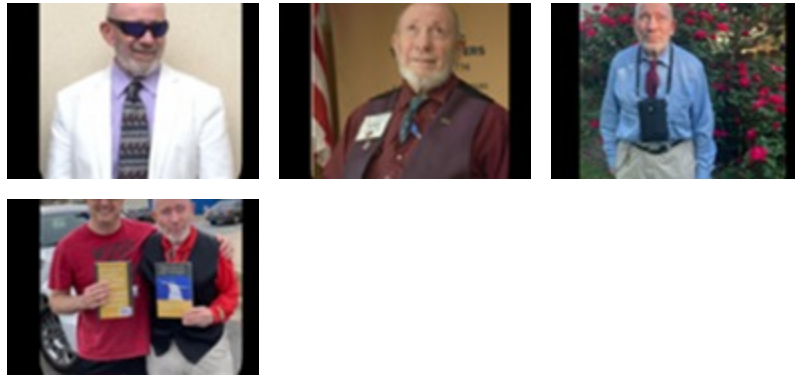
C-

“ Cousins -. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Adren Lee Duncan.

Cousins -. - October 09, 2025 at 05:53 PM

NR

“ 4 files added to the album Tribute Wall



Nancy Magar Rea - October 09, 2025 at 03:59 PM

HS

“ Healthmasters President, Wanda Simon purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Adren Lee Duncan.



Healthmasters President, Wanda Simon - October 09, 2025 at 03:07 PM

CO

“ Adren will be remembered by our family! We will miss him !

Cousins - Shirley, Judy and Jannie our - October 09, 2025 at 11:32 AM

JS

“ John and Sylvia purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Adren Lee Duncan.



John and Sylvia - October 09, 2025 at 10:18 AM



“ Adren was one of a kind! He had his own sense of style, his own personality, and his own mind. He had a big heart and most of all a love for his Savior, Jesus Christ! What a blessing to know him and Barbara!

Debbie Peoples - October 09, 2025 at 10:16 AM



Should say Debra Dick but didn't know how to change it.

Debbie Peoples - October 09, 2025 at 10:18 AM



“ RIP my friend. I will always remember our lively encounters and your positive attitude. Scott and Minda

Min DaMurphy - October 09, 2025 at 09:44 AM

RH

“ Adrian no doubt heard from his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ immediately when he passed onto Jesus awaiting arms, **WELL DONE MY GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT.** Because that's what he was a very good and faithful servant to everyone. I'm a cousin who's tried to see him as regularly as I can. Taking Barbara & Adrian to our family reunions in Hohenwald Tennessee many times where I'm from. Now live in Choctaw Oklahoma and he & Barbara have come many times to see us in Oklahoma on their way to Alva Oklahoma where Barbara was originally from. Anyway not too many people on this side of Heaven have been as impressing as the two of them were. I could go on and on on that subject but it would be a long book I'll so miss both of them till I get to Heaven. I will look forward to see them there. And it won't be that long this side of Heaven is such a vapor here today gone tomorrow. Thanks Adrian and Barbara you both have made this world a better place. your cousin Rick & Sheri Horner

Rick D Horner - October 08, 2025 at 11:07 PM

JC

“ Dear Family of Adren Duncan,
Adren loved coffee, in fact so much so that he gave great tips based on how often his cup were kept full! And he insisted that his scrambled eggs be dry through and through!
Will miss our many outings especially after toastmasters. He was a good friend who gave me good advice when I was in difficulty at work: respond , don't react.
Bye my good friend, see you. Put in a good word. John

john clapp - October 08, 2025 at 04:22 PM

RM

I am so Blessed to get to know Adrian,his wife & I were childhood friends & remained,Adrian was a True Christian he loved the Lord,will miss you,but your now in a better place,RIP my friend,till we meet again,Rita Miller

Rita Miller - October 09, 2025 at 08:24 PM