



Leah Hope Crowder

September 18, 1926 - September 17, 2024

Leah Hope Reynolds Crowder went to be with our Lord on September 17, 2024...Almost 98 years to the day she was born in Jerusalem, Arkansas, on September 18, 1926. She is the widow of D. H. Crowder, Jr. of Perryville, Arkansas, and they enjoyed a little over 50 years together. She was also preceded in death by, her parents, Otis Everett Reynolds and Martha Cordelia Ruff Reynolds, brothers Dee Reynolds (Cloverdale, CA), and Ralph Reynolds (Derby, KS), and sisters Rhea Pinegar and Bess Lane (both of Perryville, AR). Survivors include brother, Fred Reynolds of Wichita, KS; daughter Martha(Winston) Crowder Simpson; sons Larry (Cindy)Crowder, and Andy(Victoria) Crowder all of Perryville, AR, and she was "Granny Hope" to 10 grandchildren Greg (Robin) Simpson, Alex (Andrea) Crowder, Melissa Hope Simpson, Tim (Jessica) Crowder, Harold (Carrie) Henderson, Grant (Robin Leephaibul) Simpson, Victoria (Greg) Webb, and Amanda (Alan) Crowder Denn, James (Emilee) Crowder, John (McKenzie) Crowder; 19 great-grandchildren, including Audra and Adyn Simpson, Will, Allie Hope and Dylan Crowder, Carson and Brantly Crowder, Drake, Reagan & Blaine Henderson, Lily and Leo Simpson, Carlee, Braylee and Alayna Denn, Jarrell Webb, Caleb and Noah Crowder, and Beckett Crowder. She was also lovingly called Granny Hope by her caregivers for the last years of her life at Perry County Nursing Center. Many nieces and nephews also survive with fond memories of "Aunt Hope".

Hope was Mrs. Reynolds as she began her teaching career in a one room

schoolhouse at Stumptoe in Van Buren County with 10 students ranging from first to eighth grade. She attended Arkansas Tech University for two years, and later moved to Perry, Arkansas to teach at Perry High School, where she met and married D. H. Crowder on January 31, 1947.

After becoming a mom to Martha, Larry and Andy, Hope completed her degree from Arkansas State Teachers College (now the University of Central Arkansas). She was Mrs. Crowder to countless students she taught while working in the Perryville school district for more than three decades prior to her retirement. During her career, she was part of the Arkansas Reading Council and the Arkansas Education Association.

Hope Crowder was a longtime, active member of the Perryville Church of Christ. Her bright smile continued to encourage others, long past the time when she could physically bless others through acts of service such as teaching or cooking.

Services will be 2:00 p.m. Friday, September 20, 2024, at the Perryville Church of Christ with her grandsons officiating. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial will be at Ragsdale Cemetery by Harris Funeral Home of Morrilton.

Cemetery Details

Ragsdale (Perryville) Cemetery

Perryville, AR 72126

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **20**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Perryville Church of Christ
412 Aplin Ave
Perryville, AR 72126

Funeral Service

SEP **20**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Perryville Church of Christ
412 Aplin Ave
Perryville, AR 72126

Tribute Wall

DZ

“ During 1968 my father was sent overseas for one year during the Vietnam War. My mom moved with her children to be near her parents in Perryville. I had Mrs. Crowder during the first half of 6th grade. I remember her so clearly. She was so warm and supportive and a great teacher. I truly loved her. When I left that December to move to another state, she gave me a going away party, providing me with gifts from my classmates. One of the things I remember in particular was a jar of change that the kids had donated. That semester with those kids and her as my teacher is stamped as one of the most positive experiences of my life. I'm glad she lived a long life. Debbie Wawrzyniec Zuiker

Debbie Zuiker - February 02, 2025 at 12:50 PM

MS

Thank you for sharing this about my mom! She would love to know she helped you!

Martha Crowder Simpson - November 27, 2025 at 05:58 PM



“ She was a wonderful woman who deeply shaped my youth. Your family is in my prayers 🙏❤️

Jennifer Evans - September 25, 2024 at 10:57 AM

MS

Thank you!

Martha Crowder Simpson - October 08, 2024 at 11:53 AM

CB

“ *What a blessing Mrs. Crowder was to everyone. One of the sweetest ladies I have known. May she rest in peace with Mr. Crowder in heaven.* ❤️

Carolyn Brooks - September 19, 2024 at 09:12 PM

MS

Thank you!

Martha Crowder Simpson - September 24, 2024 at 06:11 PM

YF

“ *Your ACL Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leah Hope Crowder.*

Your ACL Family - September 19, 2024 at 09:04 PM



“ *Lavender & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Leah Hope Crowder.*



September 19, 2024 at 09:04 PM

CR

“ *Cristina, Spence, Mary, Penny (late) & Marty planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Leah Hope Crowder.*

Cristina, Spence, Mary, Penny (late) & Marty - September 19, 2024 at 08:05 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Leah Hope Crowder.*



September 19, 2024 at 08:05 PM



“ *Mrs. Crowder was my excellent teacher for the 5th and 6th grade! She was so kind. She was so encouraging. She was everything a great teacher should be. My condolences to her family. I know she will be greatly missed.*
Melba Lester Shapley

Melba Lester Shapley - September 19, 2024 at 04:28 PM



Thank you! Yes, greatly missed!

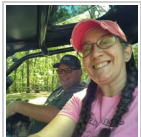
Martha Crowder Simpson - September 24, 2024 at 05:54 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Yellow and White was purchased for the family of Leah Hope Crowder.*



September 19, 2024 at 09:37 AM



“ *Delbert and Elzie Moore send their condolences.....she will be greatly missed...Loved by so many...Sending Love and Prayers to the family...Love from the whole Moore family*

Deborah Moore Zachary - September 18, 2024 at 07:30 PM

MS

Thank you, Elsie and Delbert!

Martha Crowder Simpson - September 24, 2024 at 05:53 PM

KR

“ *My what a celebration of her life! Ms Hope made an impression on those that new her, that lasted their whole life. Sweet lady who showed her love to all. Prayers for those who loved her so.*

kathy rankin - September 18, 2024 at 05:41 PM

MS

Thank you, Kathy!

Martha Crowder Simpson - September 24, 2024 at 05:53 PM

EG

“ *Well, heaven is certainly a happier place today with Mrs. Crowder in it!*

Like so many, she was one of my favorite teachers of all time! I can still see her beautiful, smiling face in that classroom. I was amazed at how happy and positive she always seemed.

Family, God gave you a priceless gift when He gave you Mrs. Crowder as a mother and grandmother!

Estellé Miller Gullett



Estellé Miller Gullett - September 18, 2024 at 02:54 PM

MS

Thank you!

Martha Crowder Simpson - September 18, 2024 at 05:41 PM

SJ

Mrs Crowder taught me at PHS and we went to church together at Perryville church when I was young. I know she is so happy and such a blessing to heaven as she was on earth. May God bless her sweet children... Sandra Short Clay, Jackson! 🙏🙏🙏❤️

Sandra Jackson - September 19, 2024 at 09:58 PM

MS

Thank you!

Martha Crowder Simpson - September 24, 2024 at 05:49 PM

TO

“*Mrs. Crowder was such an amazing lady. She was one of my sunday school teachers at the Perryville CofC. Bless her and her family. I have always and will always love her.*

tony - September 18, 2024 at 01:06 PM

MS

Thank you!

Martha Crowder Simpson - September 24, 2024 at 05:51 PM



“*I will always cherish my friendship with Mrs.Crowder. She was one of a kind. I never saw her when she didn't have a smile.She was as angel on earth. She will be missed by all who knew her/*

Alice Spires - September 18, 2024 at 12:13 PM

MS

Thank you, Alice!

Martha Crowder Simpson - September 18, 2024 at 05:43 PM

EA

“ Mrs Crowder was my teacher at Adona Gradeschool in 1954. She played a game of jacks (jacks and ball) with me on the front porch of the four room school house. I have very fond memories of her. Prayers for her family.

Eula Broadway Abston - September 18, 2024 at 11:50 AM

MS

lol! I remember going to the Adona schoolhouse a few times when she taught there! I was curious about the kids there because she talked about y'all a lot. She loved teaching there!

Martha Crowder Simpson - September 18, 2024 at 06:36 PM

RS

Very good memories of Mrs Crowder as my elementary teacher at Perryville back in the day. Ruby Fowler Shackleford

Ruby Fowler Shackleford - September 20, 2024 at 02:10 PM