



Jack D. Thomas

April 14, 1935 - May 12, 2026

Jack D. Thomas, 91, of Collierville, Tennessee, formerly of Searcy, Arkansas, passed away on May 12, 2026. He was born on April 14, 1935, in Hollis, Oklahoma, to the late Roy and Willie Ruth (Tillman) Thomas.

Jack earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees from Abilene Christian University before beginning his career as a band director, serving students in Texas and Long Island, New York, for 11 years. He later pursued his Ph.D. at Texas A&M University and devoted much of his professional life to psychology, education, and public service.

From 1974 to 2009, Jack served as Chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences at Harding University, where he deeply valued working alongside his colleagues and faculty members. He also served as Chief Psychologist at Searcy Medical Center from 1977 to 2013 and volunteered as a psychologist with the White County Sheriff's Department from 2009 to 2013. Jack's leadership and expertise were recognized statewide. He served as a Member of the Advisory Board of the Criminal Justice Institute (CJI) within the University of Arkansas System from 1992 to 2013, appointed by Governor Mike Beebe. Earlier in his career, he was appointed by the Governor of Arkansas to serve as both Member and Chair of the Arkansas Board of Examiners in Psychology from 1981 to 1986.

Above all his accomplishments, Jack considered marrying Mary Lois Newhouse in 1963 to be the greatest blessing of his life. Through their marriage, he was welcomed into the Newhouse family, which became a cherished part of his life story. Jack treasured being a devoted husband, loving father to two sons and their wives, and proud grandfather to nine grandchildren.

Left to cherish his memory are his beloved wife, Mary Lois (Newhouse) Thomas; two sons and their wives, Andy and Jennifer Thomas, and Britt and Wendy Thomas; and nine grandchildren, Caroline, Jonathan, Sydney, and Alexandra, Callie, Cade Bishop, Josie Bishop, Claire, and Ila.

He is preceded in death by his mother and father; half brothers, Donald Eugene Breedlove and John Junior Breedlove.

Funeral services will be conducted on Monday, May 18, 2026, at 2:00pm, at College Church of Christ in Searcy. Visitation will precede the service, beginning at 12:30pm. Graveside services will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 2:00pm, at Shiloh Cemetery, in Honey Grove, Texas.

Arrangements are entrusted to Powell Funeral Home of Searcy. www.powellfuneralhome.net

Cemetery Details

Shiloh Cemetery

2438 County Road 2730
Honey Grove, TX 75446

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 18. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

College Church Of Christ
712 E Race Ave
Searcy, AR 72143-4421
(501) 268-7156

Funeral Service

MAY 18. 2:00 PM (CT)

College Church Of Christ
712 E Race Ave
Searcy, AR 72143-4421
(501) 268-7156

Graveside Service

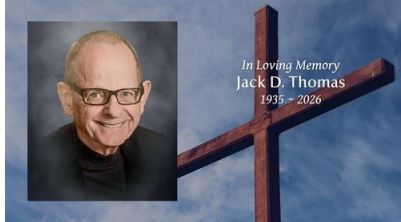
MAY 19. 2:00 PM (CT)

Shiloh Cemetery
2438 County Road 2730
Honey Grove, TX 75446

Tribute Wall



“ Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Jack D. Thomas



Powell Funeral Home & Cremation Services - May 21 at 10:16 AM



“ Dr. Jack also helped officers at Searcy PD - up til at least 2015. He helped me tremendously and I thank his family now for allowing him to take care of us. My openness about mental health and the importance of taking care of it - is directly because of Dr. Jack. Praying for your family.

Terri - May 19 at 03:01 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Jack D. Thomas.



May 18 at 09:38 AM

TD

“ *The Newmans; D,B,G,E,C,&K purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Jack D. Thomas.*



The Newmans; D,B,G,E,C,&K - May 16 at 06:56 PM

MD

“ *What a wonderful friend to my parents, Clifford and Charlene Prock... also from Hollis, Ok! How great it was for Jack to come to Harding where my parents had been since 1960. Daddy was the head coach of the Bison football team. When my Daddy got sick, Jack started having our family's Thanksgiving meal catered to help my Mother out. He was a servant and a friend. I went to the Hollis Alumni Reunion with my parents yearly and Jack would always be there with his big smile and personality! The Procks loved him. He will be missed. I'll be lifting your family up!*

Mona Daniel - May 15 at 11:48 PM

DW

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Dale Warren - May 15 at 05:31 PM

DW

I will miss my brother Jack! Ms. Mary Lois, I'm so sorry for your loss...I loved him!

Dale Warren - May 15 at 05:31 PM

TE

Wonderful men

Terri - May 19 at 07:02 AM

DJ

“ *I was saddened to learn of Jack's passing
We spent time together while he was at Searcy medical center
I always considered him a good friend*

My deep sympathy to Mary Lois and the rest of his family

david m johnson - May 15 at 12:01 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the
family of Jack D. Thomas.*



May 14 at 08:00 PM



“ *A [Memorial
Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jack D. Thomas.*

May 14 at 04:39 PM



“ *Heavenly Sentiments Spray was purchased for
the family of Jack D. Thomas.*



May 14 at 04:39 PM