



Kit L Coughran

January 2, 1980 - March 31, 2026

Kit L. Coughran, affectionately known as “Mr. C” by his students, aged 46, passed away on March 31, 2026, in Grove, Oklahoma. Born on January 2, 1980, in Jay, Oklahoma, Kit was an adored educator, artist, and advocate for Native American culture, leaving a lasting impact on his community and beyond.

Kit graduated from Grove High School and pursued his passion for art at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico, before obtaining a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Ft. Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. He furthered his education with a Master’s degree in library science from NSU in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Kit dedicated his life to teaching, beginning his career at White Oak School, Moseley School and for the last ten years, at Jay Public School. Investing in education, Kit was a passionate Art Instructor and assisted in enriching the school's programs with E-Sports, Robotics and Cherokee studies.

A man of faith, Kit was a member of the Foundation Freewill Baptist Church in Grove, Oklahoma. His commitment to his Cherokee heritage was significant and he worked tirelessly to promote and preserve his culture. Kit’s artistic talents were recognized statewide, with his artwork displayed at the Oklahoma State Capitol, various schools as well as tribal buildings. The community will continue to enjoy the murals he painted for years to come.

Spending time at the creek and in nature for were some of the activities that Kit relished the most, as well as chess, song writing and publishing pod cast.

He also enjoyed reading and had a thirst for learning and expanding his mind. Some referred to him as “the most interesting man in the world.” What Kit will be remembered for the most was his remarkable ability to make meaningful connections with others and encourage them to pursue their passions. Kit developed an interest in boxing after his father, a Golden Glove boxer, inspired him. He eventually served as president of the American Boxing Association.

Kit is preceded in death by his grandparents and father, Curtis Leo Coughran, Jr.

Left to cherish his memory is his mother, Elizabeth “Jan” Long (née Coleman) and her spouse Bobby; daughter, Bella Coughran; brother, Cody Coughran; Sister-in-law Sandra Coughran; and cherished nieces and nephews Karen Phelps (fiancé Bryan Burns), and Naylela and Zaryah, Chase Coughran (Kadynce) and Capron, and Kurtis, Justus, Josey, and Angelo Coughran. Visitation will be held from 5-7 PM on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at Nichols-Stephens Funeral Service, Grove, OK. Funeral services are scheduled for 2:00 PM on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at the Jay Bulldog Basketball Arena. Arrangements entrusted to Nichols-Stephens Funeral & Cremation Services. Donations to the Kit Coughran Memorial may be made in his memory at <https://square.link/u/5EaoMW4u> .

Previous Events

Funeral Service

APR 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

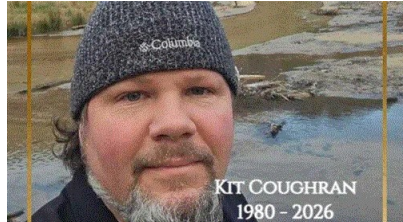
Jay Bulldog Basketball Arena
322 E Monroe Street
Jay, OK 74346

Visitation 5 - 7 pm Tuesday, April 7 Nichols-Stephens Funeral Service

Tribute Wall



“ Nichols Funeral & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Kit L Coughran



Nichols-Stephens Funeral & Cremation Services - April 09 at 05:31 PM



“ The Hopper family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Kit L Coughran.



The Hopper family - April 07 at 09:12 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Kit L Coughran.



April 06 at 06:51 PM



“ Amber Bell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kit L Coughran.

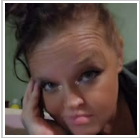
Amber Bell - April 05 at 04:58 PM

AB

“ Amber Bell purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Kit L Coughran.

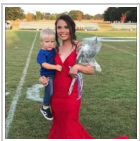


Amber Bell - April 05 at 04:58 PM



“ I had known kit for years but had the honor of getting to know more about him in the last 7 months. He was passionate about his art work and the native American culture. I am deeply saddened to hear of his passing. We had been making arrangements for myself to reach him how to crochet a mushroom so he could then take what he had learned and teach his art students at school how to do one. He emphasized that listening and truly hearing his students made them feel acknowledged and he arrived to make that possible. Willing to lend a helping hand up was his motto he once said. Kit you will be greatly missed. And to his family my condolences...

Lindsey Jackson - April 02 at 11:56 PM



“ I had Mr.C as an art teacher at Moseley, I always thought he was a great teacher and great person. He was a very talented artist that taught his students to be confident in themselves and their artwork. Praying for all those that loved him!

Macy Thomas - April 02 at 10:27 PM

J(

“ i had mr.c as a geography, art, and robotics teacher at moseley 7th and 8th grade year. he truly was one of the best teachers and cared so much for the kids he taught.

when i fractured my foot 7th grade year, my sister had told him why i wasn't at the book fair (i was in the ER) and he sent her home with a couple of posters to make me feel better. he is responsible for my love of art and magic the gathering. he will be missed deeply by so many ❤️

Jasey Chandler (Ford) - April 02 at 08:04 PM

NB

“ Nicole Beck purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Kit L Coughran.



Nicole Beck - April 02 at 05:11 PM