



Melvin Russell Underwood

January 4, 1939 - October 5, 2024

Melvin Russell Underwood, passed away on October 5, 2024, in Grove, Oklahoma, at the age of 85. Born on January 4, 1939, in Grove, Oklahoma, Melvin led a distinguished life marked by his service, creativity, and devotion to his family and country.

Melvin graduated from Grove High School with the Ridgerunner class of 1957 and furthered his education by earning an associate's degree. He embarked on a notable career in the military, serving both in the Air Force and the Army, where he retired as a Master Sergeant in the Army in 1980. His military career was not only a reflection of his dedication but also his pride in his Cherokee heritage.

In addition to his military service Melvin was involved in his community as a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion. His hobbies included woodworking, a testament to his artistic side, which he pursued with the same passion and precision that characterized his military career.

He is survived by his loving wife, Angela (Perry-Sellers) Underwood, whom he married on December 16, 2000, in Wyandotte, Oklahoma, and his son, James Underwood, both of Grove, Oklahoma, step daughter, Alexandra Teal of Frisco, TX, 2 granddaughters, Jessica Underwood of Wyandotte, Ok and

Christina Underwood of Grove, nine great grandchildren and 2 nephews and 1 niece of Tahlequah.

Melvin was preceded in death by his parents, James C. and Grace (Leas) Underwood, his son David Underwood, and his brother Ross Underwood.

Melvin will be laid to rest with graveside services at 1:30 pm on Thursday, October 10, 2024, at Ft. Gibson National Cemetery. Nichols-Stephens Funeral & Cremation Services in Grove, Oklahoma, is assisting the family during this time.