



Wesley A. Holt

May 28, 1948 - January 27, 2026

Wesley Alvin Holt, known affectionately as Wes or 'Swede', was called home by his Lord and Savior on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at his home in Grove, Oklahoma, at the age of 77. Born on May 28, 1948, in Manhattan, Kansas, he was the son of the late Donald and Ardyce (Yantiss) Holt. Wes was also preceded in death by his stepson, Jackie A. Cooper.

Wes graduated from Blue Valley High School in Randolph, KS in 1966 and continued his education at Bethany College in Lindsborg, KS. Soon after, he served in the United States Air Force, stationed at F.E. Warren AFB in Cheyenne, Wyoming as a military policeman. He was a life member of the Olsburg, Kansas American Legion Post 284 and a member of the National Rifle Association.

In 1967, during his service to his country in Wyoming, Wes married Pam Beard, and together they were blessed with three children, Tami, Kari and Dusty. They later divorced.

Wes was deeply rooted in the Blue Valley as a farmer and rancher. This in turn reflected his love for the land and his dedication to hard work.

A highlight of his life was when he served as Pottawatomie County Commissioner for 8 years and was deeply involved in various civic roles. Through his time on the commission, he served on numerous local, state and national committees. He traveled extensively to Washington, D.C. where he got to know many Senators, Congressmen, as well as two presidents, President George Bush Sr, and President Bill Clinton.

In 1996 he purchased a home on Grand Lake. When his political career ended in 1999, he moved permanently and began the next chapter of his life as a real estate appraiser. As an appraiser, he was highly respected for his integrity and expertise.

A member of Olsburg Lutheran Church, Wes's faith played a significant role in his life, guiding his actions and interactions with those around him. He could see God's Glory and blessings in all that he did.

Wes was a man of many interests and talents, including welding, knife making, forging, blacksmithing, deer hunting, fishing, motorcycle riding – even after losing his right leg in a car/motorcycle accident in 2008, he continued to embrace life with vigor and continued his motorcycle travels. His Swedish heritage was a source of pride for him and earned him the 'handle' of Swede during his memorable years of riding with The Posse of Grove. He enjoyed playing the guitar, as well as other instruments, and delighted those around him with his singing, sometimes silly songs for the grandchildren. He was also a great cook who also enjoyed barbecuing and smoking meats. He was an avid gun collector, enjoyed traveling, collecting arrowheads, working with metal, operating heavy equipment, and gardening, just to name a few of his wide array of interests. He adored his pets and saw that their needs were met even before his own.

He is survived by his former wife, caregiver and significant other of over 20 years, Cheryl Marshall; his children, Tami Howland (Jeff) of Olsburg, KS, Kari Holt of Manhattan, KS, and Dusty Holt (Wesley Shields) of Raytown, MO; stepchildren, Michael Marshall (Sammy Rogers) of Fairland, OK, and Michelle Martin (Al) of Jay, OK.; and brother Dan Holt (Shari) of Olsburg, KS. Wes was also a cherished grandfather and great grandfather to Taellor (Andrew), Bailee (Trace), Kaylin (Tate), Colby (Reba Major) and step grandchildren Nathan (caregiver and assistant), Amber, Nicole (Derek), Calvin, Logan, and Alivia; and 18 adored great grandchildren along with many extended family members and a host of friends and acquaintances.

A Celebration of Life for Wes will be at 11 am on February 28, 2026 at

Nichols-Stephens Funeral & Cremation Services in Grove, OK. There will be a potluck lunch to follow. Wes will be remembered for his serious, studious nature, his leadership, and his generous spirit, especially evident in his love for playing Santa at family gatherings, ensuring everyone felt the joy of the season. The family extends heartfelt appreciation to Good Shepherd Hospice for supporting the family and making this transition a little easier. His legacy as a devoted family man, community leader, and a man of many talents are evident and he will be deeply missed.

Due to his love of animals, the family asked that donations be made to Second Chance Pet Rescue of Grand Lake, 64301 E 290 Road, Grove, OK 74344, or may be left at the funeral home.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB **28**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Nichols-Stephens Funeral and Cremation Service
10201 U.S. Highway 59
Grove, OK 74344
(918) 786-6761
nicholsfunerals@yahoo.com

Tribute Wall



“ Nichols Funeral & Cremation Services created a Webcast in memory of Wesley A. Holt



Nichols-Stephens Funeral & Cremation Services - March 02 at 01:30 PM



“ Nichols Funeral & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Wesley A. Holt



Nichols-Stephens Funeral & Cremation Services - March 02 at 01:24 PM

SB

“ Sheri Rossman Bruner lit a candle in memory of Wesley A. Holt



Sheri Rossman Bruner - January 31 at 07:53 PM

SB

My sincere condolences, he was a good man.

Sheri Rossman Bruner - January 31 at 07:53 PM

BW

“ *I was a Blue Valley classmate of Wes and remember him as a good person who was very onery at times. Our class was very small (24) and we were all friends. I am so sorry for your loss. I remember him with great fondness.*

Barbara Wohler - January 29 at 08:54 PM