



William "Bill" D. Berry

June 19, 1940 - April 9, 2016

William "Bill" D. Berry, age 75, lifelong resident of Grove, Ok passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, April 9, 2016.

Bill was born on June 19, 1940 in Tollison, AZ to Fred and Molly (McClain) Berry, the youngest of 10 children. As an infant, his parents moved to Grove and bought a farm on Honey Creek, that would later become his families legacy. Bill graduated from Grove High School in 1959.

On July 23, 1960 he married his high school sweetheart, Sandra Robertson and they spent 55 wonderful years together. From this union came 5 children. Michelle, Keli, Kim, Shane and James Shawn.

Throughout his life Bill was known for his undying work ethic. From 1958-1967he managed the family farm which included a Grade A dairy. In 1967 Bill founded Honey Creek Nursery – and many of the trees to be seen in the Grand Lake area and beyond, came from this nursery; the beauty of these trees is part of the legacy he leaves behind.

Bill was involved in numerous community activities: Volunteer fire fighter at Butler Fire Department. He was a founding member of the Grove Junior Chamber of Commerce, served on the Grove School Board, and worked many years to help build the youth sports programs in the city of Grove. He donated most of the trees standing today at all Grove Public School sites.

Bill belonged to several philanthropic organizations including Concerned Citizens for Green Country Conservation, Oklahoma Wildlife Federation, Delaware County Agriculture, Stabilization and Conservation Committee and

he was proud of his Cherokee heritage, his great grandmother survived the trail of tears.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Fred & Molly Berry, siblings: Everett Berry, Clara Stearns, Dean Berry, Betty Durham, Gene Berry, James Berry and son-in-law, Tom Steen.

Those left to cherish his memory and continue his legacy: wife, Sandra (Robertson)Berry of Grove, Ok, Children: Michelle Perry-White (m. Henry White) of Double Oak, TX, Keli Steen (m. Tom Steen) of Grove, OK, Kim Dodson (m. Justin Dodson) of Welch, OK, Shane Berry (m. Kim Berry) of Grove, OK and James Shawn Berry (m. Kelly Johnson-Berry) of Tulsa, OK. Grandchildren: Megan Lasch, Timothy Steen, Molly Steen, Tylor Dodson, Tra Dodson, McKalee Steen, Billy Berry, Marshall Berry and Morgan Berry Siblings: Bonnie Boethin of Oologah, OK, Lou Ann Murray of Grove, OK, and Bob Berry of Tahlequah, OK and many loving nieces, nephews and cousins. Visitation will be held from 5:30-7pm Wednesday, April 13 at Nichols Funeral Chapel. The body will lie in state on Thursday from 9-5pm at the funeral home.

A come and go Celebration of Bill's life will be held at his home from 3pm-7pm on Thursday, April 14 and food and beverages will be served.

Graveside services will be held at 11am Friday, April 15, 2016 at Hickory Grove Cemetery in Grove, OK.

Memorial contributions in Bill Berry's name can be made to the Butler Fire Department at 66200 E 335th Rd, Jay, Ok 74346.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **13**. 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Gathering for family and friends

APR **14**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Berry Family Home
66301 E. 320 Rd
Grove, OK 74344

Graveside Service

APR **15**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Hickory Grove Cemetery
24201 S. 595 Rd
Grove, OK 74344

Tribute Wall



“ *William "Bill" D. Berry*

October 04, 2023 at 03:23 PM



“ *0 file added to the tribute wall*

Nichols-Stephens Funeral & Cremation Services - February 28, 2017 at 01:53 PM



“ *Jim & Pam Mason lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" D. Berry*



Jim & Pam Mason - April 14, 2016 at 01:19 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of William "Bill" D. Berry.*



April 14, 2016 at 12:24 AM



“ *Bill is going to be missed by sooo many people, yes, most of all his family. As a neighbor for 39 years we will miss his "visits" along the road side. Mike just vsited with him last week up at the road. He was always so kind and generous in everything he did for all he came in contact with. Our tears flowed when we got the news, and we would just shake our heads for days afterward, saying to ourselves and each other, so hard to believe he is gone from this earth. Words don't suffice how we all feel, numb is one that comes to mind. Our daughters send their love and condolences to all of you also.*

*He is a gentle giant who will be missed. May Heavenly Father's choicest blessings and peace be upon each memeber of his family.
Love, Mike and Ginny Bridges*

Virginia Bridges - April 13, 2016 at 06:47 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of William "Bill" D. Berry.*



April 13, 2016 at 02:46 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of William "Bill" D. Berry.*



April 13, 2016 at 01:39 PM

PK

“ Patricia and David Kennedy purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of William "Bill" D. Berry.



Patricia and David Kennedy - April 12, 2016 at 09:23 PM



“ Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of William "Bill" D. Berry.



April 12, 2016 at 07:53 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of William "Bill" D. Berry.



April 12, 2016 at 07:18 PM

DB

“ Dave And Tenna Barton lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" D. Berry



Dave and Tenna Barton - April 12, 2016 at 05:12 PM

DB

Bill was such a gentle man. He always had a smile and a story. We will miss him on our annual November Deer hunting trip, but Im sure all the memories will be awaiting. LOVE YOU BILL BERRY!! You will be missed by many 🙏

Dave and Tenna Barton - April 12, 2016 at 05:52 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of William "Bill" D. Berry.*



April 12, 2016 at 05:02 PM

AK

“ *Austin and Betsy Kenyon purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of William "Bill" D. Berry.*



Austin and Betsy Kenyon - April 12, 2016 at 11:49 AM

 Paula
Ledbetter
Vaughan

“ *Paula Ledbetter Vaughan lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" D. Berry*



Paula Ledbetter Vaughan - April 12, 2016 at 03:58 AM

 Paula
Ledbette
Vaughan

My heart is with the whole family. Praying for you all.

Paula Ledbetter Vaughan - April 12, 2016 at 04:00 AM

RC

“ *Ruby Jewell And Tommy Gene Caudill lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" D. Berry*



Ruby Jewell and Tommy Gene Caudill - April 12, 2016 at 12:43 AM

RC

Our family grew up with Bill and his siblings and have many fond memories of those days. He is a very kind and loving man, and he will be missed by many who knew him. May God bless and comfort you Sandra and fill you and all of your family with His peace.

Ruby Jewell and Tommy Gene Caudill - April 12, 2016 at 12:50 AM

TA

“ *So many wonderful memories I could share of working with bill for more then 20 years.
He was the hardest working man I've ever known, with a heart of gold. And a touch of an ornery bear:) he will be missed by many who's life he touched.*

Terry arnall - April 11, 2016 at 11:45 PM

GB

“ *I first met Bill Berry and his family in 1978 after moving to Grove and being employed at the school. Bill's family is truly a reflection of him. Always kind and always greeting you with big smiles. From a distance I saw him and Shawn in Braums just a week ago and now wish I had gotten their attention to say hi, but didn't want to interrupt him picking out his choices of ice cream to take home. He and his genuine kindness will be missed in our community. Prayers for comfort through Christ our Lord goes out to the Berry families. Gail Bates*

Gail Bates - April 11, 2016 at 11:11 PM

JA

“ I am so sorry for your family, I know how much he meant to everyone..I never saw him without a smile..I hope you can find peace in knowing how much he loved you..and continues to be there in spirit for each of you..

Jackie Turner Morris

Jackie - April 11, 2016 at 10:48 PM

FO

“ From Danny & Mimi O'Dell purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of William "Bill" D. Berry.



From Danny & Mimi O'Dell - April 11, 2016 at 09:31 PM

 Sandra Delaune

“ Shane and Kim we send our deepest sympathy. Prayers from all of us at 4 Hearts.

Sandra Delaune - April 11, 2016 at 09:23 PM

SL

“ Bill was a very nice man and I'm so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Sharon Limes and family

Sharon Limes - April 11, 2016 at 08:16 PM

JH

“ *Sandra, Michelle, Keli, Kim, Shane, Shawn and families. My heartfelt thoughts and prayers for peace and comfort for each of you. Bill has left part of him in each of you. Rejoice in it. Jan Howerton*

Jan Howerton - April 11, 2016 at 07:05 PM

FM

“ *Frank & Wendy Murry purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of William "Bill" D. Berry.*



Frank & Wendy Murry - April 11, 2016 at 06:18 PM

BR

“ *Bonnie Boethin, Ron & Pam Risto purchased the Meat Lasagna for the family of William "Bill" D. Berry.*



Bonnie Boethin, Ron & Pam Risto - April 11, 2016 at 03:52 PM

PR

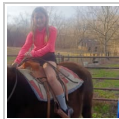
“ It was early in the morning. Foggy - cold - dew all on the ground. I never wore shoes at the farm. It took too much time to find them and put them on. I raced outside. My cousins, Kathy, Steve and Jeff were also there. No one had on shoes. Uncle Bill and Bob were milking. We had to hurry and watch. We raced around the milk barn peeking in while they applied the huge sucking machine to the cow's teats and we could see the milk running through the tubes. We watched them in awe. We climbed onto the fence where the cows would gather waiting for their turn at the yummy grain awaiting them in the stalls. Our feet were freezing. I jumped from the fence to run toward the milk barn again. Suddenly I could feel the most awesome warm cushion around my feet. I stopped short! Ahhh, it was a warm cow pile surrounding my feet. I yelled to my cousins, Kathy Steve and Jeff. Come and feel the warm soft cushion. They came running. I looked up to see Uncle Bill's face and his warm smile. I could tell he had done this before too. He just laughed and so we all did.

Pamela Willhour Risto - April 11, 2016 at 03:12 PM

VP

My first remembrance of uncle Bill is while spending the night with grandma and grandpa. It was early morning and two very tall young men came into the dining room, they both had huge plastic bowls in which were filled to the top with corn flakes. I remember thinking how could anyone eat that much. After the bowls were empty grandma began to bring breakfast to the table. Grandma cooked the best breakfast ever. These two boys (Bob and Bill), began to eat . I will always remember that morning.

Virginia Berry, Phelps - April 11, 2016 at 06:49 PM



Our thoughts and prayers are with all the family. So saddened to hear of your loss. Bill was such a sweet kind man. My dad (Danny Blevins) sure thought the world of him. Prayers for peace and comfort in the days ahead. With Love, Bill, Renee, Jess and Dalton Hale families.

Renee Blevins Hale - April 11, 2016 at 07:02 PM

MJ

Bill leaves a big void - and an incredible family legacy. What a great guy! Much love to all the Berrys.

Monty Johnson - April 12, 2016 at 10:15 AM

PR

“ *I was always at the farm while growing up - One of my fondest memories - There was an old tractor in the Barn Yard that was just calling me to play with it's peddles and steering wheel. It was parked on a slight hill so it could be easily "jumped" to start it. I climbed on the old tractor and imagined that I was driving in the pastures and across Honey Creek. My legs where just long enough that my feet could reach the peddles. I began to tap out a rhythm on those old peddles and it lurched forward. It began to roll. I froze in utter fear and wanted to scream for help. It picked up speed. I looked around for a grown up to help me. No one was anywhere that my eyes could see. The old tractor picked up more speed and began to roll toward the gate that surrounded the house. I frantically looked for a brake. None. Out of nowhere - Uncle Bill with his longs legs bounded toward me and disaster. He only had to take a few steps and was on the tractor. He found the magic brake. He did not scold me at all. He just smiled and lifted me from the tractor and off I ran.*

Pamela Willhour Risto - April 11, 2016 at 03:01 PM

MB

Living in CA all my life (except for this past year in Hawaii) I enjoyed visiting Grove a hand full of times growing up. I remember one year mom, dad, and I traveled to Grove during October. I remember October because we went up to Bill and Sandy's home during Halloween. Bill had pumpkins to carve out and he got us laughing so hard. I must have been about 12 or 13 at the time. I will never forget the farm. Thanks Bill for being the families watch over the treasured homestead. I have many memories that will never die in my heart!!!

Michael Berry - April 11, 2016 at 03:17 PM

CS

SO SORRY, SENDING LOVE AND PRAYERS TO HIS BEAUTIFUL
FAMILY XOXO

COLLEEN ARGO STARK - April 11, 2016 at 04:51 PM