

Bill J. Martin

July 12, 1933 - March 26, 2016

After a courageous battle with Alzheimer's, Bill J. Martin (Poppie) 82 of Warner, Oklahoma went to his heavenly home on March 26, 2016, in Ft. Gibson, Oklahoma. Funeral services for Bill will be held at 11:00 a.m., Friday, April 1, 2016 at First Baptist Church in Warner with Reverend Sam Dunn officiating. Pallbearers will be Monte Madewell, John Sanders, Billy Gardner, Dick Goss, Ricky Kirkhart, and Bob Christian. Honorary pallbearers will be Gene Wheat, Luther Martin, Truman Dixon, A.D. Stone, Buddy Lewis, Eric Wells, Joey Wells, the 1963 and 1964 Warner State Baseball teams, and the Connors 1985 National Champion Lady Cowgirl Basketball team. A private family interment will follow later Friday afternoon.

Bill was born July 12, 1933 in Checotah, Oklahoma to Verlin and Selma (Combs) Martin. Bill began his education at Shady Grove, a one room schoolhouse, and he graduated from Checotah High School in 1951. On June 14, 1952, Bill married the love of his life Jeannie (Brand) in Ft. Smith, Arkansas. They enjoyed over 63 years of marriage together. Bill continued his education at Connors State College on an athletic scholarship where he earned an associate's degree while playing baseball. After Connors, Bill attended Panhandle A&M for one year. Next he furthered his education at Northeastern State University where he received a Bachelor of Science and his Masters of Education in 1958. During this time, he also taught third grade in Lewis, Kansas. After teaching in Kansas, Bill became the principal at Warner High School where he taught science and math and coached many

sports. While at Warner, he had the privilege of coaching the 1963 and 1964 state championship baseball teams. In 1966, Bill returned to Connors as an instructor in math and science. He also was the assistant coach with Monte Madewell for the women's basketball team where he was a part of the 1985 National Championship team. While at Connors, Bill attended the University of Tulsa and University of Oklahoma where he received a professional diploma in 1971. He retired from Connors in 1992.

Bill was a lifelong resident of Warner and a member of First Baptist Church. He was a spry individual with many activities which included: 32nd Degree Mason, sports official, rancher, waste water chemist, gardening and giving produce away, golfer, and peddling sweet corn for over 40 years. He was also a member of Connors State College Alumni and Friends Hall of Fame. Anyone that knew Bill, knew about his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and that he was their "Poppie." "Poppie" never met a stranger. He loved spending time watching those grandbabies do just about anything. "Poppie" will be greatly missed.

Survivors include his wife, Jean of Warner, Oklahoma; daughter, Debbie Fast and husband James of Ft. Gibson, Oklahoma; granddaughter, Jamie Kirkhart and husband Chad of Muskogee, Oklahoma; grandson, Joey Fast and wife Brette of Ft. Gibson, Oklahoma; great grandchildren; Katie Kirkhart, Kenzie Kirkhart, Karlie Kirkhart, Zoey Fast, and Zade Fast; brothers, Bob Martin and wife Jackie of Morgan Hill, California, and Buddy Martin and wife Sue of Checotah, Oklahoma; sisters, Phyllis Sloan and husband Wayne of Gore, Oklahoma, and Mary Beth Gately and husband Larry of Checotah, Oklahoma; many nephews, nieces, cousins, and close friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Verlin and Selma Martin; nephew, Greg Martin; and great nephew, Thomas Gregory Martin II.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorials to the First Baptist Church of Warner Summer Camp Fund, P.O. Box 250, Warner, Oklahoma 74469. The family will receive friends from 5:00 – 7:30 P.M., Thursday, March 31, 2016 at Cornerstone Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Family Visitation

MAR 31. 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

Cornerstone Funeral Home & Crematory
1830 North York Street
Muskogee, OK 74403
(918) 682-1500

Visitation

MAR 31. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Cornerstone Funeral Home Chapel
1830 N. York St.
Muskogee, OK 74403

Service

APR 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

Warner First Baptist Church
810 2nd Ave
Warner, OK 74469

Tribute Wall



“ *Bill J. Martin*

October 23, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ *To the Martin family, we are so sorry for your loss and apologize for not being able to attend Bill's service due to a previous engagement. You have our deepest sympathy and understanding of what a terrible disease Alzheimer's is. Praying for God's comfort.*
Phil and Sandy Ross

Sandy Ross - April 01, 2016 at 09:29 AM



“ *Mrs. Martin, Debbie and family,*
I am so sorry for your loss. Seeing Mr. Martin's picture brings back memories of wonderful times at Connors in 1971 and 1972. And all the lovely family photos make a beautiful tribute.
Theresa Lienhart Williamson

Theresa Williamson - March 31, 2016 at 08:56 PM



“ *3 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Cornerstone Funeral Home and Crematory - March 31, 2016 at 08:59 AM

NA

“ Prayers for comfort for Mrs. Martin, Debbie and family. Your family will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers. I will miss seeing his charming smile. He will be missed by many.

Nikki Alvarez

Nikki Alvarez - March 30, 2016 at 11:50 AM

ME

“ So sorry for your loss. Praying for you all during this difficult time. Poppie was a great man that will truly be missed.

*Love,
Jason, Mennie, Kelsey, Blake, and Emily Cantwell*

MENNIE - March 30, 2016 at 07:15 AM

CH

“ So sorry for Debbie & Mrs. Martin & the Family's loss of Mr. Bill Martin.
Thank you so much Mr. Martin for being such a great Biology & Chemistry Instructor, Mentor & later a great professional reference for this new 1971 Connors College Freshman!!
May you Rest in Peace!!

Prayers for peace & comfort for the whole Martin Family!!

Christie Harrison

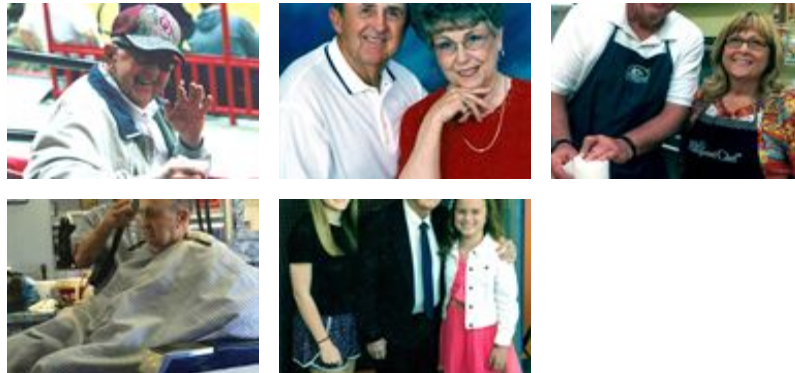
Physician Assistant

University of Oklahoma PA Class of 1982

Christie Harrison - March 29, 2016 at 07:42 PM



“ 82 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Cornerstone Funeral Home and Crematory - March 29, 2016 at 05:57 PM

JL

“ So Sorry for your loss, our prayers are with you all in this time of need. he will be missed by many.

The Warner City Hall Girls

jamie lane - March 29, 2016 at 08:46 AM

WB

“ *The Jeff Blair family sends our deepest condolences to Mr. Martin's family. We have fond memories of him, both from referring basketball and from our time at Connors State College. You are in our prayers.*

Wanda Blair - March 29, 2016 at 08:06 AM

PF

“ *Pete,Louise And Family lit a candle in memory of Bill J. Martin*



Pete,Louise and family - March 29, 2016 at 07:51 AM

DK

“ *So very sorry for the loss of your loved one. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers. Dean and Donna Knutson*



Donna Knutson - March 29, 2016 at 06:41 AM

TG

“ *Jeannie and Family, My sincere condolences to each of you. Bill was a special man and I vividly remember his kindness and ready smile each time I saw him on the CSC campus. May God wrap you in His comforting embrace in these sad and difficult days. Sincerely, Terrye Gamblin*

Terrye Gamblin - March 29, 2016 at 12:41 AM