



## Coleman E. Nelson

February 9, 1924 - November 22, 2019

“Ever heard of Saipan?” he would ask. And then Coleman Nelson would tell you it’s the largest of the Northern Mariana Islands, on the Pacific Ocean. He was a very young Marine when he fought and fell there from a bullet wound in World War II on July 4th, 1944. He would tell you how they put him on the Hospital Ship for evaluation, first in the lower deck. He learned later that this was procedure for patients not likely to survive. But he held on and was moved to a higher unit where he could feel sunshine. “That made the difference”, he said. He would tell the whole story, except the part about being awarded the Purple Heart. That was Coleman, a humble man who would never boast about a military decoration, or anything else. And he didn’t have to. Everyone who knew him found something wonderful and honorable in him.

Coleman was born on February 9, 1924 in Tuskahoma, Oklahoma to Monroe Nelson and Demma (Moon) Nelson. He left to reunite with wife Fleeta on November 22, 2019. For the 95 years that fell between, Coleman was kind and loving in every family role: son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather. Everyone was welcome at his house; everyone found love, patience and generosity. Coleman was the oak and the anchor at the center of the Nelson family, especially when Fleeta was by his side. They found strength in each other and he missed her every day after her passing on June 8, 2016.

Coleman is survived by his sister, June Tarr of Austin Texas; two sons, Dr. Jim Nelson, and wife Mary Gail of Wagoner, OK and Dr. Bill Goad, and wife Rita of Edmond, Oklahoma; two daughters, Vicky Watkins of Muskogee and Nancy Murray, and husband Jimmy, of Acworth, Georgia; two daughters-in-law, Cheryl Nelson-Bowyer of Muskogee, and husband Butch Bowyer, and Dr. Adrienne Ruby of Winslow, Arizona; grandchildren, Shane Nelson, and wife Heather of Oklahoma City, OK Jody Nelson of Muskogee, OK; Becky Frye and husband John of Kansas City, MO, Mary Katherine Nelson of Tulsa OK, Rueben Nelson of Kansas City, MO; Amy Ashing and husband Michael of Muskogee OK, LeeAnn Garland and husband Rodney of Muskogee OK; Ashley Knickmeyer and husband John of Norman, OK, Addison Watkins and wife Sandy of Glenco, OK; Spencer Goad and wife Vanessa of Orlando, FL, Kelci Fowler and husband Kevin of Edmond, OK, Parker Goad and Bryson Goad of Edmond OK; Macy Murray and Braden Murray of Acworth GA; great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Coleman was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Leonard Nelson and Cecil Nelson; two sisters, Paula Patton and Lenora McKibbon; two sons, Larry Nelson and John Nelson.

A celebration service will be held for Coleman on Tuesday, November 26, 2019, at 1:30 p.m. under the direction of Cornerstone Funeral Home, 1830 North York, Muskogee, Oklahoma, with Dr. Bill Goad officiating. Interment will follow at Green Hill Cemetery. Pallbearers will be grandsons, Shane Nelson, Jody Nelson, Rueben Nelson, Spencer Goad, Parker Goad, Bryson Goad, Addison Watkins and Braden Murray. Honorary Pallbearers are granddaughters Becky Frye, Mary Katherine Nelson, Amy Ashing, LeeAnn Garland, Ashley Knickmeyer, Kelci Fowler and Macy Murray.

Friends are welcome to drop in at Cornerstone between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. on Monday, November 25, 2019, to remember Coleman's life with those who

were truly blessed to be in his family.

# Cemetery Details

## Greenhill Cemetery

1500 N. York Street  
Muskogee, OK 74403

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 25. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Family @ funeral home to greet friends

NOV 25. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Service

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NOV **26**. 1:30 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ Coleman E. Nelson

October 23, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Coleman E. Nelson.



November 26, 2019 at 10:55 AM



“ Coleman was such a gentleman and was so loved by Country Gardens! It is an honor to say I knew him and his beautiful family. He was our Country Gardens King. He always had a smile on his face and kind words to say no matter what. I enjoyed bowling with him and talking over coffee and Mcdonald's sausage biscuits.

Ashley Gregory - November 25, 2019 at 04:01 PM

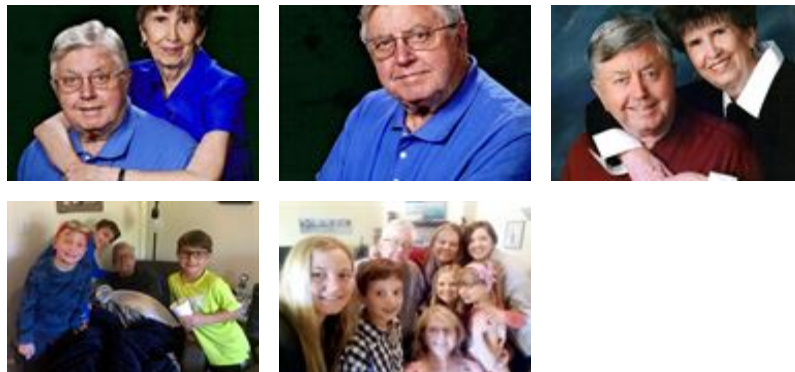


THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND THOUGHTS.

JAMES NELSON - December 13, 2019 at 08:38 AM



“ 102 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



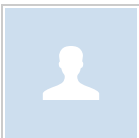
Cornerstone Funeral Home and Crematory - November 25, 2019 at 12:11 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Coleman E. Nelson.



November 25, 2019 at 11:18 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket* was purchased for the family of Coleman E. Nelson.



November 25, 2019 at 11:09 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Coleman E. Nelson.*



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November 25, 2019 at 10:55 AM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Coleman E. Nelson.*



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November 25, 2019 at 09:31 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Coleman E. Nelson.*



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November 25, 2019 at 09:16 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Coleman E. Nelson.*



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November 25, 2019 at 09:08 AM

GW

“ I want to share how special Coleman was to my family. He was our family barber for many years. My two boys would always be handed bubblegum after their hair cut. My daughter, the youngest of the three wasn't going to be left out. She would hop up in his barber chair just to get her bangs trimmed and get her bubblegum. I've shared Colemans passing with them and they have happy memories of him at the barber shop and of course church. Lovely christian man. My oldest son said how gentle and soft spoken he always was, what an awesome memory. I've missed him and Fleeta so often in the past years. They both knew me since old Central Church of Christ on Spaulding Ave.

Love to all,

Gail Wilson-Henneberger, formerly Cragg.

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Gail Wilson-Henneberger - November 24, 2019 at 01:52 PM

JN

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND THOUGHTS.

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JAMES NELSON - December 13, 2019 at 08:39 AM

TI

“ Mr. Nelson was truly the sweetest man and it was a true honor to help care for such a fine man. Prayers for all of his sweet family. The staff here on 4 west is truly sorry for your loss.  
-Tiffany & Sharon 4 west nurses aides

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Tiffany - November 24, 2019 at 04:09 AM

JN

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND THOUGHTS.

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JAMES NELSON - December 13, 2019 at 08:42 AM

NF

“ Nancy's GIGS & families purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Coleman E. Nelson.



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**Nancy's GIGS & families** - November 23, 2019 at 04:45 PM

JA

“ When I was a little girl I stayed several weeks with Grandma Demma every summer and Uncle Coleman would come and visit her on most Sundays, he was always so sweet to his Momma and that made me love him even more because she was my favorite person. My fondest memory of Uncle Coleman was him trying to hide money for Grandma before he left, he would always tell me to keep it a secret until after he left. He was one of the sweetest and most wonderful men I have ever known. Love, Jamie (McKibben) Alexander

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**Jamie Alexander** - November 23, 2019 at 02:07 PM

JN

SO SWEET JAMIE, THANK YOU.

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**JAMES NELSON** - December 13, 2019 at 08:43 AM

SK

“ Sherri, Jamie, Wallace & Kathleen purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Coleman E. Nelson.



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**Sherri, Jamie, Wallace & Kathleen** - November 23, 2019 at 01:43 PM

KR

“ *Kurt and Cheryl Robinson purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Coleman E. Nelson.*



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**Kurt and Cheryl Robinson** - November 23, 2019 at 11:54 AM