



## E.L. "Sonny" Salmon

September 13, 1927 - August 9, 2014

On September 13, 1927, E. L. "Sonny" Salmon was born to George and Ida (Palmer) Salmon in Muskogee, Oklahoma. He was raised in and around Muskogee most of his life. Sonny was one of five children and the oldest of three boys. His siblings are Georgia Crossland, Opal Fugate, Bob Salmon, and J. W. Salmon (deceased).

He began school at Howard Chapel in the Gooseneck Bend area and later attended Alice Robertson Jr. High and Muskogee Central High School. In 1943, the family moved to Collinsville, Oklahoma where he attended his junior and senior years of high school in 1943-1945. While in high school, Sonny played fullback on the football team and was named All-Conference and honorable mention for All-State. After high school, Sonny joined the United States Navy from 1946-1948. He was at sea most of the time on several different ships. After receiving an honorable discharge from the Navy, he returned to Muskogee and attended Northeastern State College. While attending Northeastern, he was a light heavyweight boxer on the college boxing team.

Sonny was in the "tire business" for 35 years. He and his brother, Bob and brother-in-law, Jay Crossland were partners in Salmon and Crossland Tire Co and later became Salmon Tire Co when Jay was bought out.

On November 24, 1961, Sonny married Marie Renard. Their marriage lasted for forty one years until Marie was taken by cancer. Between them, they raised four children, Curtis Salmon, Tracy Salmon (deceased), Richard

Salmon, and Jackie Cragg.

Sonny's loves were his family, his church, hunting quail and pheasant, and raising and training pointer bird dogs.

Sonny met and later married Karlene Ladtkow Davis on June 30, 2006.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Ida Salmon; his wife, Marie; son, Tracy Salmon; daughter-in-law, Kyla Salmon; great grandson, Neiko Rankin; brother, J. W. Salmon; brother-in-law, Jay Crossland; and sister-in-law, Bunny Salmon.

Sonny is survived by his wife, Karlene, of the home; children, Curtis Salmon, Jackie Cragg, and Richard, Salmon all of Muskogee; grandchildren, Dustin Salmon and wife Nicci of Muskogee, Whitney Rankin and husband Charley of Edmond, OK, Kristi Pickering and husband Ty, and Kenny Wright all of Muskogee; great grandchildren, Gabriel Salmon, Carlee Salmon, Lanee Salmon, Kyleigh Rankin, Zander Rankin, Mason Pickering, Taylor Pickering; brother, Bob Salmon; sisters, Georgia Crossland, Opal Fugate and husband Chuck; sister-in-law, Delores Metzger and husband Ray; and special nephew, Steve Salmon and wife Debbie; many other family members and friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Greenhill Cemetery

1500 N. York Street  
Muskogee, OK 74403

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 12. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Visitation

AUG 13. 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Family Visitation

AUG 13. 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (CT)

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

## Service

AUG 14. 10:00 AM (CT)

Southeast Baptist Church  
2511 E. Hancock Street  
Muskogee, OK 74403

# Tribute Wall



“ *E.L. "Sonny" Salmon*

October 23, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ *I miss my best friend still today.*

**mark hester** - December 10, 2020 at 08:56 PM



“ *My heartfelt prayers and thoughts go out to Sonny's family. Sonny was always courteous and kindhearted and almost always had a mischievous twinkle in his eye. It was such an honor and privilege to know him.*

*Karen Swank*

**Karen Swank** - August 14, 2014 at 01:26 PM



“ *During one of the many Easter picnics we had when we still went to Gruber, I thought I was being left behind by Mama and Daddy, so I ran to Son's car and crawled underneath the steering wheel under his feet for protection. He was always there. I knew I could depend on him even when I was small. I will miss you very much. Toni*

**Toni Salmon Leach** - August 13, 2014 at 04:22 PM

DG

“*Sorry to see him go but so proud to have known him. I have so many memories of him and loved to visit the Tire Shop with my Dad and later by myself. Son is one of a kind and will be sorely missed but never forgotten. God Bless the Family.*”

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**Dwayne Gilbert** - August 12, 2014 at 08:27 AM