



## Joe Paul Ballard

April 21, 1934 - December 31, 2011

Joe "Pa" Paul Ballard, 77, of Muskogee, Oklahoma passed away Saturday, December 31, 2011 in Muskogee. He was born April 21, 1934 to Tommy Ballard and Gladys Battenfield in Braggs, Oklahoma.

February 19, 1965 became a very special day to Joe as he and Ms. Mary Lou Hooper were married in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Joe was an iron worker by trade and was a member of the Iron Workers Union Local 584 from which he retired in 1989. He also assisted John Monks at the State Capital. Joe was one of the original pioneers of Muskogee Stock Car Racing. He was a mason and a member of the Bedouin Shrine. Joe loved riding motorcycles, spending time outdoors, but most of all he loved his grandkids and attending all of their activities.

Joe was preceded in death by his father, Tommy Ballard, and his mother, Gladys Battenfield.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou of the home; daughters, Ginger Griffith and Jerry Windrix, Ellen Wofford and husband, Jack; son, Joe Hooper and wife, Mita; brothers, Bob Ballard and wife, Margaret, Johnny Lee Lester, and wife, Sue; sister, Dorothy Faye Brown and husband, Steve; grandchildren, Robbie Scott and Jamie Ellis, Erica and Earnie Bales, Jeramy and Kerry Hooper, Malissa Hooper, Jared and Lisa Wofford, Stephanie and Brad Blumhof, Nick Wofford and Blaike Barnes; great grandchildren, Logan Ellis, Caden Ellis, Shayla Ellis, Haley Bales, Story Bales, Tori Hooper, Danny Joe Hooper, Katy Wofford, Amelia Blumhof, and Riley Blumhof.

Funeral service will be 2:00 p.m., Friday, January 6, 2012 at York Street Christian Church in Muskogee, Oklahoma with Pastor Gene Thompson and Joe Wofford, Sr. officiating. Interment will follow at Greenhill Cemetery in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Pallbearers will be Robbie Scott Ellis, Jeramy Hooper, Jared Wofford, Nick Wofford, Earnie Bales, Logan Ellis, and Caden Ellis. Honorary pallbearers will be Bob Ballard, Johnny Lee Lester, Jerry Windrix, Jack Wofford, Ray Rainey, Bill Battenfield, Tommy Battenfield, Olen Battenfield, Herbert Battenfield, Elbert Battenfield, Jack Battenfield, Richard Battenfield, Junior Battenfield, Bebo Brassfield, Charles Randolph, Darrell Gilbert, and Detis Strickler.

# Cemetery Details

## Greenhill Cemetery

1500 N. York Street  
Muskogee, OK 74403

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 3. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Visitation

JAN 4. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Visitation

JAN 5. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Service

JAN 6. 2:00 PM (CT)

York Street Christian Church  
1125 S. York St.  
Muskogee, OK 74403

# Tribute Wall



“ *Joe Paul Ballard*

October 23, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ *Debi Salzman*



**Deborah Salzman Barton** - January 06, 2012 at 07:56 AM



“ *Ellen Tippie lit a candle in memory of Joe Paul Ballard*



**Ellen Tippie** - January 05, 2012 at 07:07 PM



“ *Bill R. Tippie lit a candle in memory of Joe Paul Ballard*



**Bill R. Tippie** - January 05, 2012 at 07:06 PM

BT

*Joe was a good friend we enjoyed his friendship. He will be dearly missed.*

**Bill R. Tippie** - January 05, 2012 at 07:12 PM



*“ I met Joe over 50 years ago at Thunderbird Speedway , we both raced there for years , i got a lot fond memories of Joe , I didnt see Joe much the last few years but i consider him a good friend. Joe you are gone ,but memories of you are still here. Tom Hiner*

**Tom Hiner** - January 05, 2012 at 11:08 AM



*“ Oh golly, I have so many fond memories of the Ballards and all my friends from the Thunderbird Speedway. I am so sorry to hear about Joe's passing. My thoughts, prayers, love and deepest sympathy are with you during this difficult time.*

**Mary Shaddox** - January 04, 2012 at 12:58 PM



*“ Mary Shaddox lit a candle in memory of Joe Paul Ballard*

**Mary Shaddox** - January 04, 2012 at 12:54 PM



KD

“ *Kathy Desmond lit a candle in memory of Joe Paul Ballard*



Kathy Desmond - January 04, 2012 at 12:29 PM

HM

“ *Heidi Masterson lit a candle in memory of Joe Paul Ballard*



Heidi Masterson - January 04, 2012 at 11:55 AM

BG

“ *Brenda Gleason lit a candle in memory of Joe Paul Ballard*



Brenda Gleason - January 04, 2012 at 10:34 AM

JB

*So sorry to hear about Joe's passing. We have tried to call Bob's phone and Mary Lou's and haven't gotten an answer. We are in So. Texas for the winter and won't be able to make the service. Boy, what fun we have had in the past years. Memories we will never forget. Love you all. James and Lila*

James and Lila Bell - January 04, 2012 at 11:04 AM



*My love and deepest sympathy are with you Brenda.*

Mary Shaddox - January 04, 2012 at 01:00 PM

BG

“ *The best memory I have of Joe, was when I was only four or five years old. I remember every Friday night I would get out that yellow shirt with the number 98 on it. I was so proud, that was my dad. I would sit there in the grand stands and cheer him on. Then after the races were over, all the kids would run across the race track to the pit, to get the pit pass of their favorite driver. Every week I would run as fast as I could so I could get his pit pass, but every week I was too late, it was already gone. This seemed to go on for weeks, I would get there to late. I just stood there while the other kids ran around to get other drivers passes. I didn't want the others, I just wanted the one from the driver of car 98. One night I ran so fast I thought for sure I would get there first. But I got there only to see my dad standing there with the other guys talking about cars, and there was nothing on his sleeve. His pit pass was gone, someone got there first. Again I stood there quietly while he talked to the guys. He glanced down saw I was there and with out missing a beat still talking to the guys he reached in his pocket. pulled out his pit pass and gave it to me. He saved it just for me, it meant the world to me. I had to be the proudest little girl there. Sadly divorce and distance ended the chance of any other memories, but I am thankful I still have this one.*

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**Brenda Gleason** - January 04, 2012 at 10:33 AM