



Wayne Keith Felts

August 15, 1941 - June 21, 2020

Wayne Keith Felts, a man who knew food like very few people do. Always ready to astound and treat his friends to gourmet meals fit for kings and queens; which was how he felt about all his family and friends.

The eldest son of Clay and Kay Felts, Wayne was born August 15, 1941 in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. After graduating from Tahlequah High School in 1959, he joined the Army National Guard and was on active duty for 2 years, followed by non active duty for two more. After serving, he continued his eclectic education attending Northeastern State University, Southern Methodist University, Oklahoma City University, and Dallas College, majoring in marketing and business management.

While at Northeastern, Wayne met, fell in love with and married April Matlock and the two spent the next 57 years building a life together. Once his three sons came along, he became very active in the Boy Scouts of America, serving as a two term member of the executive board of the Eastern Oklahoma Council and district chairman of the Neosho District. He was Cub master of Pack 199, and assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 198 at Hilldale Schools, as well as an Explorer adviser for the Eagle Scout Post.

He was also one of the founding members of The Muskogee Little Theater, where he served one term as treasurer and three terms as a board member. An avid fan of the theater, he enjoyed performing in and producing many shows from the mid 1960's until the mid 1990's. One of his favorite times was being a cast member in the Muskogee Senior Follies.

Wayne spent many years helping lead businesses of various types in his roles as President, Secretary, Treasurer and board member. He was a part of the following: Wayne Company, a commercial property ownership and stock speculation company. Clyde Enterprises Inc., a real estate and money marketing speculating company. Felts Brothers Partnership, a large commercial property ownership and management company.

He owned and operated Felts Shoes in Muskogee, Owasso and Van Buren, Arkansas, and was secretary/treasurer for the Lakeland Merchants Association and a member of the National Shoe Retailers Association as well. A voracious reader with books in his office numbering in the thousands, not counting the hundreds of books he also had on his Kindle reader, Wayne was a champion of continuing education and a member of the Alumni Board of Northeastern State University. At home in Muskogee, he worked with the public library in the following roles: a member of the Muskogee Public Library Great Decisions Planning Committee, chairman of the Muskogee Library Board of Trustees (1987), and member (1984 - 1987) and a board member for the Oklahoma Library Association (1987 - 1990) and program chairman for the Oklahoma Library Association Conference in 1990.

He was a member of the Board and Funding Chairman of the Muskogee Performing Arts, a member of the board of the Muskogee Knife and Fork club and a member of the board of the Green Country Mental Health organization. (1988 - 1989).

At the time of his death, Wayne was chairman of the board of W.C. Felts, Inc., a retail shoe stores and commercial property owner and management company. He was Vice President and board member of Felts Plaza, and Felts Star, both a large commercial property owner and management company. He was President and C.E.O. of W.K. Felts, Inc., a retail consultant service corporation.

Wayne attended St. Paul United Methodist Church with his wife April, and in all the years they attended he held many positions; he was a two term member of the board, and chairman of the commission on education. He was

a historical Bible lecturer for the Montgomery Bible class at, where he regaled the members with stories about his three sons. He was a choir member and part of the "Perryman Four"; a men's gospel quartet. Wayne loved to sing and it showed as he belted out hymns and songs of praise in his melodic tenor voice for all to hear.

He was a 30 year backgammon competitor with Mrs. Betsy Kennedy where they competed in local restaurants across Muskogee. Wayne was also a 40 year member of the "Kansas International Fishing Team" (The Boys) a fishing, drinking and lying company of "ne'er-do-wells".

Wayne is survived by his wife April, sons; David and wife Cheryl of Sapulpa, Oklahoma. Mike and wife Barbara of Stem, North Carolina, Steven and wife Delores of Muskogee; grandchildren, Micah and Holly Felts of Sand Springs, Oklahoma, April Felts of Sand Springs, Oklahoma, Brandon and Hannah of Ticonderoga, New York, Ryan and fiancé Sophia Estes of Stem, North Carolina and Caitlin Felts of Tulsa, Oklahoma; one great-grandchild, Everly Felts of Sand Springs, Oklahoma; brothers, Doyle and Bryce Felts of Tahlequah, and many inlaws, great nephews and nieces, not to mention many, many friends.

Honorary pallbearers are Ken Beard, Martin Bebb, Larry Boling, Ben Robinson, Muriel Saunders, Ed Warren, David Russell, Jim Dryden and Don Holsinger.

A memorial service will be held for Wayne at 2:00pm, Thursday, June 25th, at the St. Paul United Methodist Church in Muskogee, Oklahoma. In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to one of the following: Porta Caeli Hospice House <https://portacaeli.org/support-our-work/donate/> or the Muskogee St. Paul United Methodist Church Choir.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN **25**. 2:00 PM (CT)

St. Paul United Methodist Church
2130 W Okmulgee
Muskogee, OK 74401

Tribute Wall



“ *Wayne Keith Felts*

October 23, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ *April, Doyle, and Bryce I'm so sorry to hear of the loss of Wayne he was so nice to me when I worked for him..my Prayers for the family..*



Doris Mann - July 02, 2020 at 06:01 PM



“ *I am deeply saddened by the loss of your father. It is truly a joy to know that he is at rest and peace in the arms of our Lord and Savior. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers at this time.*

With Kind Regards,

*Phyllis A. Jones
Stovall Branch Library*

Phyllis A. Jones - July 02, 2020 at 02:15 PM

DB

“ Mike Felts, you certainly favors that handsome man! You and your family have my condolences. I was a daddy's girl and know what loosing a father is!. Keep the positive memories alive and thank God for the blessings in your past, present, and even in your future. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

Love,
Deborah T Bullock,
Stovall Branch Library

Deborah Taylor Bullock - July 01, 2020 at 10:57 AM

 D
Smith

“ My deepest heartfelt condolences and prayers are with you all

David Smith

D Smith - June 26, 2020 at 11:28 AM

PW

“ To the family of the late Wayne Keith Felts:

It was with a great sense of loss when we heard of the untimely passing of Wayne Keith Felts. We wanted you to know that you have our greatest sympathy, and our hearts are deeply saddened. We know that his passing will leave a void in the hearts of those who knew him.

Please let us know whether there is anything we can do to help in this difficult time. Our sincere thoughts and prayers are with you.

With our deepest sympathy,

The Granville County Human Relations Commission

Patrice Wilkerson - June 25, 2020 at 09:10 AM

GE

“ Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

GayLyn & Greg Eby



Greg Eby - June 24, 2020 at 09:18 PM

JD

“ I have known Wayne Felts for almost all of my 80 years. We were both born in Tahlequah, Oklahoma in the very late '30s, (myself) and Wayne in August 1941.



Tahlequah was a very small community in those days and we had only 2 Senior High Schools prior to 1952. Those 2 schools merged into one that year,. Since I was a year ahead of Wayne in school, we didn't know one another until each of us joined the Oklahoma National Guard in the late '50's. We then began a friendship that lasted for the remaining years of our lives until 21 June, 2020.

One of the things I remember most about Wayne is that on 31 December, 1963, (when I was a second year student at UMKC School of Dentistry), he called me just before midnight to announce that he and April had a newborn baby boy. Well, 31 December just happens to also be my birthday. I asked Wayne if he was going to name the baby "Jim" after me?

He responded: "Hell no, I'm going to name him "David" after David Russell, my best friend."

Well, that didn't set too well with me, so we called each other bad names for a minute or two & then said goodbye & hung up.

David & I drove down to see Wayne for what would be the last time at St Francis Hospice facility on Saturday June 13. We talked for at least 2 or 3 hours, said our goodbyes & departed. David & I both hoped & prayed that Wayne would recover & we would be able to continue seeing him , but alas, it wasn't to be. God called him home a week later.

Goodbye, old friend. We are thankful for the many years we knew you & look forward to seeing you again in the not too distant future, God willing. 🙏

Jim Dryden, (for David Russell)

jim A Dryden - June 24, 2020 at 05:30 PM

BB

Sorry for your loss... Mr Doyle!

Bennifaye Ball - June 26, 2020 at 12:16 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Wayne Keith Felts.*



June 24, 2020 at 05:28 PM

TP

“ *David, Cheryl, Micah, April and Family - Bill and I send our deepest condolences to you and all of your family.*

*Billy & Tammy Pace
Sand Springs, OK*

Tammy Pace - June 24, 2020 at 02:46 PM

RS

“ *I will always remember Wayne singing in the choir at St. Paul (every Sunday!). Also April being my 8th grade Sunday School Teacher. May God comfort you in the loss of your husband and dad. Blessings and love, Rob Sandlin*

Robert Sandlin - June 24, 2020 at 02:05 PM