



## Benjamin Wallace Morris IV

December 2, 1949 - February 25, 2026

Benjamin “Ben” Wallace Morris IV met his Heavenly Father on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 after a lengthy battle with a rare illness. Ben was born on December 2, 1949 in Ada, Oklahoma to Anderson Brown Morris and Mary Kate Cole Morris. After the loss of his father at age twelve, his mother later married Jim Carson of Pauls Valley, Oklahoma, and Ben and his three siblings moved from town life in Ada to the hard work and wide horizons of a dairy farm. During his teenage years, Jim officially adopted Ben, and for a brief time he went by “Benny Carson.” Through his early twenties, Ben worked alongside his family on the dairy farm, where he learned the enduring lesson that there were “no days off” and “no excuses to not be present to milk the cows morning and night.”

Ben graduated from Pauls Valley High School in 1968, where he was a talented Pole Vaulter, an active member of the FFA, and even a model for a local department store. After high school, Ben pursued higher education and, in 1994, graduated Cum Laude from UNLV with a Bachelor of Science in Hotel Administration. Ben went on to spend 30 years in the casino industry where he honed his natural competitive nature into professional excellence.

Later in life, after a brief attempt at retirement, Ben joined the teaching staff at Mid-America Technology Center. There he taught alongside the lead instructors of the Transportation Department and, to everyone’s surprise,

drove one of the school buses. “Benny the Bus Driver” quickly became a well-respected and integral part of the teaching staff for 10 years.

He married Anita June Couch on July 1, 2012. Though their 15 years together were far too short, they filled their time with travel, fun, and fishing. Anita lovingly called him “her partner in crime,” and whenever she would say, “I’ve been thinkin’...” Ben knew it meant a new plan was brewing to go somewhere or do something that would lead to another adventure.

Ben loved being outdoors, and fishing was his sport of choice. If he wasn’t at home you could likely find him at the river, the lake, or (on one particular occasion) even out on the ice. In a fast-paced world, fishing was where Ben found his peace. The water was his sanctuary, the rhythm of casting and waiting his quiet form of worship. For a man who spent most of his life serving others, fishing was something that belonged entirely to him. It reenergized him, restored him, and never failed to bring him joy.

Ben influenced many people throughout his life. Those who knew him well would agree he wasn’t much of a gift-giver, but was always generous with something far more valuable, his time, his hard-earned wisdom, and, when necessary, a firm life lesson. Whether you were family, friend, student, employee, or even a stranger, he believed in helping those willing to help themselves. And yes, that sometimes included the unlucky new server who happened to bring him an overcooked steak.

Ben is survived by his wife, Anita Couch Morris and her three children: Brittany Kessler (Chad), Edmond, OK; Tiffany Owen (Justin), Washington, OK; Colton Knox, Claremore, OK. Ben’s five daughters: Jennifer Buckles, Edmond, OK; Cassandra Ciglar (Steve), Broken Arrow, OK; Makella Potts (DeWayne), Fitzhugh, OK; Candace Edmonston (Dan), Snohomish, WA; Jeanette Vargas (Anthony), Jacksonville, FL, and one bonus daughter: Britney

Solmi (David), Harrah, OK. Ben's three siblings: Brown Morris, Margee Ratliff, and Bruce Morris; along with 15 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren and a multitude of friends.

He was preceded in death by: Jim Carson, Mary Kate Morris, Anderson Brown Morris.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the medical personnel and care facilities who have helped Ben and his family on this difficult journey. In special recognition, the family would like to thank the team at Integris Hospice House for the truly peaceful and thoughtful care they provided to not only Ben but to the entire family. The staff there possess a calling and compassion that is unparalleled.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations in Ben's honor to the Mid-America Technology Center.

Checks can be made out to: Mid-America Technology Center Foundation  
Memo: The Ben Morris Trade Excellence Scholarship

Mailing Address:

Mid-America Technology Center

Attn: Financial Aid Office

27438 OK-59

Wayne, Oklahoma 73095

# Previous Events

## Public Visitation

MAR 2. 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM (CT)

Wooster Funeral Home and Cremation Services (Pauls Valley)  
1601 South Chickasaw  
Pauls Valley, OK 73075  
(405) 238-7574  
woosterfuneralhome@sbcglobal.net

## Funeral Service

MAR 3. 1:00 PM (CT)

Wooster Funeral Home and Cremation Services (Pauls Valley)  
1601 South Chickasaw  
Pauls Valley, OK 73075  
(405) 238-7574  
woosterfuneralhome@sbcglobal.net

# Tribute Wall

MR

“ *Benny, you were a great friend throughout junior high and high school. I was blessed we reconnected, worked together, and played golf together. May you rest in peace*

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**Mike Roberts** - March 04 at 03:11 PM

MR

“ *You were the best big brother, always watched out for his little sister over the years. You were always the physical and adventurous one but your body sustained a lot of injuries over the years. I will always remember your voice on our last phone call. Your pain and suffering are ended now and you can celebrate in heaven with Mom and Dad and all the relatives that went before you. You accomplished so much in your life and I will miss you so much. Thank you for being my brother. I will always love you! Your sister, Margee*

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**Margee Ratliff** - March 03 at 12:39 PM

MR

“ *Growing up with you was always an adventure. You always watched out for your little sister from the time we were uprooted from Ada and moved to Paul's Valley after Dad's death, which we all never got over during the course of our lives. You were the strong one and loved doing physical activities that took a toll on your body over the years with numerous injuries. You always listened to me and offered advice. I will always remember your voice the last time we talked on the phone. Now you are pain free and I'm grateful for that. I will miss you terribly but I know you're celebrating in heaven with Dad and Mom and all our loved ones that entered before you. Thank you for being the greatest big brother and I love you forever! Margee Ratliff*

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**Margee Ratliff** - March 03 at 10:55 AM

JH

“ I have many wonderful memories of high school in Paul's Valley, but they don't exist without Benny Carson. He was a great guy and a very special friend. I know he will be missed but never forgotten by his family and all his friends. Love and Prayers - Thanks for the memories Benny.

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**June (Bailey) Hughes** - March 02 at 12:50 PM