



## Billy Jack Branch

October 22, 1932 - November 20, 2020

Billy Jack Branch of Purcell, Oklahoma was born to Norman Jackson Branch and Helen Huckeby Branch on October 22, 1932 in Alex, Oklahoma and passed from this life November 20, 2020 in Purcell, Oklahoma at the age of 88 years.

Billy was raised in Bradley, Oklahoma and graduated from Bradley High School and excelled in basketball, baseball, and track. Billy served his country in the U. S. Navy during the Korean War and Indo-Chinese conflict. Billy served 4 years on the LST 692 and was honorably discharged in 1954.

Billy served as Garvin County Sheriff and later as Oklahoma State Senator for Garvin, McClain, Cleveland, and Grady County District 15. His political career spanned from 1970 thru his retirement in 1988.

Billy married Carolyn Rhodes Branch February 4, 1974. Bill remained active in Veteran's groups after his retirement and was a lifetime member of VFW and the American Legion. He rededicated his life and was baptized in 2013 at Bradley Baptist Church.

Billy is survived by spouse of 47 years, Carolyn. His son, Billy Earl Branch , wife Nita, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Justin and his family Madison Henslee and Maverick; Cheyenne and Justin Dutton, Cody Branch also Terry's Family Karen Branch, Steven, Tyler, Ryan Branch and Stephanie Todd and husband Dalton, and Asher, great-grandson, April Branch, Jasen, and Ivan. Also, by stepson, Larry K Rhodes and wife Annette, daughters, Larissa Johnson and Jansen Johnson, and great-granddaughter Reagan

Johnson and Lacey Rhodes Dale and husband Phillip. Billy is also survived by brothers and sisters: Bryan Branch and Joan, Maxine Barrett and Rex, Merlene Jones, Sue Wilhelm and Craig, Tom Branch and John Branch and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews and by a blended family he loved and enjoyed.

Billy was predeceased by 2 sons, Terry Jack Branch and Max Joseph Branch, brother, E. J. Branch.

Graveside services are scheduled for 11:00 a.m., Saturday, November 28, 2020 at the Bradley Cemetery with Bro. Gene Sanders officiating. You may send a condolence to the family at [www.woosterfuneralhomes.com](http://www.woosterfuneralhomes.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Bradley Cemetery

Bradley, OK

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **24**. 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

## Visitation

NOV **25**. 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

## Visitation

---

NOV **27**. 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

## Graveside Service

---

NOV **28**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Bradley Cemetery  
Bradley, OK

# Tribute Wall



“ *Billy Jack Branch*

November 12, 2022 at 02:44 AM



“ *One of my favorite memories of Bill Branch occurred in the lobby of the First National Bank in Paul's Valley. I had just started working with Covercraft, who was in the process of moving operations from Los Angeles and the CEO, CFO and I were at the bank to open bank accounts. A person entered the bank and the CFO whispered to the CEO and me - "we have to get out of here - this place is about to get robbed." I said "what!" The CFO said that guy's got a gun - we've got to leave - now! I turned around and saw Bill Branch approaching the teller. Sheriff Bill was dressed in this usual attire - Cowboy Hat, starched white shirt and black slacks with his fire arm in the holster and belt. His badge was pinned to his belt, not to his shirt as customary at that time.*

*I told the CEO and CFO everything was okay. That is the County Sheriff - Bill Branch.*

*After we finished our business at the bank, both the CEO and CFO said they had never seen a lawman not wear a uniform. I told them that is Bill's uniform.*

**Rick Hudson** - November 29, 2020 at 08:58 PM

PS

“ Great memories of Bill. I never saw him without that beautiful smile, it didn't matter where you saw him he would always give a firm handshake and smile. Thank you Bill for your services in the Navy, Sheriff, State Senate. Fly high with the angels. It's not a forever goodbye it's a see you later. Carolyn, my sympathies and prayers are with you and your family's at this difficult time. 🙏❤️🤔😔

Pam Snyder - November 27, 2020 at 08:54 AM

MS

“ We are so sorry to hear about Bill. He has always been such a kind and caring person. He will be missed by all who knew him. Our prayers go out to your family.

Steve, Mary (Brown), Eric and Sarah Selby

Mary Brown Selby - November 25, 2020 at 06:50 PM

LJ

“ I considered Mr. Branch as a friend and he will I will forever cherish the memories. My Condolence to his Family and Friends



Leonard Janousek - November 25, 2020 at 06:20 PM

KB

“ Mr. Branch was a very good senator and sheriff. We are so very sorry for your loss. It's not goodbye, see you later. We all know he's just gone on ahead. If we believe in Christ, we never die. See you soon Mr. Branch. Thank you for all you did for our family.



Kenneth & Charlotte Brumley - November 24, 2020 at 04:39 PM

WW

“ Carolyn Thank you so much for sharing Bill with Lifespring Home Health and Hospice. So sorry for your loss.

Wanda Warren - November 23, 2020 at 09:08 PM

WA

I came to PaulsValley in1989 and heard nothing but good things about Bill. After I met my Billy it was the same he only had good things to say Ana after I met him and Carolyn they became regulars meeting at Larry's on the holidays. My heart goes out to his family and Larry, Carolyn and the girls.

wauthena - November 26, 2020 at 07:44 PM

VC

“ Virginia Coffey lit a candle in memory of Billy Jack Branch



Virginia Coffey - November 23, 2020 at 05:58 PM

April Taylor

“ Terry's family included myself and my boys, Jason & Ivan as well. We loved Papa Bill, despite not so perfect circumstances we are still family.

April Taylor - November 23, 2020 at 03:41 PM

April Taylor

Thank you to whoever wrote us in there.

April Taylor - November 23, 2020 at 04:06 PM

BB

“ *Love my Uncle Bill. Bill Barrett*

Bill Barrett - November 23, 2020 at 01:59 PM

JB

*I LOVE UNCLE BILL I WILL REALLY MISS HIM JANET BURNS*

JANET BURNS - November 23, 2020 at 02:27 PM

PB

“ *Carolyn and family so very sorry to learn of Bill's passing. Thoughts and prayers for all. Love in Christ, Pam (Ivy) Branam*

Pam Branam - November 23, 2020 at 01:43 PM



“ *Condolences to Carolyn and the Branch family,prayers, I was proud to call Bill my friend, Ray &Carolyn Johnson*

Ray Johnson - November 23, 2020 at 11:48 AM

JH

*Carolyn our thoughts and prayers are with you !*

*Donald and Jeanne Holleman*

jeanne holleman - November 23, 2020 at 01:23 PM

JH

*Bill and his brother E. J. are the reason I Carry myself and dress the way I do today. Bill always looked so neat and carried himself very professionally when he was sheriff of Garvin Co. I always looked up to him and I've told him many times. I could go to the capital and see him in his office and he always treated me like you would like to be treated. Bill your style will be missed.*

Joel M. Henderson - November 23, 2020 at 10:30 PM