



Woody Bearden

September 29, 1948 - November 3, 2022

Woody Lee Bearden of Pauls Valley, Oklahoma was born to Woodrow and Earline (Dopson) Bearden on September 29, 1948, in Farmerville, Louisiana and passed from this life on November 3, 2022, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma at the age of 74 years.

Woody grew up in small towns in Louisiana, Kansas, and Oklahoma. He graduated from Lindsay, Oklahoma in 1968. After graduation, he attended East Central University and obtained a degree in Special Education. Later he earned a Master's in Administration from OU. Special needs children were the focus of Woody's career. Woody taught school and was Special Education Director in Pauls Valley for over 40 years. He was also involved in Special Olympics for over 40 years. He received coach of the year for the state of Oklahoma.

Woody married Johnna Mitchell on June 26, 1971. They were married 51 years. He always said his life was complete when he married Johnna. Woody and Johnna had two children, Andra and Mitchell.

Woody was a lifelong hunter and fisherman. He loved his deer cabin in Southeastern Oklahoma.

Woody had a special relationship with animals. In his last years, he was comforted by his lab, Sassy and his angel dog, Pearl.

Mr. Bearden was preceded in death by:

his son: Mitchell Bearden

Parents: Woodrow and Earline Bearden

In-laws: Tommy and Johnanna Mitchell

He is survived by:

His wife: Johnna Bearden

Daughter and son: Andra and Jay Weatherford

Granddaughters: Nicole Weatherford and McKelvie Weatherford

Brother: Lamar Bearden and wife Jeanna from Lindsay, Oklahoma

Sisters-in-law: Marianna Burnett of Pauls Valley and Ginny Brown and husband Greg of Noble, OK

And special member of the family, John Short.

Many nieces and nephews.

Woody had many friends, young and old. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Graveside services are scheduled for 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, November 8, 2022, at the Pavilion at Mt. Olivet Cemetery with Rev. Travis Muse officiating. Services are under the direction of Wooster Funeral Home. You may send a condolence to the family at www.woosterfuneralhomes.com.

The family has requested that memorial donations be made to Special Olympics of Oklahoma. Donations may be made on the website www.sook.org or a check may be mailed to Special Olympics Oklahoma at 6835 South Canton Ave, Tulsa Ok 74316.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Olivet Cemetery

Hwy 77
Pauls Valley, Ok

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 7. 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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

Family Visitation

NOV 7. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wooster Funeral Home and Cremation Services (Pauls Valley)
1601 South Chickasaw
Pauls Valley, OK

Graveside Service

NOV 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

Mt. Olivet Cemetery
Hwy 77
Pauls Valley, Ok

Tribute Wall

HC

“Woody is amazing friend, coaching, a lots of fun with him 🥹 we love his family. I'm so sorry for woody passing. We love him so dearly much ❤️ he's did great job for me special Olympics

Hannah Rae Cummings - November 27, 2022 at 09:40 PM

PS

“How can anyone calculate the kindness Woody gave to the world. Thanks for setting the example everyone needs. Your son was always my classmate. Young Mitchell was a friend to everyone he knew. A special he could only have recieved from you Woody. Goodbye Sir. And all my prayers and love to your family.

Patrick Stark - November 16, 2022 at 08:59 PM



“Woody Bearden

November 12, 2022 at 02:44 AM

JJ

“When I was in 5th grade I went on the Panther football float trip on the Illinois River. I was terrified of getting my canoe tipped by the high school football players, but I was lucky enough to share a boat with Woody. We were untouchable! He's still the best canoe captain I've ever known, and was an even better man. His legacy will endure in every great father, teacher, and friend that he influenced. I'll miss him dearly.

Jay Jump - November 10, 2022 at 01:53 PM

JC

“ *Johnna & family, we are saddened to hear of Woody's passing. Woody helped us out so much when we first moved to PV in 1989. He helped us get our daughter placed in exactly the right setting for her special needs education. He was so thoughtful and understanding and seemed to know just what she needed. He leaves a wonderful legacy. John, Joy & Julie Curtis*

John Curtis - November 09, 2022 at 10:03 PM

CM

Johnna and family Johnna you and Woody were like family all the years I've known you he will be deeply missed I hope you know how much you both are loved.

Carol Mccarty - November 13, 2022 at 06:28 PM

WJ

“ *I am so sorry to hear of Woody's passing. My thoughts go out to his dear wife and family. Woody WAS Pauls Valley Schools to so many of us. In my time there, he was a brother, supporter, therapist, and most of all, friend. I cannot think of Pauls Valley without my mind channeling to this amazing man. I know of no one that was loved more than he was. Rest well my friend.*

William Gene Jump - November 09, 2022 at 04:13 PM

MP

“ *SO SORRY TO HEAR WOODY PASSED AWAY. PRAYERS FOR ALL OF THE FAMILY. MARILYN POYNER*

MARILYN Y POYNER - November 09, 2022 at 09:46 AM

BP

“ *Johnna, I just now learned of Woodie’s passing. So very sorry to hear this. God bless you and your family. If Woodie was ill, I did not know. Prayers for you and your family.*
Love, Betty Pannell



B. Pannell - November 08, 2022 at 10:40 AM

JC

“ *Woody was a special person when it came to working with children of need. I worked with Woody several years and always found him to be on the side of the students he represented. We have lost a good man. God bless the family in their time of need. Jim Clemons*

Jim Clemons - November 08, 2022 at 09:08 AM

RW

“ *So sorry to hear of Woody passing*
My prayers are with you

Richard Ward - November 07, 2022 at 03:37 PM

JP

“ *I have many memories of Woody. Helping him feed his labs (Queenie), helping with fireworks and growing up around Garvin County Co-Op as a child. He impacted many lives and will be missed. May God help and comfort the family during their time of loss.*

Josh and Melissa Hunt Paden, Oklahoma - November 07, 2022 at 09:28 AM

AC

“ John a we are so sadden to hear about Woody. You and your family our in our thoughts and prayers. May God give you peace and strength in these days. We love you. Angie Cantrell and Kyle Chaffin

Angie Cantrell - November 06, 2022 at 10:00 PM

RH

“ My deepest sympathies for Johnna and Andra for the loss of Woody. I have very fond memories of Woody coaching my son, Clint Freeman, back in the mid 80's! May God wrap His loving arms around all of Woody's Family And friends and give them the strength to endure all things. Prayers and hugs for all 🙏🙏🙏❤️



Rita Hines-Fryar - November 06, 2022 at 04:45 PM

LS

“ I was a classmate of Woody's at LHS and considered him to be a class act. I had virtually no contact with Woody after high school but it looks like from his obit my opinion of him in high school proved to be accurate throughout his life. I am sorry to hear of his passing.

Lindell Shoemake - November 06, 2022 at 04:43 PM

TW

“ I cut Woody's hair. He was always so pleasant to talk with. Even through his struggle! I am so sorry to hear of the family loss! Prayers for peace to all.

Teresa Winnett - November 06, 2022 at 08:13 AM

TH

“ Tina Hume lit a candle in memory of Woody Bearden



Tina McCarty Hume - November 05, 2022 at 10:50 PM

Lacie
O'Neal
Belger

“ We're so sorry to hear of Woody's passing. We have so many wonderful memories with him at Special Olympics. He was always someone my brother, Eddie admired. The family will be in our prayers.

Lacie O'Neal Belger - November 05, 2022 at 09:13 PM

GJ

“ Our hearts are aching to lose such a wonderful friend. In those early years Woody was such a great help with his advice and understanding. He always had a smile to share and a beautiful soft laugh that I can still hear echoing.

As far as memories, once he let me (Glenda) eat a generous serving of calf fries telling me it was something else like fried oysters, knowing I wouldn't have eaten them if I'd known what they really were. Again that smile when I found out what I was really eating.

He was loved and will be dearly missed.

Danny, Glenda, and Mendy Jolly

Glenda Jolly - November 05, 2022 at 05:04 PM

SB

“ Sure was sorry to hear this. Woody was certainly one of the "good guys". My family has been involved in Special Olympics for years and Woody was such a joy to be around and share our love of Special Olympics with. Johnna, I am so sorry that he has died but sure grateful that he lived. Big hugs for you.

Sharon (Cook) Brown - November 05, 2022 at 05:03 PM