



Gary Lynn Ross

January 24, 1948 - November 15, 2024

Gary Ross age 76 of Wayne, OK passed away suddenly on November 15, 2024, in his home. Gary Lynn Ross was born on January 24, 1948, to Ira Lee Ross and Margaret (Bible) Ross in Lindsay, OK. He grew up on a farm near Payne and attended school in Wayne. He graduated with the Bulldog class of 1966. Gary then went on to attend college at Cameron State College where he studied Agriculture and Oklahoma State University where he studied Agriculture Education. While still in high school, Gary was showing sheep at the State Fair when he was set up on a blind date with Barbara Jean Smith. They hit it off and were married 5 years later on June 6, 1969. Gary and Barbara returned to Wayne where he taught Vocational Agriculture for over 30 years, until he retired. He was currently working part time at McClain Bank, assisting with agriculture appraisals. Gary was a sheep farmer for over 52 years and his passion became a family cornerstone. Any time he had away from the classroom or bank was spent tending to his sheep with his family, making sure they were all well cared for. When he could take a break, Gary could be found in his recliner enjoying a good John Wayne movie, the rodeo, or college football games. He was a big supporter of his granddaughters; he attended FFA events and band contests every chance he got. Gary was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, uncle, and friend who will be dearly missed.

He was preceded in death by his parents Ira and Margaret Ross, and his in-

laws Esque and Georgia Smith. His siblings, Ira Ross Jr and wife Elfreida, Bobbie Jean Stockard and husband Jim, Jimmy Ross and wife Betty, Anna Lou Young and husband Hurley, Don Ross and wife Kathy, brother's in-law Charles Smith and Tommy Smith, and his nephew Kent Ross.

Gary is survived by his wife of 55 years, Barbara Jean Ross of the home. Daughter Becky Mainord and husband Chad of Purcell. His grandchildren Caitlyn Mainord of Purcell, Ashton (Mainord) Vance and husband Kaleb of Noble. His sister-in-law Minnie Smith of Tulsa, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services are scheduled for 10:00 am Wednesday, November 20th, 2024, at First Baptist Church Purcell with burial to follow at Hillside Cemetery in Purcell. A visitation for family and friends will be held from 5-7pm Tuesday, November 19th, at Wilson-Little Funeral Home, Purcell.

Cemetery Details

Hillside Cemetery

HWY 39 West
Purcell, OK 73080

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **19**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wilson-Little ~ Purcell
127 S. Canadian
Purcell, OK 73080
(405) 527-6543

Funeral Service

NOV **20**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Purcell First Baptist Church
400 West Main Street
Purcell, OK 73080

Tribute Wall

DW

“ My mentor, neighbor, Vo-Ag teacher, FFA Advisor. Our families celebrated Christmas together. My mom kept Becky as a baby. Mr. Ross was calm, cool, collected, steady and unwavering in a time when so much else in the 1970s was in tumult. He demanded excellence in class and in FFA. No-nonsense, he still allowed us to have fun. A good and decent man, a Christian brother, and difference maker in the lives of so many. He has had a profound impact on my life and I am grateful for God having placed him in my path.

David Whitlock - November 20, 2024 at 04:38 AM

KB

“ I was a junior when Mr. Ross started teaching Ag-Ed at Wayne. It was his first year of teaching after graduating from OSU. His arrival would equate to Christmas morning for me. I was eager to learn and he was ready to teach. He taught his students about agriculture and life skills and everything in between. And all of those skills I learned from him, from welding to livestock reproduction, I still use today. He was a master teacher right out of the gate, he knew the secret! He could chew you out, correct your mistake, and pat you on the back at the same. When it was over, he always had that little grin. We spent time together at FFA events, after I graduated, because I became an Ag-Ed teacher too. In my opinion, that is the greatest compliment one person can give to another; to want to be just like that person! I miss occasionally seeing Mr. Ross and Barbara at Ruby's and I will always admire him and be grateful for all the hours he spent on me in the classroom, in the Ag truck, and at FFA activities. Thank you Mr. Ross! Barbara, you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Kenny and Belinda Beams

Kenny Beams - November 19, 2024 at 06:16 PM

SY

“ Gary was more than a friend he was my buddy in the sheep world. He was a Christian everyday of his life. He will be missed in our family.

Rodney & Sherri Yates

Sherri Yates - November 19, 2024 at 11:40 AM

MM

“ No words can express the impact that Mr. Ross had on me as my Ag teacher. Definitely my favorite class! The look he would give me sometimes when comments came from me with little to filter, will always be a memory that brings a smile to my face. Prayers to all the family . 🙏🙏🙏

mandi whitefield maddox - November 18, 2024 at 03:33 PM

AL

“ Mr. Ross was always one of my favorite teachers. I'm glad my son got to know him through sheep showing through the Ag program. He was an excellent man and he will be dearly missed. Prayers for his wonderful family.

Adrienne Lang - November 18, 2024 at 03:03 PM

JJ

“ Gary was our son Bryan’s Ag teacher. Bryan showed Shorthorn cattle not sheep. A whole different world. Bryan very seldom ever got excited and was pretty steady.... Gary came to our house to trim Riley’s show calf’s hooves and while he was sanding away, Bryan’s thumb got in the way and was nicked. Bryan’s reaction was quick and explosive getting away from the sander! You have to understand that was not Bryan’s nature. Gary and Thomas and I (Bryan’s parents) we’re almost on the ground, laughing and trying to check on Bryan but we were laughing too hard probably for too long for Bryan’s liking! Gary; still laughing and with tears in his eyes from laughing, said I didn’t know you could move that fast! We loved Gary Ross way back then and still do! God bless everyone who loves him.

Jody jester - November 18, 2024 at 12:13 AM

JM

“ My mentor and friend. I will miss him very much. My deepest sympathies to his wonderful family.

Jeff Moore - November 17, 2024 at 07:57 PM

SM

“ RIP Mr. Ross you will be dearly missed. Prayers fir the family I love you Becky and Barbara prayers 🙏.

Stacey Meyer - November 17, 2024 at 05:46 PM

JA

“ Barbara and family, please accept our deepest and sincere sympathy in the passing of Gary. He was, indeed, a remarkable gentleman. May God guide you on this next journey you will be on and surround you WITH LOVE, friends, and FAMILY. Janie and Mike Allen

Jane Allen - November 17, 2024 at 03:37 PM

SF

“ Great man, I will miss sharing our friendly conversations and good morning hellos.

Thoughts and prayers for the family.

Sheila Fisher - November 17, 2024 at 12:23 PM

JA

Gary and I were both in the Wayne High School graduation class of 1966. I was not interested in agriculture so we were not close. But even back then I admired what I saw to be his seriousness and quiet determination. Reading these comments it is obvious that he had a positive impact on many people who came into his life. That does not surprise me at all. I regret that I did not get to meet his family, but today I offer them my prayers for their comfort.

John and Leslie Adkins, Wichita Falls, Texas

John Adkins - November 20, 2024 at 06:42 PM

TB

My husband and I met Gary and Barbara 30 years ago doing sheep business together. We respected his honesty and his advice. He was always so serious and quiet but my husband could get that little chuckle out of Gary with his tall tales. Barbara was always entertaining me while the sheep trading was going on. We have lots of fond memories and will cherish them forever. Teman and Jeanette Bowles

Teman and Jeanette Bowles - December 14, 2024 at 12:15 AM