



Gary Wayne Sterling

January 20, 1957 - January 14, 2026

Gary Wayne Sterling, age 68 of Lexington, Oklahoma, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at his home. Born January 20, 1957 in Norman, Oklahoma, he was the 2nd of 5 children born to Lindy Leonard Sterling and Margie Lou (Mattox) Sterling. He spent his early years in Norman where he began school, before moving to Wayne, Oklahoma, in 1973. Gary graduated from Wayne High School with the Bulldogs Class of 1975. He then began driving a truck, first as a custom hay hauler and later in overland transportation. Gary excelled as a diesel mechanic and spent the next 35 years working on heavy equipment. He married Ora Browning and they made their home in Lexington. He was a jack of all trades and could literally build or fix anything. He loved his work and built many friendships throughout the years with his co-workers, who were more like family. Away from work, he enjoyed listening to music, dancing on Friday nights with his best friend and caregiver Debra Shea and taking trips, especially to Texas. Gary was a big personality with an even bigger heart. He will be dearly missed by all his friends and family!

He was preceded in death by: his wife, Ora Sterling; his parents, Lindy and Margie Sterling and sister, Linda Sterling.

Gary is survived by: brothers, Winford Sterling of Tulsa, OK and Lynn Dale Sterling of Laguna Hills, CA; sisters, Donna Mooney and husband David of

Purcell, Sharon Martin of Inman, SC and Karla Sterling of Estes Park, CO; stepson, Jessie Payne and stepdaughter, Jessica Payne of Oklahoma; and a host of family and friends.

Funeral Services are scheduled for 2:00 P.M. Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at Little's Chapel.

Burial will follow at the Washington Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Washington Cemetery

Washington, OK 73093

Previous Events

Funeral Service

JAN 21. 2:00 PM (CT)

Little's Chapel
127 S. Canadian
Purcell, OK 73080
<http://www.wilsonlittle.com>

Tribute Wall

BH

“ Gary was my neighbor. A stand up guy. We had many conversations at the fence like Tim Taylor and Wilson. I will miss Gary and our fence talks. "The day is necessary for souls to move on, giving life back again" SRV.

Brian Houck - February 04 at 06:14 PM

RP

I knew Gary for years. We were roommates first awhile. I was glad he had gotten around and starting going to concerts and dances! I'm glad he was enjoying his life again! May he rest in peace.

Ruthie Powers - February 22 at 02:52 AM

JC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Janet Sterling (1st Cousin) - January 18 at 06:44 PM

WB

“ I was fortunate enough to meet Gary this past year, Gary was a sweet kind and gentle person. I enjoyed dancing with him, this is how I want to remember him. He took me down to the Red steagall rodeo and dance, it was a very fun time I will always remember.



Wilma Branum - January 16 at 09:56 AM

MB

“ Gary and I graduated together at Wayne he was a very caring and intelligent man I will miss him and appreciate Debbie for being such a good friend and caretaker

mike buchanan - January 15 at 05:22 PM