



## Jerry Charles Gatlin

February 20, 1947 - November 23, 2024

Jerry Gatlin age 77 of Norman, passed away peacefully at home on November 23, 2024. Jerry Charles Gatlin was born on February 20, 1947 in Anadarko, OK to John Henry Gatlin and Trudy Ann Gatlin (Teague). He grew up in Anadarko, attended school there, and graduated with the Bison Class of 1965. Jerry answered the call to service and enlisted in the United States Air Force after graduation. He completed his basic training at Lackland Air Force Base and was then transferred to Castle Air Force Base. A young lady at a restaurant on base named Arvella Mae Higginbotham caught his eye. He slowly won her over by ordering a grilled cheese sandwich time and time again, until the two were wed in 1967. After the military, Jerry briefly worked construction until he found his true calling in law enforcement. He began his career in Hughson, California where he served a few years before landing a job with Ceres Police Dept in 1981. He proudly served the Ceres Police Department until his retirement in 1996. In 1999 Jerry and Arvella made the move to Oklahoma to be closer to family. Once back home in Oklahoma, Jerry's job as a fulltime grandpa began. He loved being a Papa and caring for his granddaughters every chance he got. He was a devoted father and Papa who will be dearly missed by all those who knew and loved him.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents John and Trudy Gatlin. His wife of 57 years, Arvella Gatlin. His son Jason Gatlin, and several siblings.

He is survived by his son Jeremy Gatlin and wife Cammie of Norman. His brothers and sisters. His grandchildren, Jessica Wood and husband Billy of Crestview, Florida, Kaitlyn Gatlin of Oklahoma City, and Annabelle Gatlin of Norman. Jerry also leaves behind great granddaughter Haisley Wood of Crestview, Florida, and one great grandson on the way.