



Joe Wallace

June 1, 1943 - January 5, 2025

Joseph George Wallace

Surrounded by his family, his tribe, Joe Wallace passed away peacefully on January 5, 2025. He was a proud and distinguished member of the Chickasaw Nation.

Born on June 1, 1943, his family moved to Purcell when Joe was very young. He began his education at Our Lady of Victory Catholic School where he attended through 8th grade. From there he attended Purcell High School and graduated with the class of 1961. Joe's work ethic was incredible, and from the time he was a boy he had a job. Even if it was cutting broom corn for change, it was a job and he didn't take any job lightly. After working various part-time jobs through high school, he accepted a full-time position at Tinker AFB following his graduation, but his dream was to work and live in Purcell, to make a living and create a life for his family. Thus began his career with Groothouse Plumbing and Electric, which eventually led him to create his own business, Wallace Plumbing and Electric. In addition to being self-employed full time, part-time, and all the time for his customers, Joe served as a Volunteer Firefighter and later a Driver for the Purcell Fire Department, out of love for his community. His work with the fire department escalated him to Fire Chief for a total of 21 year of service to the city he loved so much. Though he was not in search of a third career, Joe was recruited by the Purcell School

Superintendent to oversee the maintenance of electrical/plumbing/HVAC systems for the district. It was this job that led to his third and final retirement, 30 years later, as the District Director of Maintenance.

In his time away from work, Joe loved the outdoors and was particularly fond of hunting and fishing, which included the annual trip to Nebraska for pheasant hunting, boating and camping anywhere- but especially Lake Murray. There was not a job he couldn't do, a machine he couldn't fix or a project he couldn't complete. Even in his last days, he was always working on something; a "fixer of everything". He spent countless hours in his shop building, creating, and crafting gadgets and experiments such as shock boxes and zilches. (If you know, you know).

Anyone who knew Joe couldn't imagine him without his other half, the love of his life, Angie Stephens. The two were inseparable, and he would be the first to say his life wouldn't be complete without her. Wed on December 15, 1964, the two celebrated their 60th anniversary just before his passing.

Joe was a charismatic family man that loved a gathering or celebration of any kind, and his home was the oasis where friends and family were always welcome. He and Angie always made time to enjoy their girls, Cindy and Natalie, and anyone else who cared to join the fun. From summers on the lake, to backyard volleyball or badminton to card games or croquet, there was always an ample supply of food, drinks, and laughter. Joe thrived in creating an environment where people gathered, and at times nearly half the town seemed to be on his doorstep as he told stories, shared antics, and made lifelong friends.

Though there were tough times in his life as well, Joe always persevered. Romans 5: 3-5 tells us, to also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance, and perseverance produces character, and

character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us. Anyone who knew him witnessed his perseverance, determination, and integrity..... a tough man, a hard worker, a man of true character. Those who knew him well will remember the tenderness of his heart, and his grandchildren will remember their Joepa forever. His death ends his life, but it does not end the relationship he created with those he called his own.

Those he has left behind, to 'learn to live without him', include his wife Angie; daughters, Natalie Wallace, Cindy McGowen and husband Tim, and bonus daughter Jennifer Bramlett; grandchildren, Blake McGowen, Bailee Martinez and husband Daniel, Spencer Matthews and wife Lee Ann, and Alexis Wenthold; great grandchildren, Eli and Layla Matthews, Jozee and Maizee Martinez; brother Mark Wallace, sister Kateri Longacre and Aunt Shirley Washburn; in-laws, Agnes Wells, Mary Glover and Rob Stephens, and a plethora of others who loved him as Dad, Uncle Joe, and Joepa.

A Mass of Christian burial will be at 10:00 A.M., Thursday, January 9, 2025 at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church in Purcell. Interment will be at Hillside Cemetery, Purcell.

The family will receive visitors from 3:30 - 6:00 pm on Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at Wilson-Little Funeral Home Chapel in Purcell followed by a Rosary at 6:00pm.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church Building Fund, Purcell. Send online condolences to the family @ www.wilsonlittle.com

Cemetery Details

Hillside Cemetery

HWY 39 West
Purcell, OK 73080

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 8. 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Rosary

JAN 8. 6:00 PM (CT)

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

Funeral Service

JAN 9. 10:00 AM (CT)

Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church
Purcell, OK 73080

Tribute Wall

MT

“ Angie, Thinking of you. Marvin and Linda T.

MARVIN THORNTON - January 12, 2025 at 03:16 PM

DR

“ Love you both and know Joe is no longer in pain. Bless you Angie.

Dale and Nancy Richardson - January 12, 2025 at 11:59 AM

JE

“ What a Wonderful Life he shared. 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏

Jane and Doug Evans - January 09, 2025 at 01:11 PM

AF

“ Prayers for his awesome family. He was always such a sweet man.

Adrienne Foshee-Lang - January 08, 2025 at 03:16 PM

LT

“ I don't remember a time when there wasn't a Joe Wallace in my life. First of all, he was family, third or fourth cousin. Then, he married my best friend Ang. Lots of fun times followed. Yes, my kids remember well the shock box. They still talk about it to this day. Richard has a story about when he had to change pants with Joe, so his mom wouldn't know he had been in a scuffle and had ripped his. Didn't work, she knew immediately, probably because Joe's pants were plaid. We loved that guy!!! Hang in there Ang, he will be with you until you meet again heaven. Love and Prayers, Linda and Richard Tippit

Linda Tippit - January 08, 2025 at 12:39 PM

DC

“ Not sure how long I've known Joe, seems like a lifetime. Have always thought highly of Joe and Angie and wishing my deepest condolences to Angie and the family !! 🙏

Dale Chambers - January 07, 2025 at 08:51 PM

KH

*The world will not be the same without this guy and I know you will always have a missing part of your heart.
Wow what a glorius time in heaven we will all have with Joe & Richard teamed up again!*

*Love & prayers always.
Karen Shea Howard.*

Karen Shea Howard - January 15, 2025 at 09:05 PM

TK

“ 3 files added to the album Joe Wallace



TJ Killgore - January 07, 2025 at 01:04 PM