



Melvin Ryan Jernigan

January 11, 1939 - March 2, 2025

Ryan Jernigan age 86 of Newcastle passed away on March 2, 2025 at his home. Melvin Ryan Jernigan was born on January 11, 1939 in Lindsay, OK to Willie Van Jernigan and Verna Victoria Jernigan (Mayo). He grew up in Bethany and attended Putnam City high School, graduating with the Pirate Class of 1957. After high school, Ryan joined the workforce at Western Electric. In 1961 he was drafted into the United States Army and proudly served his country during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He was deployed to Germany during the building of the Berlin Wall. Once his time in the Army came to an end, he returned home and went to work holding various jobs at the U.S. Postal Service, the railroad, OK Typewriter and Tinker Air Force Base. His longest career consisted of warehouse work for OESCO from 1983 to 2004. Ryan met the love of his life, Brenda Karen Basinger at an apartment complex where they both lived. They were married on July 19, 1969 in Oklahoma City. They were soon blessed with two daughters and shortly after, made their home in Newcastle in 1975. Ryan enjoyed watching football and old westerns, but he enjoyed spending time with his family more than anything. He had the opportunity to travel with his wife prior to her illness, visiting Yellowstone, Alaska, Florida, and Arkansas, enjoying the beauty of God's creation and making memories all the while. He loved seeing his breakfast crew at Jimmy's Egg each morning and fellowshipping with them. Above all else, he loved the Lord and cherished his church home at First Baptist in Newcastle. Ryan was the perfect example of a husband, father,

grandfather and man of God who will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

He was preceded in death by his wife Brenda Jernigan, and his nephew Randy Richardson.

Ryan is survived by his children, Nancy Williams and husband Robby of Tuttle and Rebecca Barney and husband Wayne of Tuttle. His siblings Ray Jernigan and Sandy of Choctaw, Kenny Jernigan and wife Hope of Edmond, and Linda Lee of Newcastle. His grandchildren Kaci Williams, Ashlyn Barney, Logan Barney, and Bayley Williams. He also leaves behind his Jimmy's Egg Crew, and a host of other family and friends.

Funeral services are scheduled for 10:00am Friday March 7, 2025 at First Baptist Church in Newcastle, with burial to follow at Newcastle Memorial Garden. Viewing will be held from 12-7pm Thursday March 6, the family will receive guests from 5-7pm.

If you wish to make a charitable donation in lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Central/Western Chapter in memory of Ryan's nephew, Randy Richardson.

Cemetery Details

Newcastle Memorial Gardens

2345 S. Main Street
Newcastle , OK 73065

Previous Events

Viewing

MAR 6. 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wilson-Little ~ Tri-City
3132 Tri-City Avenue
Newcastle, OK 73065
(405) 387-2243

Visitation

MAR 6. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wilson-Little ~ Tri-City
3132 Tri-City Avenue
Newcastle, OK 73065
(405) 387-2243

Funeral Service

MAR 7. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church Newcastle
1650 N Main Street
Newcastle, OK 73065

Tribute Wall

PA

“ We were so very sad to hear of Ryan's passing. We knew him from the Newcastle Senior Citizens center. He was always in good spirits, smiling and being very sweet. When my granddaughter, from 5 yrs old to 8 yrs old, would come to the center with me, Ryan always made a point to pay special attention to her and give her a dollar. We are very sorry for your loss. He was a very kind and happy guy, even when his health was faltering. I wish I would have known before today, because we would have been at his funeral. Deepest sympathy to his family. I know he will be missed greatly, because he will be by us.

Pam - March 09, 2025 at 05:18 PM

PH

“ A sad loss. I rember Ryan's first day @ OESCO, & I was there on his last. A joy to work with & embark on shenanigans ! He always made the day lighter, no matter how hectic it may have gotten. I'll miss ya, my friend!

Phil - March 07, 2025 at 02:53 PM

LM

“ I swear I remember laying in the back seat under the window in the car, and Ryan stepping on the brakes to make me tumble into the back seat! No idea how old I was, but had to be younger than 7. 😂

Lynn Moore - March 05, 2025 at 04:51 PM

SA

“ He and his family were so welcoming when Asa moved back home. I enjoyed spending time with all and hearing family stories. Ryan in a bright star in my memories

Sandy - March 05, 2025 at 11:43 AM