



## Ronald "Rusty" Dean Ryan

June 27, 1935 - November 9, 2019

Rusty Ryan, 84, of Bartlesville, journeyed on to his Eternal Home Saturday. If you were fortunate enough to know Rusty you might wonder if he yelled "H-e-y Rusty" while walking through those Pearly Gates!

Rusty was born the son of Glenn Gilbert and Hesper Louise (Porter) Ryan on June 27, 1935, in Osage City, KS. Rusty developed his sense of humor from a young age. Growing up, he enjoyed playing school sports including basketball, and fondly remembered scoring the first basket on the north end of the new gym. He graduated from Dewey High School in 1953. Rusty and Jane Doggett first met at the Dewey skating rink, a relationship ensued and they united in marriage on Nov. 17, 1956, in Bartlesville.

Rusty and Jane made their home in Oak Park where they raised their four children. He was a loving husband and wonderful father who was active in the kids' many activities. Rusty loved to work, first with Meadow Gold as a milk man for 25 plus years, next as a "Standby Surgeon" at the hospital on the custodial staff assigned to the surgical suites, for 35 years at Bartlesville Public Schools as a custodian and "jokester", and the past few years as the district mail man, where he was known for his words of encouragement he would write on pieces of mail intended for the recipients. He was known for his hugs as well as a smile that brightened the world.

Rusty and Jane enjoyed taking the children camping and on a special vacation every year while they were young. Oftentimes to amusement parks where Rusty would ride the rollercoasters. Later on, Rusty and the boys put over 100,000 miles on the car over 17 seasons watching OSU basketball home games. Jane and Rusty enjoyed mini trips to Branson and various OSU sporting events or fishing at Lake Texhoma. Rusty accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior at the Dewey Nazarene Church in 1953 and later in life rededicated his Life to the Lord at the Bartlesville Nazarene Church. He accepted God's grace throughout his battle with cancer and he wasn't afraid of death, taking comfort in knowing where he was going.

Rusty was loved by everyone, he had a listening ear who helped countless friends through difficult times, and had a heart and sense of humor that was bigger than life and almost as big as his grin. By his side the past several years were two special friends who helped him through his journey Calvin Frakes and Debbie Lemming.

Rusty is survived by his loving wife of 63 years Jane; four children, Kim Lyon and Lonnie, Rick Ryan and Carol, Ron Ryan and Shelly, and Kelly Ryan, 10 grandchildren, Jeremiah Lyon and Jill, Josh Lyon and Emma, Jamie Thompson and Scott, Lindsey Ryan and Andy McAdams, Jason Ryan, Megan Wright and HP, Holly Waits and BJ, Rachel Hastings and Brandon, Kaley Moore and Duane and Nick Schaid, 18 great grandchildren and one great great grandson. He is preceded in death by his parents and one brother John Gilbert Ryan.

Rusty's family will receive friends at the Davis Family Funeral Home – Walker Brown Chapel, 918-333-7665, 4201 Nowata Rd, Bartlesville, on Tues., from 6-8 p.m. Visitation will also be held Tues. from 10-8 and Wed. 9-11. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to The Journey Home.

Funeral services will be held 2:30 p.m. on Wed, at the First Church of the Nazarene. Interment will follow in the Dewey Cemetery. Services are under the direction of the Davis Family Funeral Home – Walker Brown Chapel. Online condolences and remembrances may be shared at <http://www.DavisFamilyFuneralHome.com>.

# Events

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**NOV**   **Visitation**                      11:00AM - 08:00PM

**12**

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Davis Family Funeral Home - Walker Brown Chapel  
4201 Nowata Rd, Bartlesville, OK, US, 74006

**NOV**   **Family and Friends Gathering**06:00PM - 08:00PM

**12**

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Davis Family Funeral Home - Walker Brown Chapel  
4201 Nowata Rd, Bartlesville, OK, US, 74006

**NOV**   **Funeral Service**    02:30PM

**13**

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First Church of the Nazarene  
3650 SE Adams Blvd., Bartlesville, OK, US, 74006

# Comments

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“ An external video has been added.



**Davis Family Funeral Home** - November 13, 2019 at 10:44 AM

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“ Rusty was the custodian at Wilson elementary school when I went there as a child. it meant the world to me as a child that didn't have many friends that he would stop and bounce a ball back and forth with me while making his rounds and I was on recess. I've never forgotten that and never will.

He was a good man that touched many lives with small gestures of kindness that had m ore of an effect than I think he realized.

Cody Dobbs

**Cody Dobbs** - October 24, 2020 at 12:05 AM

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“ Rusty was such a onery stinker. First time Rusty threw his bucket because my mail wasnt ready I thought my goodness me and this ole boy are going to go round and round because he hurt my feelings.... Lol soon I realized his bark was bigger than his bite. He just needed some attention.

He was always up for a good scare, laugh, you name it. I loved this onery stinker and I sure miss the freak out everyday. to try to beat Rusty to get my mail in the out box. Rest in peace my onery friend.

**Shelly McSparin** - November 12, 2019 at 09:05 PM

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“ Whether it was the booming voice of Rusty entering the athletic office greeting himself with a loud “Hello Rusty” or him throwing up his hands in frustration that the mail wasn’t ready, you always knew when he was coming and looked forward to his arrival to brighten the morning. He would open doors of meetings and holler “must’ve missed the memo!” and quickly walk out. He was a bulldogger and made sure you knew that and many times stated the fact that “people from Dewey would never do that!” We love you Rusty and the days will be a little less bright in our office without your visits. Hope they have some TruMoo chocolate milk in heaven for you Rusty!  
Terry Hughes

**Terry Hughes** - November 11, 2019 at 05:43 PM

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“ My first day in the office @ JP . I'm nervous and feeling a little overwhelmed. Rusty walks in, introduces himself, and asks me if I have all the mail ready. Of course I didn't. He dropped the tub on the floor, threw his hands in the air...and asked me if I had any candy. It just so happened that I had a bag of cinnamon disks in my purse. He told me that as long as I kept my candy dish full I could make him wait for my mail. Of course I had to run around the office at least once a week pretending that I was not ready. Thank you for brightening my days with your smile and humor. You will be missed. See you soon Rusty

**Melissa 3** - November 10, 2019 at 09:02 PM

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“ I have so many memories of Rusty and all of them are of him laughing, telling stories, tormenting someone.... I will miss his smile, high fives, red hot candies, hugs, and laughter. I looked forward to seeing him each day. He was such a wonderful man and will be greatly missed by so many. Hugs and prayers to all his family and friends, who are too numerous to name.

**Sarah Rowe** - November 10, 2019 at 08:47 PM

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“ Rusty was always a ray of sunshine. I will miss his hugs and his his contagious smile. Praying for peace and comfort for the family

**Shelba Thomas** - November 10, 2019 at 07:10 PM

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“ I am excited that I got to know Rusty. He made my day every day . Telling him hi ,give them hugs on Fridays , give he muffins and chocolate milk and teasing he as well as he teased us back . what a wonderful guy. I am sorry to the family on your loss.

Jolene Thomas



**Jolene Thomas** - November 10, 2019 at 07:03 PM