



Donald "Don" Earl Hale

January 26, 1929 - February 6, 2026

Donald "Don" Earl Hale, 97, of Bartlesville, died Friday, February 6, 2026, in Bartlesville.

Don was born the son of Silas Caleb and Lily Mae (Mason) Hale on January 26, 1929, in Dewey, OK. He was raised in Dewey and some may say (or as Don would say) he put Dewey on the map, most likely for his winning charm and his athletic ability. Don was very athletic and was all state in three sports. He even went on to play professional baseball. Don graduated from Dewey High School in 1947.

While at a Christmas party, Don met the love of his life Joella Faye (Jo) Niswonger. They united in marriage on December 11, 1948, in Bartlesville. Don started his career with Phillips Petroleum Company in 1950. At first he was in sales for the plastic division and the family moved numerous times with the company. They lived in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, Ann Arbor, Michigan, Houston, Neosho, Missouri, then back to Bartlesville. Don retired in 1984 after 34 years with the company. The couple enjoyed 68 years of loving marriage until Jo preceded him in death on May 27, 2016.

Don continued to be active throughout his life and enjoyed golf, fishing, gardening and yard work. While his sons were young, he coached their ball teams. His favorite teams to watch were the Oklahoma Sooners and OU

Softball. His passions in life centered around his wife, children and grandchildren, and he loved them dearly.

Don is survived by his children, Steve (Leslie) Hale, Cindy (Steve) Still and Scott (Barbara) Hale; eight grandchildren, Chris, Kerry, Aaron, Sara, Travis, Matthew, Zachary and Laura; twelve great-grandchildren, Jordan, Elizabeth, Avery, Kai, Asher, Austin, Landree, Lucy, Owen, Mason, Daisy and Charlotte. He is preceded in death by his parents, wife and siblings, Charles Hale, Opal Caffey, Daisy Gofourth and Charlotte Thaxton.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to: The Journey Home, 900 Washington Blvd, Bartlesville, OK 74006.

Graveside services will be held on Tuesday, at 2 p.m., at the Memorial Park Cemetery. Services are under the direction of Carter Davis and the Davis Family Funeral Home & Crematory – Walker Brown Chapel. Online condolences and remembrances may be shared at www.DavisFamilyFuneralHome.com.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery Bartlesville

4200 Nowata Road
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Previous Events

Graveside Service

FEB 10. 2:00 PM (CT)

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4200 Nowata Road
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Tribute Wall

DL

“ I grew up with Don in Dewey. What a great guy he was. He was a great personal friend at that time. Great athlete. I was at the party where he met his wife to be. A very good end on the football team. I hadn't seen him in quite a few years but always remember the good times we had together playing sports for the Dewey Bulldoggers. It's always sad to see old friends pass away but he had a long and good life.

Dudley Lusk, Lisle Illinois

Dudley Lusk - February 12 at 02:44 PM

JJ

“ James west and Monica james planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald "Don" Earl Hale.

James west and Monica james - February 10 at 03:11 PM

JJ

“ James west and Monica james purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Donald "Don" Earl Hale.



James west and Monica james - February 10 at 03:11 PM

LH

“ I can remember my big, tall uncles coming into town which meant family dinner at our grandparents house! Uncle Don was such a handsome, kind man. I can see his smile. When our aunts and uncles, my parents, our cousins got together, it was a lot of laughter and fun. Cindy, Steve and Scott, I love you all and miss our childhood! I can almost imagine Mamaw, Poppy and all the siblings hooting and hollering, being reunited!!

Lori Thaxton Hager - February 10 at 01:52 PM



“ He was my baseball coach when I was 10 and 11 years old. He taught me more about baseball than any other coach in the 12 years I played the game. He was a wonderful man, and I feel fortunate to have known him. A gentle giant. Condolences to the family. He will be missed.

Marty Lowe - February 08 at 07:24 AM

SW

“ Dad's are special. Prayers for the family

stan walton - February 07 at 11:33 PM