



## Gerald Wayne Tolbert

February 26, 1934 - July 6, 2018

Gerald Tolbert, 84, beloved dad, grandfather, brother and friend, transitioned peacefully to his heavenly home on Friday, July 6, 2018. He was born February 26, 1934 in Poteau, OK to Wiley Raymond “Ray” Tolbert and Cleo Helen (Carver) Tolbert. Gerald was reared and educated in the Poteau school system where he enjoyed growing up with siblings, cousins and friends.

Gerald was married to Maxine Smith Tolbert (now Sanders) for 49 years. Together they had two sons, Jerry Wayne and Danny Lee. They were devoted parents and raised their sons in Bartlesville, OK after relocating to the area in the mid 1950’s.

Gerald loved tinkering with cars, tools and parts. He could take almost anything apart and put it back together. Because of this ability he became a successful and trusted auto mechanic in his twenties. Years later he would work for Jay’s Auto Service and was employed there until his retirement.

In 1961, Gerald began competing in Micro Midget races. He was passionate about this hobby and won many awards. As car number 72, he won 3rd place in National Points in the year 1962. In 1963, he won first place in the Eastern Championship Heat Race in Charleston, IL. He also took 2nd place in National Points during the same year. At the 1964 Internationals, he won the Trophy Dash, Fast Heat Race and finished first in the A Main also taking first

place in National Points. In 1966, he won the Best Looking Car Award at the International Race Competition. During his racing career, Gerald won over 200 trophies.

Gerald was an avid fisherman, gardener and loved the outdoors. But above all, he was a family man and adored his sons and grandchildren. He was known as kind, loyal and generous. Gerald was the kind of man who would give you the shirt off his back. He lived simply and took pleasure in things that matter most: family, faith and friends.

This loving dad, grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin and friend will be deeply missed by all whose lives he touched.

Gerald is survived by his sons, Jerry Tolbert and wife, Diana; Danny Tolbert; and Gerald's former wife, Maxine Tolbert Sanders; Grandchildren, Ryan Tolbert and wife, Nichole; Alicia Shelton and husband, Tyson, Willis Gray and Bobby Henderson all of Bartlesville; he is also survived by 5 great-grandchildren. In addition, Gerald is survived by sister, Roma Walker and husband, Orville, of Owasso, OK; brother, Ed Tolbert and wife, LaVon , of Bartlesville; and sister, Mary Purkey and husband, Mike, of Olathe, KS and a host of nieces and nephews. Gerald was preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Cleo Tolbert; brother, Charles Tolbert; and nephew, Bentley Tolbert.

Visitation will be held Tuesday 9-8 and Wednesday 9-12 at the Davis Family Funeral Home – Walker Brown Chapel.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, July 11, 2018, at 2:00 PM. Services will be at the Davis Family Funeral Home - Walker Brown Chapel. Interment will follow at the Dewey Cemetery. Services are under the direction of Carter Davis and the Davis Family Funeral Home – Walker Brown Chapel. Online condolences and remembrances may be shared with Gerald's Family at [www.davisfamilyfuneralhome.com](http://www.davisfamilyfuneralhome.com).



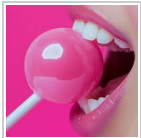
# Tribute Wall



Cora Wells

“ Gerald is the Grandfather of my son, which he had a very large part of helping with his raising. Gerald was always there for him thru thick and thin. Willis adored and Loved Gerald more than anyone, which who could compete with a Man that gave his Heart and Sole to his Grandson. Gerald will be Missed by many. RIP: Gerald Love always Cora Gray Wells

Cora Wells - July 10, 2018 at 01:23 AM



“ RIP Gerald Sympathies and condolences to the family and friends. Van and Sara Schmoll Jr.



Sara Schmoll - July 09, 2018 at 01:18 PM



JE

“ I know that John has tons and tons of memories of Gerald. We both remember the days that Gerald and John raced micro midgets and at times John has told me times before I knew John. They were such fun days. Love you all.

John and Debbie Epperson - July 08, 2018 at 02:10 PM



JE

“ John And Debbie Epperson lit a candle in memory of Gerald Wayne Tolbert



John and Debbie Epperson - July 08, 2018 at 02:07 PM

CS

“ Gerald came everyday to visit his mom and we talked and laughed on those visits. Sometimes his sisters and brother was there and they laughed and talked, and I also enjoyed the laughter and conversation. They were just a happy family, and it would brighten the day to have them visit their mom, as I helped take care of their mom with her daily living.



*Charlote Spencer LPN*

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**Charote Spencer** - July 07, 2018 at 07:36 PM



“ Shelley Coldren lit a candle in memory of Gerald Wayne Tolbert



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**Shelley Coldren** - July 07, 2018 at 12:53 PM