



Albert Paul Matthews

September 29, 1925 - May 17, 2015

Mr. Albert “Rusty” Matthews

Albert P. “Rusty aka Kojak” Matthews, 89 departed from this Earth to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on May 17, 2015. Throughout his lifetime he held various careers: soldier, police officer, lumber man, carpenter, and lastly as a custodian with the BPSD where he retired in 1986. Rusty was known by many as the local lawnmower repairman where you could barter a homemade pie or some fresh caught catfish or crappie to have your lawnmower repaired. Rusty was born in Green Forest, Arkansas and was raised and received his education in Bartlesville until he joined the Army during his junior year of high school. He was a decorated war hero who served in World War II and received an honorable discharge in 1945. Later that same year he married his sweetheart and soul mate, Ruby Brown.

He was a father, husband, grandfather, friend and mentor to many. He taught us all to work hard and be respectful and polite, to be kind to others and to pay for and make our own way through life. He had a heart for children, especially those in need or the “underdog”. He always had a way of making each of them feel as though they belonged and were special. He often spoke of all of “his kids” from Limestone School, Highland Park School and Wilson School. He remembered all of their names and had a special story to tell about almost every last one of them. I believe that they made as big of an impact on his life and he did on theirs.

Rusty was preceded in death by his wife of 54 years, Ruby Brown Matthews,

3 brothers, Cleo, Tipp and Baby Boy Smith and one sister, Alta Tucker. He is survived by two daughters and two sons in law: Karen and David Houk, Carol Monday and Jerry Monday, Sr. ; four grandchildren and their spouses: Jerry Jr. and Shelley Monday, Josh and Ginger Monday, Jenny (Monday) and Shane Warman, Rustee and Lacey Monday; 15 great-grandchildren and 2 great- great grandchildren. He also leaves behind near and dear friends to him, Paul Gable and Tony Orr.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests that donations be made to the Madison Middle School Parent Support Group to help purchase new playground equipment. Donations can be made to MMS PSG, 500 SE Madison Blvd, Bartlesville, OK 74006. Friends who wish may sign the online guestbook and leave condolences at www.stumpff.org.

PDF Printable Version

Tribute Wall



“ *Albert Paul Matthews*

October 23, 2023 at 04:40 AM



“ *Albert Paul Matthews*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *I still owe Rusty 2 loaves of beer bread for some lawnmower work. I didn't forget and I'm sure he didn't either! He's enjoying his Heavenly rewards now. I taught at Highland Park and knew him best through dear friends, June and Jim Stine. They're gone now too, and I'm sure they're all there chitchatting about school days. I just read Brent Taylor's blog or I would have responded earlier. I loved the picture of him with his old truck and precious rust. He was a good man. . .*

Paula Kay Steeper - December 30, 2015 at 09:18 PM



“ *I loved Rusty so much. He became like a second father to me. Due to my health issues I have not been able to come and see him. I hope he knows that I didn't abandon him or didn't care. I will never forget him having that song written for me. Carol and Bud, my prayers and thoughts are with you.*

Diane Moore - May 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EG

“ I am also one of Mr. Matthews former Limestone students. He was a great man, the best man I ever knew. We all loved him. He really was like a good father to us all.

Eric Gray - May 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ As a Mother of three of Rusty's Limestone kids, I want to express my deepest sympathy to his family. He was an amazing person and he gave so much to my children for which I am forever grateful. He was the first at Limestone to know when my fourth child was born as he called the hospital. Unfortunately, Mike went to Wayside and missed out on the joy of Rusty's love. What the world has lost, Heaven has gained! I believe his mansion is very big!! What a day of rejoicing when someday he is reunited with all his "kids"!!!!

Dianne Cox - May 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ I sometimes thought of Rusty as a philosopher with a broom. He had such a profound understanding of human behavior, and he especially understood what makes children tick. For a few years I taught in a school in which he was employed. His down-home humor often made the days brighter. Students loved his mock-tough, but gentle, teasing; and he knew how to make an encouraging remark to a child who was having a rough day. “EEEZEE MONEY!” Rusty sometimes would exclaim if he came into my classroom after school hours and found me just sitting at my desk, taking a short break from paper work. If he saw me carrying to my car an empty cardboard box, he would accuse me of importing cockroaches to my house. Whenever Rusty mentioned his wife, I knew from the tone of his voice that Ruby was the love of his life. His marriage to her was a blessing in his life. I discovered that bringing Rusty a few homemade lemon bars was a quick guarantee that he would be a friend for life. He ate quite a few of my lemon bars. Rest in peace, friend Rusty. Jean Fincher

Jean Fincher - May 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RV

“ I am one of Mr. Matthews Limestone Students. The kids loved him, he loved the kids. He was as much a part of our Limestone experiences as any of our teachers.

Russ Vaclaw - May 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ To a great man, who loved and was loved by MANY!!! May he now be swimming in a golden pool, filled with cinnamon candies!!

David Cox - May 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Susie, Carol and all the rest of the family. I was so sad to hear about Rusty, but then I remembered where he was going and who he was going to see... Rusty is safe in the arms of Jesus with Ruby by his side. I cant wait to join them. I love you guys and you are in my heart.

Karen Hinton - May 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ My heart grew a little heavier today learning of Rusty's passing. Just last week I drove by and pondered about his health. I have missed our "garage chats" these past couple of years. Because of Rusty, I am a better person today. He broke the mold of humanity.

Stella Shoff - May 19, 2015 at 12:00 AM