



Howard R. Jones Jr.

August 10, 1930 - October 29, 2012

Mr. Howard R. Jones Jr.

Howard Russell Jones, Jr., 82, of Bartlesville, died Monday, October 29, 2012 at Heritage Villa. His body was donated to the OU Health Sciences Center. Private family memorial services will be held at a later date.

Howard was born August 10, 1930, in Dewey, Oklahoma, the son of Howard R. Jones and Lucile Wilson Jones. His family moved to Bartlesville before he was the age of one. He was a member of the First Christian Church through college and sang in the church choir. Howard graduated from College High School, during which time he began his jazz drumming and arranging with the Downbeats. He attended Westminster College, Fulton, MO, where he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta social fraternity. He received a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Oklahoma, where he also received a pilot's License. He married Mary Alice Beall in 1952. Jones entered Officer Candidate School with the U.S. Naval Reserve and was commissioned as a Lt. Jr. Grade on Nov. 12, 1953 during the Korean War. He was assigned to the USS Monssen DD798 as a gunnery officer. Following his discharge from active duty on November 12, 1956, he returned to Bartlesville and was employed by J & S Foundry in Dewey for a number of years. He became a member of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church during this time and was a member of the building planning committee. He founded Five Star, Inc. an agricultural equipment manufacturing company, where he served as President until his retirement. The Tiller Rod was one of his patented tools.

Howard volunteered many hours to his community performing as a percussionist and was honored for his service by the Allied Arts and Humanities Council of Bartlesville in 1996. He served for 42 years as volunteer timpanist/percussionist with the Bartlesville Symphony and 30 years as percussionist for the Choral Society. He was percussionist for all Bartlesville Theater Guild musicals from 1966—1999, all Community Singers/Show Choir and Fortyissimo programs, and for many Ad Lib programs. He served as a board member of the Bartlesville Symphony, acting as concert chairman for eight years. He volunteered many hours raising money for Arts Encounters, Service League, Women and Children in Crisis and Concern.

Jones designed and manufactured the Bartlesville Community Center's acoustical shell-stage which moves on air casters, the large exterior double doors of Community Hall, as well as the gates at the rear. He also built the structure of the Community Center sign.

Howard played the drum set in the Alan Eastman Trio, entertaining Bartlesville audiences from the late 80's through 2004. The jazz trio was a regular OK Mozart Showcase Event annually from the Festival's inception through 2004. Jones also volunteered to play timpani at numerous church services throughout the community and drum set at various church musicals. Howard was always very devoted to his pets. Animals and birds gave him much pleasure.

Survivors include his longtime friend and companion, Mary Lynn Smith of Bartlesville; twin daughters Melinda and Debora Jones of Bartlesville; a son, Jeffrey Jones; granddaughters and spouses Lindsey and John Singleton of Houston and Tristan and Shane Linehan of Mountain Home, AR; former wife Mary Alice Jones of Grove; a sister, Margery Maple, aunt, Delma Wilson, and a cousin Jeanette Popkess all of Bartlesville; and several other cousins; and nephews Steve and Mike Maple.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his uncle, Clarence Wilson, his brother-in-law, Wayne Maple, and his niece Melissa Dunaway.

Memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

PDF Printable Version

Tribute Wall



“ *Howard R. Jones Jr.*

October 23, 2023 at 04:40 AM



“ *Howard R. Jones Jr.*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *Mary Lynn, I am so sad to hear this news. May you find peace and comfort in happy memories of Howard.*

Gail Legg McClung - November 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our sincere sympathy in the loss of a very special person. May all the good memories keep his spirit alive and close within your heart.*

Dr. John and Karla Steger - November 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *I loved reading about the wonderful life of Howard. I wish I had had the opportunity to know him. He will be really missed by those who loved him. My sympathy goes to his family and friends, mainly my cousin Mary Lynn, for the deep loss. My heart goes out to you.*
Betty Street

Betty Street - November 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ My thoughts go out to Jeff, Tristan and Lindsey. Much love to you all at this difficult time.

Stacy Tucker - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

FM

“ Dear Margery and family, We will all miss Howard very, very much. He was such a wonderful man. I have fond memories of working together on all those show choir shows...he was really fun and a great musician. Thinking of you and hope your happy memories will sustain you.

Faye Marlowe - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Howard Jones was a friend of mine for many, many years. He was always playing for musicals in which I had a part since 1969, a couple of years after I moved here. Always the gentleman, never really pumping up all the many things he did for the community--gallant and proud. Oh how I'll miss the light shining from his eyes. He facilitated the Stewart Graduate Grant Auditions back in the 1980s by allowing then director of the Tulsa Opera, Ed Purrington, who died about 6 months ago and me to go down to his basement where he had a great stereo system and listen to tapes that had been sent in from those wishing to obtain a place in the "live" auditions. He loved music and those who played it, sang it, or listened to it. He'll live in our hearts forever.

Diana Farris - November 02, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Our most sincere condolences for the loss of Howard. We light a candle in honor of his memory that still burns in the hearts of many.

Staff at Stumpff Funeral Home - October 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *Howard was the light of my life. I miss him so much!* ”

Mary Lynn Smith - October 31, 2012 at 12:00 AM