

Joe G Spann

October 22, 1951 - January 29, 2026

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved grandfather, father, husband, brother, and friend, Joe G. Spann.

For reasons too quirky and complicated to explain here, he was called Pwa rather than just dad or grandpa. Pwa was born on October 22, 1951 in Phillips, TX. He was more comfortable with loud engines and exhaust fumes than a desk and papers. He was focused on going fast rather than going far. He raced motorcycles professionally for years. When he bolted his official AMA national number '10g' onto his newly uncrated Harley Davidson xr750 flat-track racer, it was like Clark Kent donning his cape.

Before the Harley however, Pwa fell in love with a young beauty named Jeanette Riley. Thankfully, his love for Jeanette would eventually outlast the Harley. He was loyal and loving to Jeanette in marriage for 39 years until her passing in 2011. They raised two pretty fantastic children who now have families of their own including 8 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

After Jeanette came along, in the press of raising little kids, Pwa fell in love again. This time it was a long-haired hippie carpenter named Jesus Christ. His love for Jesus would grow to surpass everything else.

Pwa was always testifying to the power of God to change lives. He prayed for

everyone he could, sang goofy worship songs in public, and positively radiated the genuine love of God. Most people have heard that God loves them, but if you ever met Pwa, you genuinely felt that love in an undeniable way.

He was a small business owner who ran Motorcycle Specialties in Bartlesville, OK for 10 years. His reputation as a motorcycle expert meant people would travel across multiple states to bring their machines to him for repairs or advice.

His time as a business owner led to teaching a small business course full-time at Tri-County Tech in Bartlesville, then to helping his son with accounting and finance in his business as well.

Beyond all of his professional endeavors, he loved everyone he met as deeply as he could: co-workers, strangers on the side of the highway, white-collar executives, blue collar laborers, and everyone in between.

After Jeanette passed, he returned to his first love, racing. He became a Chaplain with Motor Racing Outreach, serving at motorcycle races throughout the region. He spent most of his time at Hallett Motor Racing Circuit as both a COMMA race technician and chaplain. He'd lead Sunday morning services for all of the "Race Fans and Jesus Freaks". What he cherished the most were the individual relationships with all of the racers and workers. He knew their lives and troubles, prayed with them and for them, wept beside their hospital beds, and rejoiced in their moments of victory. He was the hands and feet of Christ in their midst.

But Pwa had more love to give and was missing something for his last lap. Then he found Jan Adams. Pwa and Jan delighted in each other and made the most of their 4 years of marriage before Pwa got his final checkered flag.

Pwa passed on January 29, 2026 surrounded by his loving family. Well done on the final podium Pwa.

He is survived by his wife, Jan Adams-Spann, his children Christina Gayle Gillum and Joe David (Anjanette), his grandchildren, Rachel Vandepol (Wyatt), Parker Cook, Sophia Spann, Josselyn Spann, Norah Spann, Forest Cook, Jude Spann, his great grandchildren Emma Julia Vandepol, Corrie Elizabeth Vandepol, and Judah Lane Vandepol, his sisters Rose Mary Longnecker, Pepper Black, and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ed and Mary Rose Spann, his first wife, Jeanette Spann and his grandson, Phoenix Gabriel Cook.

A celebration of life service will be held on Thursday, February 5th at 2:00 pm at Spirit Church, 2121 S Madison Blvd, Bartlesville, OK 74006.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB 5. 2:00 PM (CT)

Spirit Church
2121 South Madison Blvd
Bartlesville, OK 74006
<https://spirit.church/>

Tribute Wall

TF

“ *The CMRA Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Joe G Spann.* ”



The CMRA Family - February 05 at 12:01 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joe G Spann.* ”



February 05 at 08:13 AM

SI

“ *Sonrise International purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Joe G Spann.* ”



Sonrise International - February 04 at 08:25 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joe G Spann.* ”



February 04 at 04:18 PM

AB

“ All our Love, Tom and Denise Baker planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joe G Spann.

All our Love, Tom and Denise Baker - February 04 at 04:18 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Joe G Spann.



February 04 at 03:27 PM

DP

“ Debbie, Morgan and Jake Phillips planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joe G Spann.

Debbie, Morgan and Jake Phillips - February 04 at 03:27 PM

MF

“ Mike & Cacey Roller and family purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Joe G Spann.



Mike & Cacey Roller and family - February 04 at 12:37 PM

MF

“ Mike & Cacey Roller and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joe G Spann.

Mike & Cacey Roller and family - February 04 at 12:37 PM

RD

“ Rose Mary Longnecker and Renee Detky purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Joe G Spann.



Rose Mary Longnecker and Renee Detky - February 04 at 10:12 AM

RD

“ Rose Mary Longnecker and Renee Detky planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joe G Spann.

Rose Mary Longnecker and Renee Detky - February 04 at 10:12 AM



“ Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Joe G Spann.



February 03 at 08:47 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Joe G Spann.*



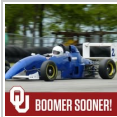
February 03 at 08:37 PM



“ *Joe was such a wonderful person and he will be deeply missed, but his spirt and his love for Our Savior Jesus Christ will never leave us. I, like so many others, came to know and love Joe Spann out at Hallett Motor Racing Circuit. I dug up those post from Facebook and some more warm memories came flooding back into my mind. Race In Peace Joe. We will love and miss you until we meet again.*



Karl Strouhal - February 02 at 10:33 PM



April 5, 2019 . Jennings .

Practice day helping Eddie and Ercie Hill. Joe G Spann hamming it up for the camera in this photo. and of course the Hallet Legends are out in full force !!
- attending COMMA Championship - Round 1 with Chris Larson and 3 others at Hallett Motor Racing Circuit.

Karl Strouhal - February 03 at 03:37 AM

AK

“ Alan, Michelle, Sydney & Nicole Keim purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Joe G Spann.



Alan, Michelle, Sydney & Nicole Keim - February 02 at 09:20 AM

AK

“ Alan, Michelle, Sydney & Nicole Keim planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joe G Spann.

Alan, Michelle, Sydney & Nicole Keim - February 02 at 09:20 AM

PB

“ Pepper B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joe G Spann.

Pepper B. - February 02 at 12:23 AM

JF

“ Jason F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joe G Spann.

Jason F. - February 01 at 08:13 PM

KF

“ Keim family Cousins and families purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Joe G Spann.



Keim family Cousins and families - February 01 at 04:13 PM

KF

“ Keim family Cousins and families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joe G Spann.

Keim family Cousins and families - February 01 at 04:13 PM

ES

“ Ernie &Tami Snodgrass lit a candle in memory of Joe G Spann



Ernie &Tami Snodgrass - February 01 at 10:59 AM

JB

“ We share your sorrow as well as the joy of knowing what he ment to his family. Remember the good as well remember you will be together again.

Jean Bell - February 01 at 10:24 AM

DH

“ first met Joe Spann in the early 1970's when he was working as a mechanic at Bartlesville Cycle Sports and I was new to the world of motorcycles. Joe was always smiling, interesting to talk to, raced a Bultaco Astro flat tracker and was the essence of cool. He eventually campaigned a Harley-Davidson XR750 under the AMA National Number 10G. He was also an inspired Christian, devoted husband, beloved father and a good friend.

David Hill - February 01 at 10:15 AM

DH

“ 3 files added to the album Joe Spann Photos



David Hill - February 01 at 09:30 AM

AS

Thank you for these!

Anjanette Spann - February 01 at 10:25 AM

JH

“ Janice Holland lit a candle in memory of Joe G Spann



Janice Holland - January 31 at 11:08 PM



“ Such a sweet human. So glad I had the chance of knowing him. Prayers to the rest of the family.



Sara Rayner-Surrett - January 31 at 10:55 PM

JS

“ *Jeanne Foreman Shepherd lit a candle in memory of Joe G Spann*



Jeanne Foreman Shepherd - January 31 at 09:36 PM