



Kenneth Leroy Cross

August 12, 1942 - January 6, 2013

Mr. Kenneth L. Cross, 70, of Bartlesville, passed from this earth peacefully on Sunday, January 6, 2013, following a brief illness.

Funeral services for Mr. Cross will be held at 2 P.M. Friday, January 11, 2013 at the First United Methodist Church with Dr. Kevin Tully officiating. Interment will be in the Memorial Park Cemetery directed by the Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory.

Friends who wish may call for visitation at the Stumpff Funeral Home until 11 A.M. Friday as the casket will remain closed at the services.

Mr. Cross was born at Stillwater, Oklahoma on August 12, 1942 the son of Hazel Oretta (Hemphill) Gross. He grew up and received his education at Stillwater where he graduated from Stillwater High School in 1960. While in high school he was an outstanding athlete earning letters in football, basketball and baseball and in 1959 was the All-State "Honorable Mention" at quarterback. He was the point guard of the 1959 and 1960 State Championship basketball teams at Stillwater High School and was selected as the Most Valuable Player at the state basketball tournament. Following his high school graduation he attended Northern Oklahoma Junior College at Tonkawa for two years, Oklahoma State University at Stillwater and then Central State University at Edmond where he received his Bachelors degree. He then served as a member of the National Guard and also worked at Sears in Tulsa for two years. He was married to Jeannine R. Godley on June 22, 1968 in Blackwell, Oklahoma. They came to Bartlesville to make their home in

1968 and Mr. Cross taught Business Education and was active as a coach at Sooner High School. When the school became Bartlesville Mid High he instructed in weightlifting and physical education. Throughout his career in education he was active in coaching wrestling, football, basketball and track. Following his retirement from the Bartlesville schools, he was employed at the Wellness Center at the Jane Phillips Medical Center until retiring in July of 2012. Mr. Cross was preceded in death by his wife on August 26, 2012. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church where he was active as an usher. He loved the mountains and loved to snow ski. He was an avid all sports fan of Oklahoma State University, the Green Bay Packers, Boston Celtics and St. Louis Cardinals. He loved music and had played the violin while in high school, loved animals and his daily routine of an early morning cup of coffee with his morning newspaper. He was a kind, generous and true gentleman. He also loved his lifelong high school friends with who he had maintained contact over the years.

Survivors include his son, Derek Nathan Cross of Bartlesville, his mother, Retta Gross of Bartlesville, a brother-in-law, Larry Godley of Blackwell, an uncle, Walt Hemphill and wife Bobbi of Broken Arrow, an aunt, Betty Hall of Tulsa and an aunt by marriage, Betty Jo Hemphill of Okmulgee as well as numerous cousins and many special friends. In addition to his wife he was preceded in death by an aunt, Laura Hemphill and an uncle, Bob Hemphill who were both instrumental in his upbringing, his father-in-law, and mother-in-law, Ernest and Elsie Godley and a brother-in-law, Ronnie Godley.

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Tribute Wall



“ *Kenneth Leroy Cross*

October 23, 2023 at 04:40 AM



“ *Kenneth Leroy Cross*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *Coach Cross was one of the most understanding teachers I had in high school. I think he may even have felt sorry for our class. We loved him though. Many good memories!!! Coach, you will truly be missed by many!!*

Christy Schmoll-Wiggins - January 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *Kenny Cross: The eternal prankster, yet always a gentleman. (Who will now hide the pop?) You'll be on my mind with each mountain run or mountain snow, any great steak, and every dessert. You certainly enjoyed this life. It was my privilege to be first your student and then your co-worker.*

Laurie Smith - January 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ I knew Ken through the teaching profession. I started teaching at Bartlesville Central Jr. High in 1968.
I really got to know the kind, gentle, concerned spirit of Ken when we worked together on the school painting crew during a few different summers. Ken was always wearing a smile and enjoyed having fun.
I want you to know that my prayers are with Ken's family and loved ones. You have to be great people because (if for no other reason) you knew Ken.
God will bless you.

Don M. Cochran - January 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ I had Coach as an Accounting teacher - loved him, he was a sweet man. In that day he made the guys "fly" (planking on a tall stool) in front of the class if they were causing troublethose were the days when a teacher could give some dicipline :)

Dona (Holbert) Boatman - January 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ I will forever remember coach cross. He touched my life and his wife touched my sons life.
rest in peace coach
Job well done Sir

Robert Hill - January 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ Great person and coach. Godspeed Coach!!!

Shane Nunn - January 11, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of coach Cross, I coached with him for thirty two years he was always some body I could lean on or look for help.He was always listing and encouraging me. Never forget the great times we had riding motor cycles or just visiting, What a great person, My prayers go out to his son Derek. Bartlesville has lost a great coach and Teacher.

Coach Don Burt - January 10, 2013 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ Kenny, you will be missed! You filled the room with fun,laughter,and kindness. Everytime I eat at "Five Guys", I will have a burger in memory of you!

Kelsey Stephens - January 09, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ What a great friend and co-worker. I will not be able to eat pumpkin candycorn or strawberry rhubarb jam or eat at Cheddars or cheer for my OSU Cowboys without thinking about you. The Wellness Center will never be the same.

Stephanie Colclasure - January 09, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Coach Cross was a wonderful man, taught me so much about not just business, but about life and how to treat people. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

David Haddock - January 09, 2013 at 12:00 AM

VR

“ Peace, Prayers and Blessings. With loving memories of Kenny....We will all miss your smiling face at The Wellness Connection

Vickie Rose - January 09, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ One of my best memories at sooner high school was the kind words of encourgment and support from coach Gross. He touched many people in his years of teaching and coaching.

Jerry Stamper - January 09, 2013 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ Coach Cross was a great coach, mentor, and person... he taught me how to weight lift and carry myself with honor & dignity on & off the football field. He will be missed and remembered!

Wil Boyce - January 09, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ RIP Coach Cross. Many great memories from high school and beyond of kindness and caring.Go Sooner Spartans!

Sam Stoia - January 09, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Had some great times and memories with the coach. My prayers are going up for family and friends.

RIP Coach Cross.

Jeff Lowry - January 08, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *A sympathy card has been sent to the family of Kenneth Leroy Cross.*

January 08, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ *I was very shocked to hear of Kenny's passing. I will always remember him from both my childhood at the football field and from working at JPMC. Rest in peace.*

Shannon Ripley Bailey - January 08, 2013 at 12:00 AM