



Larry Beard

December 30, 1951 - July 19, 2014

Mr. Larry Beard

Mr. Larry Beard, 62, retired Bartlesville Public Schools teacher & counselor, died at 10:48 A.M. on Saturday, July 19, 2014, at Jane Phillips Medical Center.

A memorial service for Mr. Beard will be held 11:00 A.M. on Tuesday, July 22, 2014, at Eastern Heights Baptist Church. Dr. Michael Vallandingham will officiate and Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory will direct the service.

If so desired donations may be made to the following organizations: Eastern Heights Baptist Church, 1331 S.E. Swan Drive, Bartlesville, Oklahoma, 74006; to The Navigators, PO Box 6000, Colorado Springs, CO 80934; or to Campus Crusade for Christ, 100 Lake Hart Drive, 2400, Orlando, FL 32832.

Mr. Beard was born in Oklahoma City, OK, on December 30, 1951, to L.G. and Leta Ruth (Lloyd) Beard. The family lived in Oklahoma City until moving to Dewey when he was 7 years old. Larry attended Dewey Public Schools where he played baseball, graduating from Dewey High School in 1970. He attended NSU in Tahlequah where he earned a Bachelor's degree in English Education and was a member of the National Honor Society. He began his teaching career at Vinita Middle School where he taught English Literature for 4 years.

He was married to Kathy Lee Mathews on October 7, 1978, at FBC in Picher, Oklahoma. In June of 1980, Larry felt called by God to full time ministry and became Music and Youth Minister at FBC in Vinita. On November 17, 1980,

he and Kathy were involved in a motor vehicle accident that rendered him a quadriplegic. Despite this seemingly insurmountable setback, Mr. Beard continued his education, receiving a Master's degree in Counseling Psychology from NSU. For several years following, Mr. Beard did private counseling while living in Vinita. Mr. Beard sensed a different vocational path, and in 1991, he received a Master's degree in Education Counseling from NSU. He began work as a counselor at Madison Middle School in Bartlesville and returned to the classroom in 1994 teaching Language Arts and Literature, which he continued until his retirement in May of 2013.

The most important thing in Larry's life was his relationship with God. His love for God's word was immeasurable. He was a member of the Eastern Heights Baptist Church where he also served as a Deacon.

Mr. Beard is survived by his wife, Kathy Beard of Bartlesville; two brothers, Michael Beard and wife, Joyce, of Fort Worth, Texas; Pat Beard and wife Martha of Lawrence, Kansas; one sister, Rabecca Oswald and husband, John, of Double Oak, Texas; and two aunts, Lenore Beard of Fort Smith, Arkansas and Lorene Hays and husband Bill of Orange, Texas. His parents, L.G. and Ruth Beard, a nephew, Bryan Beard and his father-in-law, Allan Mathews, preceded him in death. Friends who wish may sign the online guest book and leave condolences at www.stumpff.org.

PDF Printable Version

Tribute Wall



“ *Larry Beard*

October 23, 2023 at 04:40 AM



“ *Larry Beard*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *Kathy, The love you two shared is a model for everyone who got to be in your life. My heart breaks for your loss. Larry was a kind and generous man.*
Michelle

Michelle (Thompson) Rigdon - November 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *I particularly went back to find Larry's obituary so that I could add a note. I sent many 5th graders to Madison from Ranch Heights and never heard anything but good reports from the students who were lucky enough to have him for a teacher. He was an excellent teacher and a good man.*

Paula K Steeper - October 29, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *I always enjoyed your smile and your happiness. We will miss you!*
Wayne

wayne moorhead - July 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Kathy, I was sorry to read about Larry's death. Donnie passed away July 22, so I'm feeling your pain about this lose. They were both very good men, and will be missed.

Donna Miller - July 30, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ I had not seen Larry since high school but just wanted to say I'm sorry about his death. I lost my mom this week and they're funerals were the same day. I'm glad that he knew The Lord. Praying for your peace.

Marla - July 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ Kathy,

You and I used to teach together at Tri County (I was Michelle Gomez then.)

I am so sorry to hear about Larry - such a sweet man and you two were such a great couple. He will be sorely missed.

Thinking of you!

Michelle

Michelle Rigdon - July 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Mr. Beard was a fantastic teacher who taught us not only English/LA but also compassion and patience...and a healthy dose of sarcasm! Prayers to his family. He will be missed!

Jennifer Reeder - July 24, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ Kathy, I am just now hearing about Larry's passing and am so sorry I missed the funeral. I have so many great memories about our times in college, he was a special person. I always admired you for your total support and loyalty. I pray and know that God will be there for you thru this time of need

Gary Steele - July 23, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ Rest well, my friend. You're just getting started!

Paul Garvin - July 23, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Thinking if you especially today and praying for God's arms to surround you.

Joan Dove Fels - July 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NE

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to you all. Larry was a wonderful and inspiring man. I know he is rejoicing with Jesus today. I feel very blessed to have known him.

Nedra Edwards - July 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TT

“ Larry was just a Joy to my heart and always welcomed me into his home each and every week. He will be missed..but we know that he is dancing on those Streets of Gold now! Love You Kathy so much!

Tina Tiffany - July 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Just wanted to say so sorry for your loss. I use to take care of Larry when I worked in pt at the hospital. I always asked him to do his impersonation of Hank Hill. Larry always made me laugh. He was such a great person. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Sheri LaVasseur - July 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Mr. Beard was an amazing person he's someone ill never forget . I went to Madison where he worked and so that's how I met him I really wish he was my teacher but the point is that he's a great person and I'm glad I got to meet him...I will miss you but your always in my heart..

Jasmine Clem - July 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

J,

“ He will be greatly missed by our family..

Jim ,Jan .Jessica ,Jasmine - July 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ One of my favorites and always an inspiration. My condolences to his family.

Miranda (Boggs) Gaskamp - July 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ Rest in Peace Larry. You were a fine Christian Gentleman and a great role model.

A C Holden - July 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *Larry was a very special person. What an inspiration to all who knew him. He will be missed greatly here on earth, but he has received the ultimate healing and is now praising his Lord and Savior in heaven.*

Ray and Leona Stall - July 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ *Larry will always be my hero.*

Patricia Webster - July 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ *Great guy and great spirit!*

Lona Lindgren - July 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM