



## Merle Don Thorpe

June 16, 1930 - January 2, 2020

Mr. Merle Don Thorpe, 89, of Bartlesville, died at 4:44 P.M. on Thursday, January 2, 2020 at the St. John Medical Center in Tulsa.

Funeral services for Mr. Thorpe will be held at 1 P.M. on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at the Dewey United Methodist Church with Rev. Jinx Barber and Rev. Tari Carbaugh officiating. Interment will be in the Dewey Cemetery directed by the Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory.

Friends who wish may sign the memorial register at the Stumpff Funeral Home until 5 PM daily as the casket will remain closed at the services.

Mr. Thorpe was born at Nowata, Oklahoma on June 16, 1930 the son of Roy Blanton Thorpe and Ruth J. (Ridgeway) Thorpe. He graduated from Dewey High School and then attended Coyne Electrical School in Chicago, Illinois and Tulsa University. He served in the United States Air Force during the Korean War. He was employed with IBM for 16 years and after owning and operating Thorpe's Green Country Jersey Dairy, he went to work for the City of Bartlesville, where he retired as superintendent of traffic control in 1988. Mr. Thorpe met Margaret Lee Gandy in the second grade at Lake View Country School west of Dewey and they were married at the People's Church in Bartlesville on July 30, 1955. Mrs. Thorpe had been active as a teacher until her retirement in 1986 after teaching at Dewey for 23 years. Mr. and Mrs.

Thorpe spent most of their time traveling between south Texas, Bartlesville and Creede, Colorado where they built a summer home. Mrs. Thorpe preceded him in death on June 15, 2014. Mr. Thorpe was a longtime member of the Dewey United Methodist Church, The Bartlesville American Legion Post # 105 and the Dewey Masonic Lodge # 466, and had been active as a docent at the Dewey Hotel.

Survivors include two daughters, Ivy Kim Thorpe of Tulsa and Margo Elliott and husband Jim of Bartlesville, four grandchildren, Matthew Allen Foster, Michael Andrew Foster, Christopher Don Elliott and wife Brianna and Amanda Lee Elliott, one great granddaughter, Eleanor Joy Elliott and his special friend, Beverly Strode of Bartlesville. In addition to his wife, he was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Muriel Jean Salyers.

In lieu of flowers, the family asked that memorial donations be made to the Dewey Hotel, c/o Washington County Historical Society, 801 N. Delaware, Dewey, Oklahoma, 74029 and the Dewey United Methodist Church, 618 N. Delaware, Dewey, Oklahoma, 74029.

# Cemetery Details

## Dewey Cemetery

Highway 75 & Road 1300  
Dewey, OK 74029  
(918) 534-2272

# Previous Events

## Church

JAN 8. 1:00 PM (CT)

Dewey United Methodist  
618 North Delaware  
Dewey, OK

# Tribute Wall



“ *Merle Don Thorpe*

October 23, 2023 at 04:40 AM



“ *Merle Don Thorpe*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Merle Don Thorpe.*



January 05, 2020 at 12:54 PM



“ *Jo Tucker purchased the Silver Victorian Tear Bottle with FREE Matching Tray for the family of Merle Don Thorpe.*



**Jo Tucker** - January 05, 2020 at 12:24 PM

BS

“ *Don Thorpe was our neighbor next door for 24 years. He was the best neighbor & friend that anyone could ever ask for. He was a kind and generous person. He will be missed by many people who knew him.*

*Bill & Shirley Spencer*

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**Billy Spencer** - January 03, 2020 at 07:33 PM

DM

*Loved uncle buzz and aunt Margaret Lee Had many visit with my mom and dad Ayling many times. Prayers for Margo and Kim and family.*

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**donna ayling murrow** - January 04, 2020 at 02:53 PM

ME

*Thank you Donna. Love to your family from ours.*

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**Margo Elliott** - January 04, 2020 at 09:07 PM

AH

*Don. Was a friend and Gentleman.*

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**A C Holden** - January 06, 2020 at 05:34 PM

CB

*love to you all, Margo. I always thought Uncle Buzz was such a handsome man, and I know he will be missed. Sending a donation from the entire Bush/Wolf family.*

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**Christy Bush** - January 25, 2020 at 11:47 AM