



## Spence Edward Rigdon

January 3, 1973 - November 4, 2019

Spence Edward Rigdon, 46, of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, died Monday, November 4, 2019.

Spence was born January 3, 1973 in Bartlesville to Glenn Edward Rigdon and Kathleen “Kay” Quiett. He was raised in Bartlesville by Glenn and Phyllis (Park) Rigdon.

He attended Kansas City, Kansas Community College. He was a member of the baseball team and received his associate degree. He continued playing baseball & his education at Pittsburg State University earning a Bachelor's degree in secondary education. In 2015 he graduated from Southwestern Oklahoma State University with his master's degree in education. Spence currently worked as the Bartlesville Public Schools Athletic and Activities Director.

Spence married Christina V. Gipson in Overland Park, Kansas on June 8, 1996. The couple have three children, Rilee(19), Bradee(16) and Cy(11). In 1996, Spence developed and started the Marysville High School Baseball team, in Marysville, Kansas, where he was head coach. From 2004 through 2018, he was the head varsity baseball coach at Bartlesville High School. In 2015, he received the Kurt Schmoldt Teacher of the Year Appreciation Award. In 2017, he received the Oklahoma Baseball Coaches Association Special recognition award, 2018-19 Oklahoma Interscholastic Athletic Admin Association as Athletic Director Newcomer of the year. He was a member of East Cross United Methodist Church, Oklahoma Education Association,

Bartlesville Education Association, the Oklahoma Interscholastic Athletic Admin Association and the Bartlesville Sports Commission.

He enjoyed all aspects of the game of baseball. He loved coaching his players and his sons, watching his children's activities, golfing, hunting, fishing and reading. He also loved OU football and anything George Brett!

Spence was preceded in death by his father, Glenn Edward Rigdon.

He is survived by his wife Christina Rigdon, of the home; daughter Rilee Rigdon, son Bradee Rigdon, son Cy Rigdon, all of Bartlesville; stepmother Phyllis Rigdon and mother Kay Horn, both of Bartlesville; sister Tami and husband Clark McKeon of Welch, OK; sister Shelley and husband John Purdum of Owasso, OK; brother Travis Rigdon and wife Tammy of Bartlesville; sister Kim Bentley and husband Rod of Wann, OK; brother Steve Campbell and wife Melissa of Bartlesville; sister in law Stephenie Sudduth and husband Josh of Basehor, KS; sister in law Sherri Gipson and husband Brett Lynn of Bonner Springs, KS; mother in law Pam Park and husband Duane of Basehor, KS and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family will receive guests Friday, November 8, 2019 from 5pm to 7pm at East Cross United Methodist Church. A celebration of Spence's life will be held on Saturday, November 9, 2019 at 10am at the Bartlesville High School Performing Arts Center.

In lieu of flowers, a go fund me has been established under the name "Bless the Spence Rigdon Family" or there is an account at BancFirst Attn: Angel Bradshaw, 300 SE Frank Phillips Blvd. Bartlesville, OK 74003. You may also make a memorial contribution in Spence's name to the BHS Athletics and Activities Attn: Athletic Dept. at 1700 Hillcrest Bartlesville, OK 74003.

# Cemetery Details

## Memorial Park Cemetery

4200 Nowata Rd  
Bartlesville, OK 74006

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 8. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

East Cross United Methodist Church  
820 Madison Blvd  
Bartlesville, OK 74006  
(918) 333-0810

## Funeral Service

NOV 9. 10:00 AM (CT)

Bartlesville High School Fine Arts Center  
East 18th Street  
Bartlesville, OK 74003

# Tribute Wall



“ *Spence Edward Rigdon*

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October 23, 2023 at 04:40 AM



“ *Spence Edward Rigdon*

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October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *Although we have not known the Rigdons for very long. My son played baseball with Bradee and we always thought they were such a sweet, and gracious family. What a loss to the family and community. Words are not enough but please accept our deepest and sincerest sympathy to the entire Rigdon family.*

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**The Thompson Family** - November 11, 2019 at 05:30 PM

 Becky  
Heuer

“ I knew Spence from his first years as a teacher in Marysville ?1997-98. He was a teacher that made a positive impact on me and I will always remember him. He cared about my life and my decisions. He made class fun and liked to give me a hard time here and there to keep me on my toes (deserved!). He called me "Lobo" [for the WNBA player] and always made in class assignments and then called me up to his desk to talk about my life and decisions, boys, etc. Made me think about my choices and actions. I always respected how he made me think about things beyond my little freshman girl mind and the small town we were in.  
I last saw him when I was in college with a surprise visit to his classroom down in Bartlesville, OK. And we emailed a couple times through the years, but I wish I had kept in touch better. This is a person that I have no doubt positively impacted so many young people and has been taken way too soon. I am so sad to hear of his passing.

*Prayers for the Rigdon family as they lay him to rest this weekend.  
Rest peacefully Rigdog.*

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**Becky Heuer** - November 09, 2019 at 10:16 PM

CS

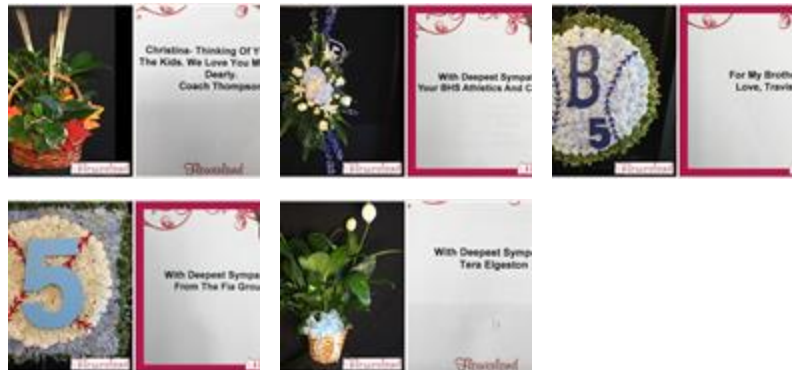
“ I remember Coach Rigdon back in highschool. One if the last things I remember him telling me something that upset me a bit but he did it in a caring way. I'm in the weight room o er the summer and coach walks up to me straight face and says "you need to lift a little harder, you'll be in the offensive line and we need strong kids." Now that's not verbatim but it's close. He was very caring and always knew the kids he could give a hard time. I was one of those kids. I haven't seen or spoke to Spence in years, that's on me. He will be missed.  
*Excellent father, educator, and coach. R.I.P Coach Spence*

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**Chris S.** - November 09, 2019 at 11:24 AM



“ 5 files added to the album Flowers



Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory - November 08, 2019 at 05:18 PM

MM

“ Marlene Merritt lit a candle in memory of Spence Edward Rigdon



Marlene Merritt - November 08, 2019 at 11:58 AM



“ 18 files added to the album Flowers



Stumpff Funeral Home & Crematory - November 08, 2019 at 10:23 AM

JN

“ *Spence was the first person in my life to help me realize that life is much bigger than the small town I grew up in. Just because, "we've always done it that way" didn't mean that was the only way. He challenged me to think for myself and learn all the facts before drawing a conclusion. Those were great conversations on the Marysville basketball bus. May his family and friends find peace in this time of transition.*

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**Jamie Nordstrom** - November 08, 2019 at 07:09 AM



Kimberly Henshall

“ *Prayers from our family*



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**Kimberly Henshall** - November 07, 2019 at 06:29 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Spence Edward Rigdon .*



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November 07, 2019 at 06:26 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Spence Edward Rigdon .*



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November 07, 2019 at 04:15 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Spence Edward Rigdon .*



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November 07, 2019 at 03:39 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Spence Edward Rigdon .*



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November 07, 2019 at 02:21 PM



“ *Sending my most sincere sympathy and condolences to the Rigdon Family*

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**Gloria Divelbiss** - November 07, 2019 at 09:09 AM



“ *Gloria Divelbiss lit a candle in memory of Spence Edward Rigdon*



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**Gloria Divelbiss** - November 07, 2019 at 09:07 AM

CO

“ Prayers to the Spence's family and friends.  
He will truly be missed!



Corissa - November 07, 2019 at 08:46 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for  
the family of Spence Edward Rigdon .



November 06, 2019 at 10:52 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the  
family of Spence Edward Rigdon .



November 06, 2019 at 10:31 PM



“ Spence was so very proud of Rilee for representing Team USA at  
the world cross country championships in Aarhus Denmark, next to  
the olympics that is the pinnacle of the sport. It was a blessing that  
he and Christina got to make that trip and see that race. There are  
things more important than running, but there is nothing more  
important than family honor, pride, and love. God Bless you all.  
Bon and Jamie

Bon Bennett - November 06, 2019 at 09:41 PM

SB

“ *Travis and Tammy and rest of Spences' family -so very sorry for your loss-know it has been a hard fought struggle and fight. May you find peace in knowing that there is no more pain and suffering. Sandy Wilkie Barlow in memory of Wilkie Sunset Country Club-Don, Mildred, Mike, Tony and Jason Wilkie*



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**sandy barlow** - November 06, 2019 at 04:38 PM