



Dr. Joe Struckle

June 29, 1933 - March 18, 2017

Funeral services for Dr. Joe Jack Struckle will be 2:00 p.m. Friday, March 24, 2017, at the Herod Hall Auditorium on the NWOSU campus with the Rev. Dr. Carol Cook Moore officiating. Interment will be in the Alva Municipal Cemetery under the direction of Marshall Funeral Home of Alva.

Dr. Joe Jack Struckle, age 83, of Edmond, Oklahoma was reunited with his heavenly family on March 18, 2017. Joe was the youngest of seven children born on June 29, 1933 in Bryant, Oklahoma to the late Louis & Caroline (Luzar) Struckle. Joe's father passed away while he was an infant thus raised by his adoring mother, Caroline and his older brothers and sisters. Joe's mom was the ever present angel and guiding influence in his life that shaped his values and beliefs. He was also cared for by three father-like big brothers (Louis, Otto & Victor) and two loving sisters (Mary Josephine (Neumann) and Velma). He was preceded in death by all brothers and sisters listed as well as another infant sister (Margaret).

Joe grew up hunting, fishing and playing sports in Bryant, Oklahoma where he graduated from high school. A short time after his graduation, Joe was drafted by the United States Army and served state side during the Korean Conflict. After active duty and while serving in the Army Reserves, Joe attended East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree. While attending East Central University Joe's life was forever

impacted for the better when he met Barbara Ann Mitchell. On August 1, 1958, Joe united in marriage with his best friend, love of his life and respected partner. After Joe and Barbara were married, Joe attended Oklahoma State University where he was awarded a Master of Science degree. He later was awarded a doctoral degree in education from the University of Tulsa.

Joe started his education career as a math teacher in both Shidler and Ponca City, Oklahoma. Joe would go on to serve as a math professor and later Dean of Men at Northern Oklahoma College in Tonkawa, Oklahoma. In 1968, Joe was hired as Associate Professor of Education and Dean of Students at Northwestern Oklahoma State University. In 1975, Joe was appointed as the sixteenth president of Northwestern Oklahoma State University where he served until his retirement in 2000. Joe's tenure as Northwestern Oklahoma State University's Chief Executive Officer is the longest in the university's history.

Joe was the recipient of many awards for distinguished service. In 1995, he was bestowed one of Oklahoma's highest honors in education with his induction into the Oklahoma Educators Hall of Fame. He was also elected to the Oklahoma Higher Education Hall of Fame in 1999.

While Joe received many accolades during his career, he would always quickly point out that any successes achieved were only the result of a great team that surrounded him in his life. If not for the guiding influence of his mom and siblings, the strength and passion of his dear wife Barbara, and the remarkable support from Northwestern Oklahoma State University faculty, staff and students, successes would not have been possible. Joe would say he had three families. The family he was honored to be born into, the family he and Barbara fostered and his Northwestern Oklahoma State University family. His love and passion for all three were deep and absolute.

Joe is survived by his wife Barbara; his two sons Jay Struckle of El Reno, Oklahoma and Jeff Struckle and wife Sharon of Olathe, Kansas and two grandchildren Katelyn Struckle and Carter Struckle. Joe is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Foundation.

Cemetery Details

Alva Municipal Cemetery

Flynn Street
Alva, OK 73717

Previous Events

Service

MAR 24. 2:00 PM (CT)

Herod Hall Auditorium
709 Oklahoma Blvd.
Alva, OK 73717

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Joe Struckle*

January 30, 2023 at 03:38 AM



“ *Dr. Struckle's leadership was an inspiration to all of us that call NWOSU our Alma Mater. Praying that your family...*

Greg Sidwell - March 25, 2017 at 12:13 PM



“ *Seminole State College purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. Joe Struckle.*



Seminole State College - March 24, 2017 at 09:17 AM



“ *Barbara, Jay and Jeff-I've many fond memories of Dr. Struckle over the years as a Goldbug and as a Ranger.....hanging out with Jay during all those speech and debate events or just dropping by the house on the hill. Such a great legacy he left at Nwosu! He will be missed. My thoughts are with you!*

Denise Dunnigan Emmer - March 22, 2017 at 04:06 PM

DD

“ *Barbara and Family,*
It was with a great deal of sorrow that we read of Joe's passing. We were in Alva for only three years, '77-'80, but remember both of you fondly. Although Carolyn had a massive stroke in 2005, she remembers you well. You two were among our favorite "Alvanians." God bless you and your family as you try to adjust to life without Joe. I plan to make a donation to the NWOSU Foundation in his memory.

Dow and Carolyn Dozier

Dow and Carolyn Dozier - March 22, 2017 at 10:09 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Joe Struckle.*



March 21, 2017 at 01:37 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Joe Struckle.*



March 21, 2017 at 11:41 AM

BB

“ *So sorry to read of Dr. Struckle passing.*

Bill and Linda Beeler - March 19, 2017 at 11:28 AM

NM

Condolences, thoughts & prayers are with your family.

Natalie Ridgway Miller - March 21, 2017 at 05:45 PM

LH

So sorry to hear of Dr. Struckle's death. If not for him, I would not have been able to be hired at Northwestern and, therefore, never able to retire from there nearly 25 years later. I will forever be grateful for the opportunity. He and Barbara were always gracious and truly nice persons.

Lois Hudgins - March 22, 2017 at 01:23 PM