



Lyford Joe Kendall

February 14, 1948 - September 28, 2015

Lyford Joe Kendall was born on February 14, 1948 in Alva, Oklahoma to Willa Jean (Armour) Kendall and Lyford P. J. Kendall. Joe helped his parents on their farm for many years until the farm was sold upon the death of his father. Joe stayed with his mother until her death in 1997. Since then Joe has been a resident of Tulsa and Broken Arrow Oklahoma residing at the Gatesway Foundation homes and later an assisted living and nursing home.

While Joe had limited capacities, he was always actively trying to improve the world around him doing what he could to highlight the needs and rights of the disabled. He always made the most of what was available to him. The determination he exhibited showed us a glimpse of how life should be pursued.

Joe passed away peacefully in his sleep September 28, 2015. He is survived by his brother Karry and wife Sandy, his Aunt Virginia Lamb and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Tribute Wall



“ Lyford Joe Kendall

January 30, 2023 at 03:38 AM



“ I'm remembering my friend, Joe Kendall, on his birthday. He and his mother came to many programs at Oxley Nature Center when I worked there. Joe was always pleasant to chat with, before and after the program or hike. He was always eager to learn and experience new things at the nature center, adding to his keen appreciation of the natural world. I have many vivid memories of Joe on the popular night walks and full moon walks, including one adventurous night walk at Redbud Valley Nature Preserve. The trail there is one of the most challenging in the Tulsa area, and more so at night. We helped each other over tree roots and up and down steep places in the inky darkness without flashlights, and Joe gripped my hand hard coming down a tricky bit of trail. That was the only indication he showed that he found the terrain challenging. I know he was as delighted as the rest of us to have been on that particular night walk. In addition to hearing and/or seeing the usual owls and bats and deer and coyotes, that was the night we were all amazed to see a large centipede that had eaten a firefly scrambling away from us through the dead leaves on the ground at the edge of the trail, leaking phosphorescent poop in its panic. I'm happy to remember that Joe got to see that once-in-a-lifetime sight!

Donna Horton

Donna Horton - February 14, 2022 at 11:00 PM