



Merlin Dee Overton

May 17, 1941 - September 3, 2020

Funeral services for Merlin Dee Overton will be 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at the Alva First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) with Rev. Ron Pingelton and Pastor Drew Kirtley officiating. Interment will be in the Alva Municipal Cemetery under the direction of Marshall Funeral Home of Alva, Oklahoma.

Merlin, son of the late Earl and Lillian (McCormick) Overton, was born May 17, 1941, in Nash, Oklahoma, and passed away September 3, 2020, in Alva at the age of 79 years.

After graduating from Nash High School, he attended Northwestern Oklahoma State University where he obtained his degree in Health and Physical Education with a minor in History. On October 1, 1960, he married his high school sweetheart Linda Clo Grayson in Hawley, Oklahoma.

Merlin taught and coached in the Alva School system for 12 years. He then obtained his Master of Education Administration from Oklahoma State University. He was a private business owner for four years prior to coaching and teaching in the Cherokee School System. He later became Superintendent of Schools in Cherokee, and also served as the Superintendent for Cimarron School in Lahoma. After his retirement, he and Linda returned to Alva.

He loved spending time with his grandkids, teaching them the ways of the world and sharing his passion for the outdoors. Merlin was an avid golfer and hunter and loved being around and tending his horses. He was a counselor and mentor to many. A man of multiple talents, he was an accomplished pilot and flight instructor and served the town as a locksmith.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by one sister, Reta Mae Overton.

Merlin is survived by his wife, Linda, of Alva; two daughters, Tracy Middleton and husband, Donald, of Peoria, Arizona, and Shawna Cayot and husband, Jeffery, of Alva; and two siblings, Earl Overton and wife, Ilus, of Enid; Lavay Moore and husband, Robert, of Nash; and one brother-in-law, Jim Overton of Yuba City, California.

He is also survived by seven grandchildren, SGT Donny Middleton and wife, Hartsena, of Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, Makenzie Middleton of Scottsdale, Arizona, Kathryn Middleton of Phoenix, Arizona, and Christopher Middleton of Peoria, Arizona; Shawn Green, of Alva, Breana Overton of Guthrie, and Triston Cayot of Alva; six great grandchildren, Pryce, Ralston, Landon, Deon, Dalton and Tinsley; other relatives and many friends.

Memorial contributions may be made through the funeral home to the Alva Educational Foundation (checks must be made payable to CFO) or the Alva First Christian Church.

Cemetery Details

Alva Municipal Cemetery

Flynn Street
Alva, OK 73717

Previous Events

Service

SEP 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Alva, OK 73717

Tribute Wall



“ *Merlin Dee Overton*

January 30, 2023 at 03:38 AM



“ *Mr. Overton was our football coach and everyone enjoyed learning from him and just being around him. He was such a nice man.*

Steve Myers

steve myers - September 10, 2020 at 12:41 PM



“ *Mr. Overton was a very good coach and a true gentleman. So sorry for your loss.*

Marilyn Myers

Marilyn Myers - September 10, 2020 at 12:35 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Merlin Dee Overton.*



September 08, 2020 at 09:55 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Merlin Dee Overton.*



September 08, 2020 at 09:41 AM



“ *My, my, some fun driver's ed classes with Mr. Overton. Even when I smashed my thumb in the car door and blood was going everywhere he was cool and calm! And... I loved baby sitting his kids! Thanks for the memories!*

TRUDY WHEELER - September 07, 2020 at 10:11 PM



“ *Always a kind and fair man. A man of many talents. To the family our prayers and sympathies are with you .*

Pam Phillips Henderson - September 06, 2020 at 11:41 PM



“ *Rest In Peace Mr. Overton! you were fair to everyone and I always enjoyed Drivers Ed with you... You will always be missed!*

Mark Gleyre - September 06, 2020 at 09:22 PM



“ *One of my favorite teachers. Drivers Ed class was so much fun even when he slapped on the back of the head for messing up.*

Deborah Cushenbery Dunn - September 06, 2020 at 07:34 PM



“ To the family of Merlin Overton our condolences are sent. He was such a kind, caring man. He was always there for his family. Truly a family man. Did so much for them with love.
Words are so hard to find. You will be missed.
Our love to your family Merlin.



Bill and Linda Beeler

Billy Beeler - September 06, 2020 at 07:22 PM

KC

“ *RIP Coach!!!
Great memories!!!*

Kirby J Crain - September 06, 2020 at 07:10 PM

VW

“ We were very sorry to hear of Merlin's passing. He was a very kind and caring man. Virgil will miss him greatly as they had cattle next to each other and would visit together. Our sympathy, love and prayers to all the family. God bless all of you in this difficult time.



Virgil and Lavon Wiersig - September 06, 2020 at 06:30 PM

DA

“ *David lit a candle in memory of Merlin Dee Overton*



David - September 06, 2020 at 06:25 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Merlin Dee Overton.*



September 06, 2020 at 04:49 PM



“ *So sorry for the loss of Merlin. Love, hugs and prayers for your family. Jerry and Joyce*

jerry egner - September 06, 2020 at 04:06 PM



“ *Kathryn Racette lit a candle in memory of Merlin Dee Overton*



Kathryn Racette - September 06, 2020 at 02:02 PM



“ *What a loss for Earth and gain for Heaven. Prayers for your families in these sad times.*



Jim Scribner - September 06, 2020 at 12:26 PM

MR

“ He was my coach an FAVORITE TEACHER!!! Sorry to here and see this!!!

matt roberts - September 06, 2020 at 10:54 AM

AA

“ Our thoughts and prayers to your families at the loss of Mr. Overton.

AK, Shirley Armstrong - September 06, 2020 at 10:24 AM

BC

“ Linda, I am so sorry to hear of Merlin's passing. He was a friend to Jim and I and so many others. You and your family are in my prayers.

Beth Chestnut - September 06, 2020 at 10:14 AM

RF

“ Linda and family,
I was so very sorry to learn of Merlin's passing. You will be in my prayers now and in the days ahead.
With sympathy,
Rhonda Fields

Rhonda Fields - September 06, 2020 at 12:48 AM

CK

“ Sorry for your families loss. Merlin was just at my place last week picking a lock for me and we sat and talked for a little bit and he wouldn't even let me pay him for the lock. Said he needed the practice. Thoughts and prayers for you all

cody Kramp - September 05, 2020 at 11:14 PM

LL

“ I met this wonderful man through a dog. I worked at the CED building. He would let her out and over to the shop she would come. Any times he stopped at the shop and his dog would just look at him. This made him a little upset. Many times her had to go pick her up. I'd just giggled and went on with my job. But the next day was the same. I will miss this kind man.

Lisa Lopshire - September 05, 2020 at 10:33 PM

MW

I am sorry to ready of Merlin's passing. He was a gentle man and I enjoyed working with him of several projects.

*Prayers for comfort for his entire family!
Mandy Whipple*

Mandy Whipple - September 06, 2020 at 09:30 AM

DE

“ *DebLucero lit a candle in memory of Merlin
Dee Overton*



DebLucero - September 05, 2020 at 08:31 PM

DM

“ *I can't remember how many times this kind man came to my aide and unlocked my car my deepest condolences to his loving family and friends.*

D' Major - September 05, 2020 at 08:25 PM

IE

“ *Merlin was a decent, kind, and caring man who will be missed by many. My condolences to the family.* ”

Ida Evans - September 05, 2020 at 07:43 PM

AS

“ *Annette Schwerdtfeget lit a candle in memory of Merlin Dee Overton* ”



Annette Schwerdtfeget - September 05, 2020 at 03:21 PM

DN

“ *Linda and family,
Always enjoyed our visits and stories he shared. So very sorry for your loss. You all are in our thoughts and prayers.* ”

Dave & Anita Noland - September 05, 2020 at 02:57 PM



“ *Merlin’s passing will leave a huge void in many lives! Praying for each of you to find comfort & peace in special memories of this amazing man! Love & prayers!* ”

DaleVaughna Schmidt - September 05, 2020 at 02:47 PM

JM

"Gracie" and family, So sorry to hear of Merlin's passing. He was a good friend and mentor for younger baseball players at Nash. Merlin was our catcher, Joe Hayes on short and I was on 2nd base. Joe said, "Jim just put your mitt on the bag, shut your eyes and Merlin will hit it". Those who know baseball will understand that. I do not remember anyone stealing 2nd base when he was our catcher. Great friend.

Jim Messenger Class of 61

Jim Messenger - September 06, 2020 at 11:30 AM