



Dr. Vernon Powders

June 14, 1941 - November 6, 2015

The memorial service for Dr. Vernon Powders will be 3:00 p.m. Thursday, November 12, 2015, at the First Presbyterian Church in Alva with Rev. Judith Pistole officiating.

Vernon Neil Powders, son of the late Vess Laverne and Denzel Lucille (Callaway) Powders was born June 14, 1941, in Mooreland, Oklahoma, and passed away November 6, 2015, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the age of 74 years, 4 months and 23 days.

Vernon graduated from Mooreland High School in 1959 and then he attended Northwestern State College and Oklahoma State University. He received his Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Zoology in 1967 at the University of Tennessee.

In 1967 he was united in marriage to Sharron McCoy Hair in Knoxville, Tennessee.

During his career, Vernon was a professor at Georgia Southwestern for several years and then at Northwestern Oklahoma State University for 25 years, retiring in 2005 from his position as a professor of Biology. Vernon was a member of the NRA and enjoyed hunting. He loved his family and helping his friends any way he could.

Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Sharron.

Vernon is survived by his son, John Powders of Alva; daughter, Laura Lane Thomas and husband, Jeff, of Tulsa; one granddaughter, Stella Thomas of Tulsa; and other relatives and many friends.

Memorial contributions may be made through the funeral home to the NWOSU Foundation.

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Vernon Powders*

January 30, 2023 at 03:38 AM



“ *So sorry to just hear of Vernon's passing. He and my dad were best friends until my dad's death in 2005. I loved listening to the two of them tell stories of their adventures hunting and living life. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.*

Heather Harger Wallace - November 29, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dr. Powders was a wonderful man. I took his Zoology class at Northwestern and he was a true teacher who loved his craft. I enjoyed visiting with him around town. His greatest attribute to me was he was his true self no matter where you encountered him. After each visit I always walked away encourage to be true to myself no matter what anybody thinks. He was an asset to the community and Northwestern. There is a void that can never be filled.*

Anthony Lovelace - November 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dr. Powders taught me vertebrate zoology at Georgia Southwestern College, in Americus, Georgia back around 1970. He was a hard, but excellent instructor. I learned a lot of biology in his class and I learned to appreciate his expertise, wit, and personality. After he left Georgia and went to Oklahoma to teach, he would bring student groups down to the gulf coast, near Panacea, Florida to study marine organisms and marine ecosystems. I went down on two occasions and met them. It was always good to see him and catch up on some of his adventures and tales!!! I took a graduate course under him not long before he left Georgia Southwestern. We did a lot of field work, including a trip to Lake Blackshear and other local environs. Neither time nor space allows me to tell all of the interesting and educational experiences that he gave his students. I do want to say that I am very sorry about his passing and I offer my sympathy to his family.* Jerry Turner, Thomasville, Georgia

November 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Ole Doc was a good man who loved to teach and loved to talk about hunting. He made me laugh a lot. He will be missed.*

Jon Wren - November 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dr. Vernon Powders*

Lester Gall - November 11, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dr. Powders was the toughest professor I had but he pushed me to be who I am today...a biology professor! I will never forget his impact! RIP from Kevin and I.*

Nikki Seagraves - November 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Hey was a great teacher and mentor. I always enjoyed my trips with him.

Jim Lanier - November 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NL

“ The husband of a best friend is special, too. So sorry to hear he's gone. James joins me in sending our condolences.

Nancy Lo - November 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM

YT

“ Will miss Vernon coming into the office and showing us pictures of his hunting trips up North. Also, the jerky he always seemed to bring in right before the holidays for us.

Yvonne Thilsted - November 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ We have so many memories of Dr. Powders. He was such a close, dear friend. We will treasure all his letters he wrote back and forth with Wes. love to his family

claudette ehrlich - November 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DI

“ Saddened to hear of Vernon's passing. Keeping this dear family in our hearts, thoughts, and prayers.

Diana - November 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM

IE

“ I always learned something new whenever I encountered Vernon, and I will miss that. My condolences & prayers to his family.

Ida Evans - November 09, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *I was very sorry to learn of Vernon's passing. To his family and friends condolences and prayers.*

Jim Scribner - November 07, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DU

“ *Sending our prayers and sympathy.*

Dudley - November 07, 2015 at 12:00 AM