



## David Austin Miller Sr.

April 27, 1932 - March 12, 2026

David Austin Miller Sr., a late in life baby, was born April 27, 1932, to Bluford West (Bunch) Miller and Mamie Juliet Thurmond Miller and passed from this life March 12, 2026.

Dave attended Concharty School and Twin Hills Grade School, Junior High, and High School. After attending high school, he attended Oklahoma A&M, now Oklahoma State University, majoring in Animal Husbandry. His high school basketball coach urged him to go out for basketball, but he became interested in the new A&M Rodeo Club. He helped get it organized and made the team the second year, which inspired him to be a lifetime member of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association.

He also became interested in Esther Mae Magness from Geary, Oklahoma. Dave married Esther on August 16, 1953, just before he was drafted into the United States Army. Dave's rodeo and college ambition was interrupted by the Korean War. After basic training at Fort Bliss, Texas, and Fort Lee, Virginia, he was on his way to Korea. A unit in Japan needed typists and Dave had taken typing in high school, so he spent the rest of the war closing out the equipment for the 1st Cavalry Division. Although he was classified as enlisted and not authorized to have a wife there, he somehow managed to get passage and a Japanese apartment to legally get Esther to occupied Japan. They lived in a Japanese house close to other Americans for about 15

months. When they sailed home on the USS Breckenridge, Dave was with the enlisted men and Esther was with the civilian group. They settled in on Dave's father's farm on the Cimarron River west of Mannford.

Dave drove back and forth three days a week to finish his college degree. During the Mannford years, Dave was baptized at the old First Christian Church in Mannford. Three sons were born during the Mannford years, David Austin Jr., John Aldon, and Mark James.

After the death of Dave's father and mother, they moved to the family ranch in northern Okmulgee County. There they raised their children and had a good life. Dave wore many hats and in his lifetime he made many lifelong friends, which he cherished. David Jr. married Tracey Ridle, John married Stacy Shearhart, and Mark married Kim Davis. Dave Jr. and Tracey have three girls, Ginger, Grace, and Gabrielle Miller. John and Stacy have a son, Tanner Miller. Mark has a son, Robert Miller, a daughter, Maegan Miller McCalla, and three stepsons, Travis Tollette, Dillon Hood, and Blake Hood.

Dave enjoyed spending time with his family. For days after a birthday party or holiday gathering, Dave told Esther how much he loved the day that was spent with his children and grandchildren.

Dave was active in Okmulgee County Cattleman's Association, where he served on the board as President. He was State Cattleman's President and on the National Cattleman's Beef Board. While State Cattleman's President, he was instrumental in getting the Range Round-Up up and running. Thousands of dollars are donated to Children's Miracle Network from proceeds of the Range Round-Up.

Dave was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, and two sisters, Bluford Jr., John Jacob, Robert Lee, Elizabeth, and Juliet Miller Adelman. He

is survived by his wife of 72 years, Esther Miller; his sons, David Miller Jr. and wife Tracey, John Miller and wife Stacy, and Mark Miller and wife Kim; his grandchildren, Robert Miller, Maegan McCalla and husband Sean, Tanner Miller and wife Courtney, Ginger Miller, Grace Miller, and Gabrielle Miller; great grandchildren, Allison Miller, Guy Miller, Ellie McCalla, and Hudson Miller.

Family will be receiving friends from 6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M., on Friday, March 20, 2026, at the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Funeral Services will be held at 2:00 P.M., Saturday, March 21, 2026, at the Natura Baptist Church with Reverend Scott McCullah officiating. Interment will follow in the Miller Ranch Cemetery.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home of Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Memories, condolences, photos and videos may be shared with the family on David's Tribute Page of our website. [www.mcclendon-winters.com](http://www.mcclendon-winters.com)

# Cemetery Details

**Miller Ranch Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### Viewing

MAR **20**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

McClendon-Winters Funeral Home - Okmulgee  
303 E. 7th Street  
Okmulgee, OK 74447  
(918) 756-1677  
info@mcclendon-winters.com  
<https://www.mcclendon-winters.com>

### Funeral Service

MAR **21**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Natura Baptist Church  
7995 North 250 Road  
Beggs, OK 74421

# Tribute Wall



“ McClendon-Winters Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of David Austin Miller Sr.



McClendon-Winters Funeral Home - March 17 at 04:57 PM

GC

“ HE was an awsome man prayers for the family

Granvile Copenhaver - March 20 at 09:10 PM

CH

“ Dave was always helpful and kind to my Dad, Rev Walter Harris and I appreciate his kindness to me as well. May he rest in perfect peace ....

Clifford Harris - March 20 at 07:11 PM

JD

“ Jane Gouin DeBord lit a candle in memory of David Austin Miller Sr.



Jane Gouin DeBord - March 19 at 11:13 PM

JD

*Praying for comfort Esther and family. I looked up to Dave for his wisdom and kindness. There was no greater cattleman, horseman or friend!*

*Love you always. Jane*

Jane Gouin DeBord - March 19 at 11:19 PM

RD

“ *Our sincerest condolences to the Dave Miller family. Richard & Myrna Dixon*

Richard&Myrna Dixon - March 19 at 08:08 PM

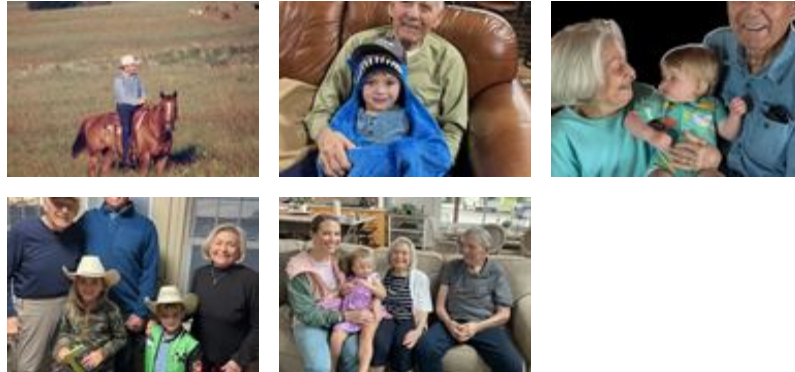
DK

“ *Love and prayers for all of you. Dave was one of the finest and best men that our family has known. Esther, love and prayers. Diana Sue*

DIANA KNOX - March 18 at 06:06 PM



“ *142 files added to the album LifeTributes*



McClendon-Winters Funeral Home - March 17 at 04:52 PM

LH

“ Lisa H. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David Austin Miller Sr..

Lisa H. - March 17 at 07:12 AM

RH

“ Richard and I always valued his leadership with OCA and as I served on the Cattlemen's Beef Board his guidance was invaluable. He was a great man with a big heart that will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and his friends.



Richard & Lisa Hefner - March 17 at 07:09 AM

SB

My sincere condolences to Ester and family on the passing of Dave Sr. Rest in peace.

Stanley. Baker - March 20 at 07:19 PM

EL

“ There wasn't a better man. Will miss him. Prayers for Esther, the Boys and Family.



Ernest Ledbetter - March 16 at 09:23 PM

TY

“ Dave will truly be missed. Prayers and comfort to the family. Rest in Peace. Terri Younger

Terri Younger - March 16 at 09:17 PM

KM

“ Ken and Becky Bruner (n) Martins purchased the Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." for the family of David Austin Miller Sr..



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**Ken and Becky Bruner (n) Martins** - March 15 at 03:56 PM

DM

“ Aw! Finally met at the library, after using his card in 80s. Great guy with a funny sense of humor. Prayers for his family and friends. Rip.



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**David Miller** - March 13 at 09:43 PM

CC

“ He was a good cowboy taught me a lot prayers and thoughts are with the family



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**Clay Copenhaver** - March 13 at 08:39 PM

SS

“ Dear Esther, Davy, John, Mark, and Families, I can't tell you how our hearts hurt for your loss of Dave. Please know all of you are in our prayers for comfort during this time. The Glenn Scott Family

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**Shirley Scott** - March 13 at 08:28 PM

RK

“ Our prayers are with Esther and her family. Dave was a real gentleman. I remember him loaning our dad a foot cycle that he used to rehab after a knee replacement. He was a special customer to our barber shop. -Ralph & Roger

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**Roger Kovarik** - March 13 at 06:33 PM

TN

I think Dave made everyone feel like they were his best friend. The song Humble and Kind must have been written about him.

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**Tony Nichols** - March 18 at 09:08 PM

KP

I had the privilege of knowing the Miller brothers for many years. Dave was a genuine gentleman, cattleman and friend. He was a "man among men"! I cherish his memory.

*Kent Pharaoh*

*Henryetta*

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**Kent Pharaoh** - March 22 at 10:01 PM