



DeRuse Eugene Cooper

March 6, 1918 - April 3, 2010

DeRuse E. Cooper, longtime Okmulgee businessman, died Saturday morning, April 3, 2010 at St. John Medical Center in Tulsa. He was 92 years of age. DeRuse was born March 6, 1918 in Coalton, Oklahoma to Mr. and Mrs. George L. Cooper. He married Dorothy Willou Mitchener on October 25, 1941. DeRuse served his country in the United States Navy and began his lifelong career at Jones Furniture in 1957. He was an active member of the First United Methodist Church and was formerly an active member of the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce. His greatest love was his wife of 69 years but sports came in a close second. He was a volunteer coach for football, little league baseball, softball and basketball for decades. He served on the Okmulgee school board and his name is on the corner stone of the OHS Brock gymnasium. He loved to drive all over the state and watch ball games and track meets. He spent many weekends hunting and fishing with his sons, grandsons and friends he accumulated everywhere he went. DeRuse also loved his church and served on numerous boards and councils over the years. He was a member of the Harmony Sunday school class for over 40 years. In his later years, he spent a lot of time reading and playing bridge when he wasn't on the go.

He is survived by his sisters Virginia Daniels of El Paso, Tx and Berna Dene Tuttle of Tahlequah, OK. His sister's-in-law Peggy Cooper of Okmulgee, Ok

and LaVene Cooper of Broken Arrow, Ok. His children Margaret Newendorp of Moore, Ok, Dr. Ben Cooper of Lawton, Ok, Helen and Bill Nygard of Okmulgee, Ok and DeRuse Jr. and Penny Cooper of Broken Bow, Ok.

His grandchildren Heather and Jon Scherer of Tulsa, Ok, Eric and Christina Newendorp of Tulsa, Ok, Billy and Kyme Nygard of The Colony, Tx, Amy and Mike Jones of Golden, Co, Holly and Dr. Billy Likos of Columbia, Ms, Candace Collins of Guymon, Ok, Allison Cooper of Dallas, Tx, Emily and Shebnem Cooper-Pura of Seattle, Wa, Jessica Cooper of San Jose, Ca, De Cooper of Norman, Ok, Libby Cooper of Norman, Ok and 20 great-grandchildren.

He also had numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A Celebration of DeRuse's Life will be held 11:00 A.M. Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at the First United Methodist Church of Okmulgee. Reverend Craig Denslow and Reverend John Crooch will officiate. There will be a Private Family Interment. Casketbearers will be Jon Scherer, Mike Jones, Mike Hutchings, Billy Likos, Pete Blanchard, Don Garrett and Nate Granthan. Arrangements are under the direction of the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home of Okmulgee. Online condolences may be sent at www.mcclendon-winters.com

Previous Events

Service

APR 6. 11:00 AM (CT)

First United Methodist Church of Okmulgee
8th Street and Seminole
Okmulgee, OK

Tribute Wall



“ *DeRuse Eugene Cooper*

December 20, 2022 at 11:29 AM



“ *To Helen, Bill, Heather's family, Billy's family and all those who are grieving the loss of their loved one. Kathy and I met Helen's dad a few times and admired him and his large loving family. He was, I'm sure, a tremendous inspiration to many and will be greatly missed. Love, Bob and Kathy Nygard###imported-begin###Bob Nygard###imported-end###*

April 08, 2010 at 02:54 PM



“ *Bill Helen and family*

I did not know your father. I just had to read about him to see what a wonderful man he was. He has such a large loving family to carry on his legacy.

My thoughts are with you all.

love Carol###imported-begin###Carol Loveland###imported-end###

April 08, 2010 at 06:41 AM



“ *Cooper Family: I was very sorry to hear about Mr. Cooper passing away. The entire Patterson Family had a tremendous amount of respect for Mr. Cooper. He was a giver not a taker and he did so much to promote Okmulgee and Okmulgee athletics. The contributions he made to his community, friends and family will last for many years. The Patterson Family is very proud to call Mr. Cooper our friend and will miss him...May God Bless the Cooper Family##imported-begin##Dale Patterson##imported-end##*

April 07, 2010 at 12:12 PM



“ *Wilou and family,*

Our prayers and thoughts are with you in your time of sorrow, please accept our heartfelt sympathy. Even though it has been so many years since I have seen you, you and Dude have been in my thoughts throughout these many years.

Fern Bantuelle and family##imported-begin##Pat Bantuelle Ewald##imported-end##

April 06, 2010 at 04:18 PM



“ *I just received the news. We hope that you will accept our prayers for your family.*

Joe and the girls.##imported-begin##Joe Jones##imported-end##

April 06, 2010 at 11:13 AM



“ Sorry I couldn't make it. I just heard this morning of your loss. My prayers and my family's prayers are with you in this time.##imported-begin##Doug Brown##imported-end##

April 06, 2010 at 09:18 AM



“ Dear Helen and Family: I have very fond memories of DeRuse! My thoughts and prayers are with you. Lisa Lee##imported-begin##Lisa Fairchild-Lee##imported-end##

April 04, 2010 at 09:33 PM



“ My sincere sympathy to the family. DeRuse was a long time acquaintance and friend. Jeneane Campbel##imported-begin##Jeneane Campbell##imported-end##

April 03, 2010 at 09:28 PM



“ Helen,
May your love of God keep you strong during your time of sorrow.

Carol Smith##imported-begin##Carol Smith##imported-end##

April 03, 2010 at 04:57 PM