



Lowell Merrell

December 24, 1925 - March 10, 2024

On March 10, 2024, John Lowell Merrell was welcomed by Jesus to his new home in paradise. What a day!! He was 98 years old.

Lowell was born on Christmas Eve, 1925, to Bob and Surviller Merrell in Seminole, Oklahoma. Arriving years after his three older siblings, he was the delight of his thrilled parents.

When Lowell was just three years old, the fertile farm ground of west Texas called out, and the Merrells moved to Slaton, Texas, to raise their family.

Lowell married his high school sweetheart, Nelda Ward, while still a senior in high school, as he had been drafted and ordered to report for duty immediately after graduation to serve in the U.S. Navy in the south Pacific until the end of WW II.

Lowell and Nelda raised five rambunctious, energetic and ornery kids that often tested their patience and kept them on their knees. They dragged those kids all over the place in a tiny camping trailer, and later provided a lake cabin for skiing, sailing, jet skiing, fishing, trot-lining, and chasing snakes, tarantulas and armadillos.

After the war, Lowell earned masters degrees from Oklahoma University, taking his last exam the day his youngest son was born. He was the first of his line to attend college. He spent his entire working life serving on the staff of Christian ministries and large churches in Oklahoma and Texas. In retirement, Lowell and Nelda put thousands of miles each year on their Airstream trailer, visiting world fairs and national parks from Canada to Mexico. He and Nelda

were married for 75 years before she was called home in 2019. And just a year and a half ago, his heart was broken to lose his sweet daughter, Kathy. Lowell is survived by four of his children: John, Judy, Barry, and Joe Bob, and a whole mob of grand, great-grand, and great-great-grandchildren. These children and their families rise up and call him "Blessed." He loved them all and his boats and his motorcycles and his red convertibles. Family fun was second only to church service and worship.

His life will be honored at Hayhurst Funeral Home in Broken Arrow on Monday, March 18, at 2:00. Family visitation and viewing will be held prior to the service at 1:00.

Previous Events

Viewing

MAR 18. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Hayhurst Funeral Home
1660 South Elm Place
Broken Arrow, OK 74012
(918) 258-9623
hayhurstfuneralhome@gmail.com

Funeral Service

MAR 18. 2:00 PM (CT)

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Broken Arrow, OK 74012
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Tribute Wall



“ Hayhurst Funeral Home created a Funeral Service in memory of Lowell Merrell



Hayhurst Funeral Home - March 25, 2024 at 11:13 AM



“ Denis Jeter donated 10 Bibles to the Gideons in memory of Lowell Merrell

John Merrell - March 29, 2024 at 12:03 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Video Tribute



Hayhurst Funeral Home - March 18, 2024 at 04:33 PM

BC

“ *Broken Arrow 7th-day Adventist Church purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Lowell Merrell.*



Broken Arrow 7th-day Adventist Church - March 17, 2024 at 03:51 PM

RJ

“ *We have such fond memories of times spent in Lowell and Nelda's home and their gracious southern hospitality. Lowell was a great listener and we loved his wry, warm sense of humor! He will be missed here on earth but heaven is rejoicing! Jim & Rachel*

Rachel & Jim - March 14, 2024 at 12:17 PM

JE

“ *Jim and Rachel Evans purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Lowell Merrell.*



Jim and Rachel Evans - March 14, 2024 at 12:12 PM



“ *Truly Beloved Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lowell Merrell.*



March 14, 2024 at 06:24 AM

ME

“ Mark E. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lowell Merrell.

Mark E. - March 14, 2024 at 06:24 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Hayhurst Funeral Home - March 13, 2024 at 12:57 PM

HH

“ It is our honor and privilege to serve the Merrill family and to provide this permanent tribute website in memory of Lowell.



Hayhurst Funeral Home - March 11, 2024 at 09:56 AM

JH

Lowell and Nelda were the picture of a wonderful Christian couple raising their family in a loving home.

When we first met as students at Southwestern Christian College it was instant friendship as I was a fellow Texan. It was a joy to get to know the whole family for so many years. Judy, thanks for being the cutest flower girl at my wedding! You were adorable! Nelda and I were close musician' friends and I still miss her. Lowell took such good care of her for so many years. You children took good care of him through the end of life on this earth and sometime in the future will be reunited with your whole wonderful family in Heaven for eternity! Joyce Hatchett

Joyce Hatchett - March 17, 2024 at 04:32 PM