



## Rex Speedy

November 9, 1936 - April 17, 2020

Services will be streamed live 2 pm, Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at <https://vimeo.com/409002991>

Rex L. Speedy, 83, of Broken Arrow traveled to his final journey from this earth to heaven on Friday, April 17, 2020. As his loving wife, Nelda, held his hand, he took his last breath and departed. Rex was born in Bradford, Pennsylvania, the first of four sons to Ben and Mary (Patterson) Speedy. He was a member of Northern Star Masonic Lodge 555 and a 32<sup>o</sup> Scottish Rite Mason in Pennsylvania.

Rex graduated from Otto High School in 1954. After graduation, he attended Williamsport Technical School where he studied diesel mechanics. While he was attending Tech, a company, Clark Bros. of Olean, NY recruited him to work while finishing school to finish his associates degree in diesel mechanics. Rex continued to work at Clark Bros. until he received his draft notice from the Army.

Rex was inducted into the Army April 5, 1960. After basic training at Fort Knox, he was ordered to receive armor training on tanks. He learned to shoot 30 and 50 caliber machine guns and 90 mm tank guns. He was an excellent marksman. He was later transferred to Fort Benning, Georgia where he served as diesel mechanic over the ordinance jeeps. Afterwards, Rex transferred to HQ Cavpar 5th Cav. Of the 1st Cav. Division up near the DMZ in South Korea in the mechanic motor pool where he spent 1 yr., 2 mo., 5 days.

After his honorable discharge from the Army, he returned to civilian life. He had his job with Clark Bros. waiting for him and returned to work. Clark Bros. had been sold to Dresser and when they bought Ingersoll Rand became Dresser Rand where he retired with 36 years as a service representative. From Olean he was transferred to the Tulsa office and was then relocated to Pampa, Texas to replace a retiree for the Midwest areas.

While getting settled in the area and living in the hotel, he met the love of his life, Nelda. She was a cute, sweet, sassy lady that caught his eye. They dated for a year and married April 6, 1963. They were married for 58 years and 11 days.

Although Rex traveled from job site to job site, each journey was a new adventure. He was highly thought of no matter which job he was on. His journey took him to many places all over the USA and to foreign countries like England, France, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, Abu Daube, and South Korea. His all-time favorite place that he worked was Alaska on the North Slope.

Rex, Nelda, and Debbie left Pampa and relocated once more to Tulsa in 1969. Rex continued his travels, going to exciting places to repair receptacle and centrifugal engines in new plants. He inspired the love of traveling in Nelda and Debbie. At times they joined him on his travels.

Rex was excellent at woodworking and repairing motors and engines. He restored a 1964½ red Mustang when he was home. Sometimes it was a family affair working on the Mustang. He later built a life sized working windmill and an outhouse. This was for Nelda as she was raised on a farm and they planned these things out to build. They never took short cuts. He loved country music, especially Jim Reeves. He was also a Dallas Cowboys and OU Sooner football enthusiast. He enjoyed watching old time westerns with his family. He was always willing to help anyone. In 1998, he and Nelda decided to go on a vacation to Alaska. They decided to make it a family adventure of a lifetime. Rex wanted to share the place he so dearly loved with Debbie and Brittney. So, they took a 10-day cruise and went on a

7-day land tour that started in Fairbanks. Whale watching and landing on an iceberg was one of the highlights of their adventure. They met people from all over the world, most of which still stay in touch.

Rex is preceded in death by his parents Ben and Mary Speedy, 2 brothers, and numerous other family. In laws Guy and Marguerite Blakemore and brother in law Dwaine.

He is survived by the love of his life Nelda of the home, daughter Debbie and granddaughter Brittany, and their fur children Katy and Levi. Brother Jack Speedy and wife Karen of Carrollton, Ohio and their family Brian and Michelle of Easley, South Carolina along with their sons, Kim and Jonathan Stocker of Hudson, Ohio and their daughter Craig and Stephanie Speedy of Carrollton, Ohio. He is also survived by numerous cousins and friends.

The family would like to thank the staff at Rivercross Hospice for all their support and caring for Rex during his last days. Special thanks to Caroline and Laura. Thank you for making Rex's final days as peaceful as possible. Viewing will be from 12-5 pm, Tuesday, April 21 at Hayhurst Funeral Home. Services will be streamed live 2 pm, April 22, 2020 at <https://vimeo.com/409002991>.

The family has asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to:

- Northern Star Lodge# 555 c/o Mr. Gilbert Irons Jr. at PO Box 383, Port Allegany, PA 16743
- Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Pennsylvania Council of Deliberation at PO Box 2423, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2423
- Tulsa SPCA at 2910 Mohawk Blvd, Tulsa, OK 74110
- Alzheimer Association at [www.alz](http://www.alz)

# Cemetery Details

## Floral Haven Memorial Gardens

6500 S. 129th E. Ave.  
Tulsa, OK 74012  
(918) 252-2518

# Previous Events

## Viewing

APR **21**. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rex Speedy*

October 23, 2023 at 01:21 AM



“ *Nelda, our deepest sympathies to you and your family. We will miss our back fence visits with Rex. It was a beautiful service. Wish we could have been there with you. We thank our God for technology. If you need anything please let us know.*

*Sincerely,  
Linda & Kent Tindall*

**Linda Tindall** - April 22, 2020 at 03:54 PM



“ *So sorry, Rex was a good man, I enjoyed working with him and for him. I am in Louisiana at my new wife's place. You have my sincere condolences.*

*Glen*

**Glen Whitworth** - April 22, 2020 at 03:45 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Video Tribute*



**Hayhurst Funeral Home** - April 22, 2020 at 01:49 PM

BW

*That was a great video and Rex would approve. He became a very good friend and customer over the years. He was devoted to his family and country. His smile was a light to any room regardless of the size of the room. He was always welcome at my desk. Our visits there will be missed.*

*Ben Wagner*

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**Ben Wagner** - April 22, 2020 at 02:54 PM

GW

*Rex was always the nicest person, with a great personality, he will certainly be missed! My heart goes out to my cousin Nelda, and their daughter Debbie, May the Lord carry you thru this very difficult and emotional time, my thoughts will be with you both! 🙏❤️*

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**Gail Witt** - April 22, 2020 at 06:18 PM

SS

*My uncle Rex was one of the reasons I wanted to get an engineering degree. His stories and gifts he would bring home to his nieces and nephews and share... made such an impact. The first time I sat down in business class headed for Venezuela as a senior drilling engineer for Mobil oil I drank a mimosas today to him! Today is primary day in ohio, 5/2/22. I have just found out about my favorite uncle's death... After randomly coming across this obituary. I am very sorry for your/our loss aunt Nelda. You both were always exciting to be around as I was growing up. Unfortunately time and events change situations and people you still love are no longer in your life... I've just found out uncle Rex's absence will be permanent... there are tears... He has just passed for me... I pray you are well, Love Sean*

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**Sean A Speedy** - May 03, 2022 at 11:25 AM

ML

“ I’m sorry to hear of Rex’s passing. I first met Rex when I came to Tulsa 40 years ago when my stepfather Dean Scalfaro introduced me to him. Dean went to school at Otto high school in Pennsylvania with Rex in the 40s. My mother Shirley And Dean would see Rex and Nelda at the reunion dinners over the years. Before her passing my mother would always speak fondly of Rex and Nelda.

*After finding out of Rex’s passing from Glen Whitworth I also reached out to people that Rex worked with both here in Tulsa and some that moved to Olean. As we did they all had great respect and fond memories of working with and for Rex over the years. My family’s thoughts and prayers go out to the entire Speedy family especially Nelda and Debbie.*

*May God bless you all,  
Mike & Missy Leonard*

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**Mike Leonard** - April 21, 2020 at 05:10 PM

JS

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Rex's passing. My sincere condolences to the Speedy family. Rex and I worked together for the same company many years ago. I have fond memories of him as my immediate supervisor and good friend.



I went to school and graduated in Broken Arrow with Rex's step daughter Debbie and knew Rex's wife Nelda as long as I've known Rex. Unfortunately, I lost track of Rex after his retirement and many different job changes for me since then.

I wish the family well as they transition from the "now" to what must be many golden memories of him.

I regret that I will not be able to attend the visitation Tuesday and I hope there is understanding why in this unfortunate pandemic state we are all in.

My best to you and yours, stay safe and may God be with you all.

Jamie Stiles

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**Jamie Stiles** - April 21, 2020 at 11:26 AM

HH

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



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**Hayhurst Funeral Home** - April 17, 2020 at 04:19 PM