



L C Gardner

December 30, 1921 - September 9, 2019

L.C. Gardner was born on December 30, 1921 in Bennington, OK to William and Zora (McDonald) Gardner. LC passed from this life into the arms of his heavenly father on September 9, 2019 in Durant, OK at the age of 97.

A lifelong resident of Bryan County, LC graduated from Bennington High School. L.C. went to Old Church Elementary until the eighth grade and then went on to Bennington High School where he graduated. L.C. then went to Bacone College but was unable to finish due to enlisting in the Army for WWII. L.C. enlisted in the United States Army on May 22, 1942. He proudly served beside General Patton and received a Good Conduct Medal EAME Service Ribbon with Four Bronze Service Medals. LC was honorably discharged on October 26, 1945.

Upon returning from the War, L.C. returned to the family homestead in Bennington. Due to financial reasons which included lots of sickness in the family, L.C. took a job at Ford Motor Company in Dallas in 1953. He worked there until the plant closed in 1970. He was given special retirement. He had too much time to be dismissed but did not meet the age plus retirement years equal 55 rule.

L.C. married the love of his life Lila, and they were blessed with many years together until her passing. In 1973 they returned to Bokchito where L.C. took a

job with State of Oklahoma Dept. of Transportation. He worked on the Floating Crew which went anywhere in the nine southeastern counties and was known as the Special Emergency Maintenance Crew. He moved back to Bennington in 1975 and continued to work for ODOT until March 1984.

In 2018 L.C. moved to Featherstone Assisted Living and lived there until his passing. He immediately adjusted there and was so very fond of all the staff there. He knew he could count on a peanut butter and jelly sandwich if he wasn't fond of what was on the menu for the day.

He was a member of the Bennington First Baptist Church, proud member of the Choctaw Nation and a distinguished Mason. L.C. loved trains, ranching and cattle.

L.C. is survived by his granddaughter, Janice Bates and significant other Tracy Byrum; granddaughter Susan Bates and significant other Jerry Russell ; son, James Bates and wife Shirley; granddaughter, Rhonda Bates; step son, David Middaugh; daughters, Linda and Diane Simpson; granddaughter, Lisa; grandson, Clint; great granddaughter, Brandy Green; great great grandchildren, Harleigh Tucker and Tripton Callicoaat.

LC was preceded in death by his parents; wife and eight siblings.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 AM Thursday, September 12, 2019 at the Bennington First Baptist Church. Pastor Ryan Perry will officiate. Interment with Military Honors and Masonic Rites will follow in Old Bennington Presbyterian Church Cemetery with Ben Veenstra, David Cathey, Shane Walker, Jesse Petty, Joey Tucker and Doc Helton serving as pallbearers. The family will receive friends at the Funeral Home on Wednesday evening from 6-8 PM. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.brownsfuneralservice.com.

Cemetery Details

Old Bennington Presbyterian Church Cemetery

Bennington, OK

Previous Events

Family Visitation

SEP 11. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Brown's Funeral Service - Durant
4900 West US Hwy 70
Durant, OK 74701
(580) 920-0393
info@brownsfuneralservice.com
<https://www.brownsfuneralservice.com/>

Funeral Service

SEP 12. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church - Bennington
Bennington, OK

Tribute Wall



“ *L C Gardner*

January 08, 2023 at 11:32 PM



“ *Uncle L.C. Would come to Tennessee with Aunt Hazel, Diane,Linda. This was in the 1950's. I was a boy. We would sit up to all hours of the night listening to him and dad. We would eat make home made cream.Us kids would play kick the can, play in the creek. Just some great memories of him. I came by his house in 2017 wanting to see him. But he was sick and could no come out. Loved uncle L.C. Nephew Johnny Swabe*

Johnny Swabe - September 12, 2019 at 08:29 PM