



Robert Bruce Howard

March 22, 1954 - December 21, 2014

Robert Bruce Howard, 60, of Durant, OK passed away on Sunday, December 21, 2014 at OU Medical Center surrounded by his loved ones.

Bruce was born on March 22, 1954 in Durant, OK to Bob and JoAnn (Keener) Howard. He was a graduate of Durant High School, class of 1972, and earned a Bachelors degree from Southeastern Oklahoma State University, graduating with a double major in Fishery Biology and Psychology.

After graduating from SOSU, Bruce went on to work for the Oklahoma Department of Corrections for 37 years. Throughout his career, Bruce was the Deputy Warden and the interim Warden at Mack Alford Correctional Center in Stringtown, OK, Warden at Jim E. Hamilton Correctional Center in Hodgen, OK and most recently the Warden at Howard McLeod Correctional Center in Atoka, OK.

Bruce loved hunting, fishing, riding four wheelers, camping, watching his granddaughter dance and play basketball, vacationing near the beach and spending time with family and friends. He won many awards in Field Archery and enjoyed any kind of fishing and hunting competitions and loved his OU Sooners. Bruce enjoyed working with his hands building furniture or developing the land around his cabin. He was an old soul who valued hard work, honesty and integrity and tried to embody that in his everyday life.

Bruce was preceded in death by his father, Bob Howard; grandparents Otis and Idell Keener and Wes and Dean Warren; and niece Jessica Inman.

Bruce is survived by his mother, JoAnn Howard, of Durant, OK; daughters Mandi Villarreal and husband Miguel of Burns Flat, OK and Brooke Howard and significant other Levi Bolgrien of Coalgate, OK; granddaughter Deiondra Howard of Coalgate and grandsons Imri Bolgrien of Coalgate and Noah Villarreal of Burns Flat; fiance Danna Mullens-Reese of Tahlequah, OK; sister Kathy Hays of Armstrong, OK; nieces Victoria Hays and Brandi Baumann of Armstrong and Brittany Marsh of Durant; stepgrandchildren Blake, Zackary and Emily Villarreal of Burns Flat and many other loved ones.

Family hour will be held Sunday, December 28, 2014 from 3:00-5:00 PM at Brown's Funeral Service chapel in Durant, OK. Services will be held Monday, December 29, 2014 at 10:00 AM at the First United Methodist Church in Durant, OK. Pallbearers will be James O'Donley, Louis Chandler, Lewis McGee, Dee Hunt, Leon Barrett, Ray Eaves, Tommy Lewis, Buddy Lewis, Michael Chandler, and Jason Barrett. Honorary Pallbearers will be Bob Boone, Dan Reynolds, and Earl Allen. Graveside services will follow at Highland Cemetery. Condolences may be sent to www.brownsfuneralservice.com. Arrangements are under the direction of Brown's Funeral Service in Durant, OK.

PDF Printable Version

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Bruce Howard*

January 08, 2023 at 11:32 PM



“ *My condolences to the family and especially you Danna. Bruce was a fine person.*

Randy

Randy Gonten - December 29, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Tanya Robertson Hazzard has sent this Expressions of Sympathy card.*

Tanya Robertson Hazzard - December 28, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Thank you for always being a good boss and friend. My thoughts and prayers are with your family. You will be missed.*

Toni Brown - December 27, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *My first thought every morning and my last thought each night were of you. I gave you my whole heart Bruce and I knew you would hold it close and cherish it until the day you died, and you did. Thank you for loving me and bringing so much happiness to my life. You were the one God put me on this earth to love and I don't know what I will do without you. I will see you soon. I love you.*

Danna Mullens-Reese - December 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LY

“ I know this is a most difficult time for you. My thoughts and deep sincere sympathy are with you. Please be comforted by knowing that God cares about you personally and will help you through your grief. He says "I have heard your prayers, I have seen your tears" (2 Kings 20:5). Then the promise is given that "the righteous will possess the earth, and they will live forever on it."(Ps.37:29) We can be assured of this because "God, who cannot lie..." has promised this (Titus 1:20. For more encouraging scriptures on this subject please go to www.jw.org

LynetteWillis - December 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MV

“ Dad I love you with all of my heart and I miss you terribly. This is not goodbye, just til I see you again....

Mandi Villarreal - December 24, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ I am sorry to hear about Bruce. Prayers to his family & friends as they journey through the loss of their loved one.

Sarah Schild - December 23, 2014 at 12:00 AM