



Ronald David Petty

December 2, 1945 - December 25, 2017

Ronald D. Petty , 72, of Durant, OK went to be with the lord on Monday 25 December 2017. He was born on 02 December 1945 in Hugo, Oklahoma to Neely and Dorthy Petty.

Ron was raised in War Acres Oklahoma where he attended high school, he later met his wife Betty York while in the Oklahoma City area and married in 1966. After marriage Ron and Betty moved to Greenville Texas for a short period before Ron joined the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety in 1971. The couple then returned to Oklahoma to the Tulsa area. Ron and Betty remained in Tulsa until 1976 when Ron received a transfer to Durant. While in Durant Ron completed his bachelors degree at SOSU.

Ron served with the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety for 30 years. Ron certainly had an impact on public safety in not only Durant but the entire state. While in Durant he gave drivers license examinations and still to this day has many members of the motoring public driving after passing his examinations. Trooper Petty later began an extensive mission in educating the public in safety. While assigned to the public safety troop Ron spearheaded many programs to both educate and protect the public he served. Some of those programs included a program in which he dressed as a clown and performed at elementary schools, he named the clown "Yo Yo". Ron used the clown act

as an avenue to entertain and catch the children's interest in order to relay safety minded education. Much like the tricks of entertaining he used for "Yo Yo" the clown Ron had the same approach to public safety announcements. Ron was famous for doing radio spots or commercials on TV for public safety messages. He always came up with clever rhymes or jingles to record and air on local radio stations or TV stations to include KXII. One of Trooper Petty's most memorable radio announcements was during the lead up to the forth of July. On this occasion he was discouraging the motoring public from drinking and driving. The radio announcement went as follows; "If you drink a 3rd on the 4th will you be alive to see the 5th?" Many folks in the community always stated that Trooper Petty's jingles and announcements resonated and often were imprinted in their heads. His announcements they said were so catchy that they couldn't stop saying them or singing them. His approach was certainly sticking with the public and absolutely having an impact. Ron was involved with a program which educated teenage school aged children about the risks of drunk driving. He traveled the area to local schools with what was called a drunk driving car. This car was trailed to local parking lots where a driving course with cones was positioned to simulate streets. The car had delayed reaction times to include braking and Ron would place the kids behind the wheel. The car was nicknamed the "cone killer" as it was always running over cones. This experience was to reflect how drinking effected motor skills and how dangerous mixing the two really was. Ron also was very active in special Olympics and the Law Enforcement Torch Run. He made it a mission of his every year to attempt to raise the most money for special Olympics than any other Law enforcement officer in the state. As always Trooper Petty would come up with clever plans to catch the public eyes and interest to fuel a good cause. One of those tricks included him sacrificing himself to sit on a dunking booth in full uniform in order to let people dunk a COP. The proceeds from this dunking booth went towards the special Olympics. Another clever idea Ron concocted was to create a talking police car in order to educate children at local schools. Trooper Petty had his issued

patrol car outfitted with remote control system that activated different actions on the car. Ron would hide away from the car as children walked near it. Trooper Petty would then speak over a remote microphone as if the car itself was talking. He would ask the children if they wore their seat belts and if they answered yes he could activate the police cars lights as if the car was happy. If the children said no he would activated the patrol car's windshield washer fluid as if the car was sad and crying. Ron was also deployed to work the horrific event which took place on 19 April 1995, the Oklahoma City bombing of the Murrah Federal Building. The DARE program was another safety education program in which Ron was passionate about. Trooper Petty traveled to local schools educating children about the dangers of abusing drugs.

Before he retired in 2001 Trooper Petty received the Chief's Award in 2000 from the Chief of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, Chief Gary Adams. The award write up stated that Trooper Petty was instrumental in promoting the Oklahoma Highway Patrol in southeastern Oklahoma. In that year of 1999 Trooper Petty conducted 57 safety Education programs presented, 152 newspaper articles published, 44 radio spots, 17 television spots, 4 Special Olympics, bicycle rodeo, bicycle tour, Cadet Lawman assignment, and conducted background investigations.

All while participating in the above activates, he continued to work traffic and investigated 38 motor vehicle collisions. His efforts had significantly contributed to furtherance of the Patrol and traffic safety.

This award certainly meant a great deal to Trooper Petty but the impact he had on the community he served was much more important to him. There is little doubt Trooper Ron Petty made an impact on people's lives and the people he served.

Even while accomplishing all the great things Ron did for the public he remained a faithful husband and a devoted father. He taught his children values which will last a lifetime. Ron was an honorable man with values and integrity.

Ron is preceded in death by his mother Dorthy Petty and his father Neely Petty and stepmother Nadine Petty.

Ron is survived by his wife Betty Petty of Durant, OK, son David Petty and wife Kessa of Kingwood, TX, son Jesse Petty and wife Courtney of Durant, OK, brother Billy Petty of Houston, TX, grandsons Caleb and Caden Petty of Kingwood, TX, granddaughters Mckenzee and Mckenlee Petty of Durant, OK.

Trooper Petty regrettably passed away on December 25 2017 in the comfort of his own home. He will long be remembered as an outstanding public servant in the State of Oklahoma and Durant. Trooper Petty lead the charge on educating the public and will forever impact the people he met.

Previous Events

Family Visitation

DEC **29**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 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/>

Celebration of Life

DEC **29**. 2:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Ronald David Petty*

January 08, 2023 at 11:32 PM



“ *Thinking of you during this time of sorrow. He was a gift to the city of Durant and God took this gift on Christmas Day.*



cleta ammons - December 29, 2017 at 03:08 PM



“ *Ron was a good friend and an outstanding man. His warmth and humor lightened the days and lives of countless people, including mine. He will be remembered and missed by all of us. My prayers for peace, comfort, and strength go out to Ron's family.*
Rocky Powers

Rocky Powers - December 29, 2017 at 12:01 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Ronald David Petty.*



December 28, 2017 at 09:59 PM

AB

“ Praying for your family during this difficult time. Enjoyed working with Ron during our times as Oklahoma Highway Patrol Troopers. Sorry I am unable to attend Ron's memorial due to open heart surgery that I am still recuperating from. Blessings to you and your family and we know that Ron was able to celebrate Christmas in the arms of Jesus.. Retired OHP Trooper Al Burchfield and family.

Al Burchfield - December 28, 2017 at 05:26 PM



“ My condolences to Dave & all of the family.
Stephanie Conner Campbell



Stephanie Campbell - December 27, 2017 at 11:51 PM

JT

“ Jon & Kathy Thompson lit a candle in memory of Ronald David Petty



Jon & Kathy Thompson - December 27, 2017 at 11:41 PM

JT

“ Jon & Kathy Thompson lit a candle in memory of Ronald David Petty



Jon & Kathy Thompson - December 27, 2017 at 11:38 PM

LW

“ Betty I am so sorry to learn of the passing of your husband . May God be with you and your family at this time. Prayers and love Linda Westbrook

linda westbrook - December 27, 2017 at 08:14 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ronald David Petty.



December 27, 2017 at 08:12 PM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Ronald David Petty.



December 27, 2017 at 08:01 PM

LC

“ My sympathy and prayers to you all. I knew Ron only in passing as my husband, Marcie, was an OHP in Marshall County. He was always very nice and courteous. May God bless and comfort you as you go through this. Lucille Cavallo

Lucille Cavallo - December 27, 2017 at 04:40 PM



“ *Sherrie Dillard lit a candle in memory of
Ronald David Petty* ”



Sherrie Dillard - December 27, 2017 at 10:47 AM