



Donald Eckels

November 25, 1931 - February 15, 2008

Donald Lee, son of May Rose (Tucker) and Marvin Silas Eckels was born on the farm 19 miles west of Alva in the Whitehorse area on November 25, 1931. He passed away suddenly in the E.R at the Alva Share Medical Center on the 15th of February at the age of 76 years, 3 months and 18 days.

He attended the Whitehorse Rural Grade School and graduated from the Farry High School with the Class of 1949. In 1950 he joined the army and was discharged in 1954.

On April 1, 1955 he was married to Suzetta Marie Hada at Woodward, Oklahoma. To their marriage four children, Douglas, Duane, Jackie and DeAnna were born.

Following their marriage they lived in Alva and he attended Northwestern State College and received a BS Degree in Industrial Arts on May 29, 1959. He started teaching at Englewood, Cullison and Cimarron High Schools in Kansas. In 1968 they returned to Alva and started farming and ranching. He also custom wheat harvested for over 40 years, starting in Texas and all the way into Canada. He farmed the Royer place since he was 16 and was farming it until the time of his death. The last few years he hauled grain and enjoyed his family.

Don served on the Alva School Board from 1979 until 1983.

Mr. Eckels was preceded in death by his father on August 30, 1961, his mother on September 6, 1985, three sisters, Ruby Pfeffer, Edith Bratcher and Margaret Lewis and a brother Lester.

Donald is survived by his children, Douglas and his wife Vicky of Woodward, Duane and his wife Verleta of Alva, OK. Jackie and her husband Allen Neal of West Monroe, LA. and DeAnna and her husband Chuck West of Blanchard, OK. Don is survived by a special friend, Louise Russell of Anadarko, OK nine grandchildren, Douglas Jr. and his wife Sara of Katy, TX. Kacie and her husband Michael Barnes of Woodward, OK Darren and Ashley Eckels of Woodward, Ok. Amber Eckels and Kelcy and her husband Nick Lyon all of Edmond, OK Dayton and Chandler Neal of West Monroe, LA. and Donald Ryan of Blanchard; OK and two great grandchildren, Kailey Barnes and Noah Eckels. A number of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

PDF Printable Version

Previous Events

Funeral Service

FEB **19**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Alva First Baptist Church
714 College Ave.
Alva, Ok

Tribute Wall

LK

“ Don was a very good friend since 1994, when I did his bookwork and taxes. In 1995 I was his "crew chief" for the harvest run. He let me bring along my daughter, Shawna, and nephew John. He liked me through my many faults. I'll miss him.

Lorrie Stewart and Shawna, Kai - March 09, 2008 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to Don's entire family. Don holds a great place in our hearts and will be missed. We are better for having him in our life. If it was not for Don or Eckels Harvesting we would not have our lives we have now. Thank you. Peace to all

Rick & Jenni Worley - February 21, 2008 at 12:00 AM

C1

“ Duane,

Please accept this expression of sympathy from the Class of 1977. Speaking for the Class of '77 we are saddened by the passing of your father.

Sincerely,

Class of 1977

Class of 1977 - February 21, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Jackie, you and your family are in our hearts and prayers. You are always in my thoughts. God bless you all. Love, jb

Jeanette and Gene Bales - February 20, 2008 at 12:00 AM

VH

“ I'm sorry for your loss. If there is anything that we can do for any of you please let us know.
Love you all,
Vanessa & Hunter Hart

Vanessa Hart - February 20, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ I will always remember Uncle Donald. I loved him so much. He was a great guy and I thought the world of him.

Dayla, Michael and Colton Griffis - February 20, 2008 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Thinking of you on this difficult day.

Margene and Gene Burnham - February 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ We share in your sadness. Don was a sweet gentle man even though sometimes he wanted you to think otherwise. We know he had a heart as big as Dallas! We will miss Don's room lightening smile and blue eyes. Sincerely,

Trooper Jimmy & Julie (Davison) Helm - February 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ Mrs. Jackie and the Eckels family are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult. I am so sorry for you and your family's significant loss. May God Bless you,
Ryan and Tracey Breen

Tracey Breen - February 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ *Deanna, I am saddened to hear about your dad. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*

Sharon (Schoeling) Brewer - February 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

VW

“ *WE MET AS STRANGERS, THEN BECAME FRIENDS.NOW GOD HAS TAKEN YOU FROM YOUR FAMILY AND VERY SPECIAL FRIENDS AND THOSE WHO LOVED AND CARED FOR YOU VERY MUCH.WE'LL MEET AGAIN SOMEDAY IN HEAVEN.*

VERDA STUBBS WAMPLER - February 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

YR

“ *Jackie and family,
You have been in my heart and my thoughts but especially my prayers. God bless you!*

Yvette Redman - February 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ *Jackie and Family,
Our thoughts and prayers are with you across the miles. We pray God's peace and comfort will surround you during this difficult time.
Love, The Mitchells*

Doug and Terri Mitchell - February 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

LT

“ Dear Jackie, DeAnna, Doug, Duane, and families--
I was very sad to learn of your Dad's passing. I have so many fun memories of being with you and your Dad. What a fun, kind, caring, and genuine man--truly a gem! I remember when he took a rather large group of us skiing in Colorado. I can't think of another man who would take on that challenge! He was a hard worker who also knew the importance of being very involved in his childrens' lives. Please know that gentle thoughts are with you all.

Linda Tyree Tucker - February 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JU

“ Jackie, I am praying for you and your family. Love you. Julie

Julie - February 19, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Jackie and family, our thoughts and prayers are with you. We wish you peace through this time of sorrow.

Jon & Rhonda Roberts - February 18, 2008 at 12:00 AM

TL

“ Duane,Doug,Jackie,DeAnna and Families
Don Will be Missed. We worked hard together,trying to get ready to go do what we Loved Doing. Running a Combine thru Golden Wheatfields.
Our Thoughts and Prayers are with You.

Terry and Weta Litton - February 18, 2008 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Jackie, Allen and family,
I am truly sorry for your loss. I express my deepest condolences.

Belinda Waring - February 18, 2008 at 12:00 AM

GL

“ We are deeply sorry for your lost. We will miss him.

Gail and Linda Lewis - February 18, 2008 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ To Don's family,
We want to express our sincere sympathy in Don's passing. He was always fun to chat with & we will miss him. Our thoughts & prayers are with you all during this time of grief.

Dudley & Jeanne Winn - February 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM

KB

“ Jackie and Allen, DeAnna and Charles, Doug and Vickey, Duane and Verleta and all your families I want to express my deepest sorrow for your loss. I will never forget picking up rocks and loading them in the big truck in the field west of Alva, riding the ATC on the west side of your house or all the other fond memories of living a short walk away. Please know my thoughts and prayers are with all of you during this time.
Kevin Beeler

Kevin Beeler - February 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM

VR

“ Duane,
I am so sorry to hear about your dad. I have very special memories of working for Don and enjoyed being a neighbor at the farm. I will miss seeing him at the farm and around town. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Vaughn Rader - February 17, 2008 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ *I am so sorry for your loss.
My thoughts and prayers are with your family. My God Bless You!*

Jane (Lewis) Wiseman - February 16, 2008 at 12:00 AM