



Harold Murrell

August 9, 1930 - September 17, 2016

Harold W. (Buddy) Murrell fabled football and track coach finished the anchor leg Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016 at 86 years old.

He was born August 9, 1930, in Purcell, OK. to Knox & Alma (Wells) Murrell. Buddy graduated from Purcell High School and then went on to play college football, first at Murray State College at Tishimingo, and the last two years at East Central State University in Ada, OK. He served two years in military service in between. Buddy was honored as a “Golden Tiger” and was presented his medallion in Ada, OK.

Buddy’s first coaching and teaching position was in Ada, OK in 1952. His next stop was Wynnewood, OK followed by a few years at Coalgate, Ok. He then accepted the head football and track field coaching job in Cherokee, OK in 1956. He remained there for over 30 years until his retirement in 1985.

His football teams achieved great success culminating with the, 1969 team that went undefeated. That same year, he was named as an All-State coach for the Oklahoma Coaches Assn. Football team.

He led the Cherokee Chiefs to 5 state titles, 2 state runnerups, and numerous regional championship, spanning three decades. The State title were in 1969, 1971-1973, and 1982. Buddy has been inducted into the OCA (Oklahoma Coaches Association) and OTCA (Oklahoma Track Coaches Association) Halls of Fames.

Buddy is survived by his son, Tony Murrell and wife Janelle of Elk City, OK, a daughter Cyndy Burris and husband Jon of Edmond, OK, son Andy of the

home and son David and wife Marie of Duncan, OK. He loved his grandchildren and did his best to spoil them, they include Ryan Murrell, Austin, TX, Aija (Mike) Springer, Edmond, Ok, Kari (Bob) Brown, Houston, TX, Madeline Murrell, Tulsa OK and Sarah Murrell, Duncan, OK and 3 great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and wife of 54 years, Stella (Brooks) Murrell, also his brother Kenneth Murrell, sister, Mary Nell Glasgow and his twin sister Betty Richerson, and his grandson Rhett Murrell.

In lieu of flowers, please contribute to Buddy Murrell Memorial Fund at Alfalfa County Bank.

Cemetery Details

Cherokee Municipal Cemetery

Cherokee Municipal Cemetery, OK 73728

Previous Events

Service

SEP 21. 10:00 AM (CT)

Cherokee High School Auditorium
600 S.Massachusetts
Cherokee, OK 73728

Tribute Wall

JH

“ Tony,so sorry about your Dad! Thinking of you and your family at this time! Hugs and Prayers

Judy A Hannaford - September 22, 2016 at 02:51 PM

SB

“ Some of my greatest memories of Coach Murrell came from attending state track meets, where another great coach, Kenneth Roof at Thomas, would give me messages to relate to his good friend Buddy Murrell when I got back home. Coach Murrell would listen, then give me a response that I was expected to give to Coach Roof the next spring at State. It went on like that for years until Coach Roof passed away a few years ago. Just as Thomas was sculpted by the teaching and coaching of Coach Roof, generations of Cherokee young men and women have Coach Murrell to thank for their education and integrity. God Bless Coach Roof and his family.

Steve Booher - September 20, 2016 at 10:42 PM

TD

“ Buddy was important to my development as a teacher and person. I was an asst under Coach from 1970 until 77 and my classroom was right next to his and I learned to work hard in both teaching and coaching from his example. He was great teacher as coach. He treated his athletes with respect and he truly cared about them. He influenced many young men and women and will be missed greatly. Terry Dooley



Terry Dooley - September 20, 2016 at 09:59 PM

MM

“ Tony, Andy, Cindy and David my thoughts are with you. We had some fun growing up. I remember Coach first as a great Father as well as a a Coach who influenced a generation of young men. . I can just hear him saying, "rub some dirt in it" whenever someone complained then spitting in the dirt right where we we practicing.
RIP
Mike McDowell

Mike McDowell - September 20, 2016 at 09:52 PM

MM

“ Sorry I can't make it to the funeral. One of the most common phrases he use to say to me whenever I screwed up in football was "McFall, we are going to have to take you to the doctor to get my foot out of your but"

Mike McFall - September 20, 2016 at 05:50 PM

RM

“ Coach Murrell, 1 of the good guys. For 30 years he was a powerful influence in the lives of the kids of Cherokee. He certainly was one of the important people in my life.
Rest in Peace Buddy

Randy Myers - September 20, 2016 at 05:23 PM

TD

“ 1 file added to the album Coach Murrell



Tim Dotterer - September 20, 2016 at 03:02 PM

TD

“ You can't say enough about all the things Coach Murrell had done for our community. I remember in history class, Coach Murrell would sit on the front side of his desk with that podium tilted over, with both hands laying over the top hanging, and giving us notes for the next test. What a wonderful teacher and mentor. He was Cherokee!

Tim Dotterer - September 20, 2016 at 02:48 PM

JH

“ Uncle Buddy (as we knew him) was a wonderful person. I have many fond memories of visiting their grand home with its winding staircase, room to room secret tunnels (actually connecting closets) and their old basement. You actually felt like part of the family when visiting. And not to be forgotten, the aroma of bacon cooking in the morning. I still think of Buddy & Stella and all my cousins (Tony, Cyndy, Andy and David) when I catch that familiar bacon smell where ever I am!

We will say a prayer for his family and God bless all of you.

Jimmy Howell

Jimmy Howell - September 20, 2016 at 02:10 PM

NB

“ Thinking of each of you. I remember you dad fondly

Nancy Burgess - September 20, 2016 at 01:47 PM

MM

“ Coach, you were one of the good guys. The only coach I had in football until I played in college and you taught all of us well. Godspeed.

Michael McLaughlin - September 20, 2016 at 01:00 PM