

Larry Joe Glass

June 19, 1939 - September 11, 2025

Larry Glass entered the church triumphant on September 11, 2025 surrounded by family at his home. Larry was born to Marlin and Maxine Glass in Winfield, KS on June 19, 1939.

Larry's family lived in Wichita and Dodge City, KS before settling in Newkirk, where he grew up and graduated high school in 1957.

At Newkirk High School, Larry played basketball and football. After graduation, he attended Oklahoma State University for a year, then transferred to Northwestern Oklahoma State University, where he played football under Art Parkhurst during the 1958 season. While at NWOSU, Larry was introduced by Marybeth Brunsteter (Glass) to the love of his life, Joy Leslie. They were married September 11, 1960, at the First Presbyterian Church of Alva. Over the next seven years, they welcomed three children, Gregg, Leslie and Jeff.

In September 1959, Larry transferred to the University of Oklahoma, where he hoped to play football under Coach Bud Wilkinson. A pre-season practice injury ended that dream. While at OU, Larry was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity. He graduated in the spring of 1962 with a degree in business education.

After graduation, Larry spent the summer working for Glass Trucking in Newkirk, then later moved Joy and first-born Gregg to El Reno. At El Reno High School, Larry taught math and was an assistant football coach. He also coached freshman baseball and basketball. In the summer of 1963, Larry and

family left El Reno and moved to Alva to join his father-in-law, Pete Leslie, in the farming and ranching business. In addition to playing a vital role in the family business, Larry devoted the next 60 years to an active and fulfilling life in Alva, spending much of his time and energy working for the betterment of youth programs in his adopted hometown.

Larry coached youth council baseball and organized youth council basketball for boys and girls. He helped make improvements at Crenshaw Park, including the Green Monster, the sunshade over the grandstand, and installation of the electric scoreboard. Larry also encouraged local businesses to sponsor banners on the outfield fence of the baseball field.

On the college level, Larry was instrumental in the installation of artificial turf for the NWOSU baseball infield as part of a multi-year renovation project of the stadium and facilities.

Larry was among the first to envision the Alva Recreation Center. He traveled to other centers in surrounding states, gathering ideas and seeking recommendations. He hosted Alva town meetings to share his vision and encourage community support and involvement.

He was a lifelong booster of Alva and NWOSU athletics, traveling to out-of-town games and always supporting the teams at home.

During his years farming and ranching, Larry hired anyone who asked him for work, including both high school and college students. In the spirit of generosity, he even hired the occasional hitchhiker who needed lodging, a meal, and a job.

Larry enjoyed traveling, and he and Joy took many trips throughout the years with friends and family. He especially liked trips with his grandchildren. A favorite memory was a mystery trip he and Joy planned for the family to Memphis, complete with written clues frequently sent to family leading up to their departure. The trip included a live Buddy Holly show, carriage rides and walks along the Mississippi River. Other memory-making trips with the grandchildren included Hawaii and the Galapagos Islands.

He and Joy fostered several children in their home throughout the years.

Larry was a lifelong member of the Presbyterian Church USA and was actively involved in the Newkirk and El Reno churches. He was a ruling elder and session member of the First Presbyterian Church of Alva, where he was for many years the chair of building and grounds and served on many committees.

Larry is survived by his wife of 65 years, Joy Leslie Glass, and his children, Gregg Glass and wife Donnell of Alva; Leslie Maxwell and husband Scott of Edmond; and Jeff Glass and wife Lynnea of Arcadia. Larry was blessed with eight grandchildren, Christopher Glass and wife Sunny; Evan Witt and husband Jarred; Carson Lamle and husband Chase; Drew Glass; Kayli Gillespie and husband Heath; Myka Naylor and husband Ryan; Baylor Maxwell and wife Ariel, and Truitt Maxwell; and 10 great grandchildren, Leighton, Ruth Inslee and Hutton Glass; Lincoln Witt; Trip Lamle; James and Barrett Gillespie; Brooklyn and Nolan Naylor; and Margot Maxwell.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents, Marlin Gray Glass and Maxine (Maxwell) Glass and brother, Marlin G. "Ike" Glass. He is survived by siblings Marcia Nelson and husband Park; Shirley Douglas and husband Neal; Sara Cook and husband Chris; Bill Glass; and sister-in-law Marybeth Glass.

In lieu of flowers, and to continue Larry's legacy of giving, the family requests memorial donations be directly made to the donor's organization of choice.

Cemetery Details

Alva Municipal Cemetery

1698 Flynn Street
Alva, OK 73717

Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Wharton Funeral Chapel - September 12, 2025 at 06:37 PM



“ *Wharton Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Larry Joe Glass*



Wharton Funeral Chapel - September 13, 2025 at 01:03 PM

KM

What a man, what a life, and what an incredible legacy he leaves in his beautiful family. So, so many memories- from my very earliest ones in childhood- playing for hours on end at their home with my best buddy, Jeff. So many meals around their table, so many games of H-O-R-S-E on their driveway, playing spoons in the rec room on Skyview, and getting in trouble for dancing on top of the pool table... 🤪👉. Larry was always such a great dad and was stern when needed, but always had a little wink and a smile and a sweet affirmation for me. He was a hard worker and was always giving back in my sweet hometown, and in our beloved church. Loved him so much and this family so, so much....! Prayers for comfort, knowing exactly where he is and the celebration that is going on in Heaven. Love to all our Glass family. ❤️

Kelly Brunsteter Misuraca - September 14, 2025 at 05:48 AM

RS

“ Larry took me on as a hand when I was 10. He gave me a job as I was walking home from Dacoma where I lived just east of his barns. I am just a couple years younger than his youngest son and I worked off and on for him from 79-86. There's no greater man I have ever known. We were very poor living in the red brick home on the road from Dacoma to Carmen called the Skidmore house. My parents were not very good people but he knew my great uncle Jim Beckwith and maybe that's why he decided to give me a job as a 10 year old who was green as grass. He taught me how to be different than my environment and I hope he would've been proud of my life since he taught me how to be a good man. He was the greatest man I ever met and I'll always fondly remember him and the sky blue Chevy flatbed he and his son taught me to drive. If I could I'd build a monument for him because I know I wasn't the only kid he helped or person. Rest in peace Sir you definitely earned your seat at Gods table just for what you did for me. Richard Simons

Richard Simons - January 02 at 05:51 PM

JG

Thank you, Richard, for your kind words. I'm not sure I ever met you, but I remember so vividly Larry coming homemany times....and telling me about his day and you. He's smiling down on youso proud of you 💕💕 Joy

Joy Glass - January 08 at 06:25 PM

CC

“ CRIS CAMPBELL Or LYDIA CAMPBELL lit a candle in memory of Larry Joe Glass



CRIS CAMPBELL or LYDIA CAMPBELL - September 27, 2025 at 02:31 PM

CC

We loved Larry and we love u, Joy. So sorry to here of his passing, but know he is resting in the loving arms of God.

CRIS CAMPBELL or LYDIA CAMPBELL - September 27, 2025 at 02:33 PM

JM

“ *This is jutin mm foster care person I want to get in touch with Joy and Larry
joy glass here's my email drpeppermanmm0@hotmail.com please pass this message to her*

justin m m - September 24, 2025 at 06:09 PM

JG

Justin, May I have a telephone number? I will call you.

Joy Glass - October 07, 2025 at 05:51 PM

MA

“ *I keep so fond memories of Larry with his dry humor and kind heart. When I heard Buddy Holy songs accompanying the tribute video I remembered the Golden Collection of Buddy Holy Larry once gave me. I played the songs and thought of my visit to Alva, sitting on their porch, watching the rabbits, going to see the 4th July fireworks, driving around the fields, going to the Calf Bingo, driving in the sand dunes, talking about farming and cows. He was a good man. We will always keep the best memories of him. Rest in peace, Larry.*

Magda - September 22, 2025 at 03:51 PM

MA

“ 4 files added to the album Larry and Joy in Policka



Magda - September 22, 2025 at 03:35 PM

MT

“ What a legacy! Larry was a blessing to the Alva community for many years. Praying for Joy and the family as they miss him. May God bless you all.

Maureen Thomas - September 16, 2025 at 04:29 PM

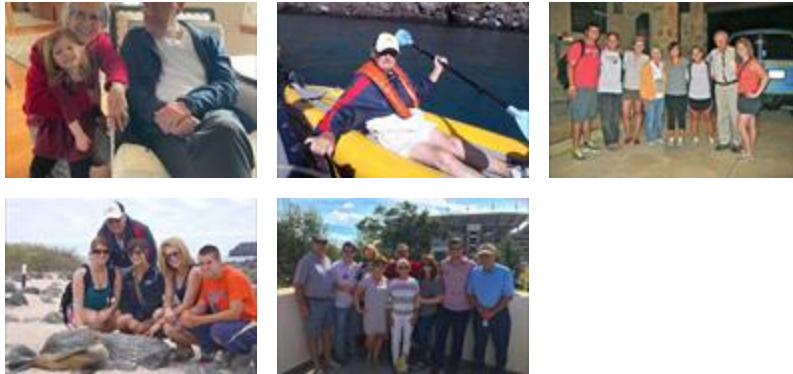
KM

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Kelly Brunsteter Misuraca - September 14, 2025 at 10:43 AM

TM

“ 55 files added to the album Larry Memories Album



Truitt Maxwell - September 14, 2025 at 06:54 AM

SM

“ When Leslie and I were dating we would often sit in the living room with Larry and watch TV. He would always say, “do you want me to bring in another chair?” Even though there were 4 empty chairs in the room... guess he thought I was sitting too close to his daughter!

Scott Maxwell - September 14, 2025 at 05:08 AM

JG



Joy Glass - September 14, 2025 at 06:39 AM

JN

“ Sending my condolence to Joy and family.



Jennifer Nixon - September 13, 2025 at 10:28 PM

MS

“ Sorry to see this news. What a great man Larry was and what a life he has left behind. I worked a summer for him farming and learned a lot from him. Haven't seen him or any of the family in many years, but definitely have good memories of growing up know such a great family. He will be truly missed by so many.

Michael Sterba - September 13, 2025 at 10:01 PM

DC

“ I grew up in the Alva Presbyterian church alongside the Glass kids and have many fond memories of being involved with that family. What a wonderful legacy Mr. Glass has left behind and all the lives that he touched!! His presence on earth will be greatly missed while his presence in Heaven will be greatly rejoiced. May God grant the family strength, peace, patience and love.
Donise (Sterba) Cinnamon

Donise Cinnamon - September 13, 2025 at 12:36 PM

JL

“ Blessings and respect. A memorable fishing trip with Larry and I'll never forget it great and funny guy, beautiful man.
Jon

Jon Linder - September 13, 2025 at 10:58 AM



“ 92 files added to the album Larry Memories Album



Wharton Funeral Chapel - September 12, 2025 at 02:20 PM

TI

So so sorry hear Larry glass died knew family years wonderful family

Tinaparker - September 12, 2025 at 05:55 PM