



## Larry Gene Parker

February 12, 1943 - May 12, 2024

Larry Gene, the son of Mary Lee (Long) and John Parker, was born Feb 12, 1943 in Flagstaff, AZ. He passed peacefully on May 12, 2024 in Oklahoma City, OK. Larry's dad was a foreman for the Sante Fe railroad where John, Mary Lee, sister Phyllis, and Larry lived for several years in company housing in Page, AZ. At eight years of age Larry moved with his family to Waynoka, OK where he resided until age 16. The family then moved to Grandfield, OK where Larry was a Bearcat on the Grandfield state championship football team. His love of football would continue throughout the rest of his life. One stormy night during a power outage, Larry (physically) bumped into Charla Beth Miller in the First Baptist Church in Grandfield. This chance meeting eventually led to marriage in August of 1963. Larry and Charla moved around a bit in their early years due to education and vocation. Their moves took them to Colorado, Michigan, and then to Enid, OK. Along the way, their two kids Ladd and Lecia were born. Finally, due to a job opportunity, Larry and family settled in Alva, OK where he has resided for 53 years.

Larry has been a leader in the Alva community serving as a speech therapist for the Alva Public Schools, a deacon and Sunday School teacher at the First Baptist Church, and most recently as a school board member. But perhaps his most notable influence in Alva has been as a coach of both college, high school, and junior high athletes. A coach always has an important role and Larry's impact on the lives of numerous young students is unquantifiable. One final note to a life well lived is Larry's friendship. Although in his later

years, Larry had a decreased ability to communicate due to multiple strokes, he always seemed to know everyone in town. And if he didn't know someone, he would try to meet them. Larry would often greet people with a hug or handshake and never shied away from encouraging words. He will be sorely missed by friends, family, and community, but enjoying heaven and a perfected body.

Larry is survived by wife of 60 years, Charla, sister Phyllis Colyer of Wichita Falls, TX, son Ladd (Judy) Parker of Anchorage, AK, and daughter, Lecia (Mike) Rau of Wylie, TX. Additionally, Larry leaves five wonderful grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Memorials to the First Baptist Church through Wharton Funeral Chapel

# Cemetery Details

## Alva Municipal Cemetery

1698 Flynn Street  
Alva, OK 73717

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 16. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Wharton Funeral Chapel, LLC.  
1302 W. Oklahoma Boulevard  
Alva, OK 73717

## Visitation

MAY 17. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Wharton Funeral Chapel, LLC.  
1302 W. Oklahoma Boulevard  
Alva, OK 73717

## Family Visitation

MAY 17. 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wharton Funeral Chapel, LLC.  
1302 W. Oklahoma Boulevard  
Alva, OK 73717

## Celebration of Life

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MAY 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

Alva First Baptist Church  
714 College Ave.  
Alva, Ok

# Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Wharton Funeral Chapel - May 17, 2024 at 02:54 PM



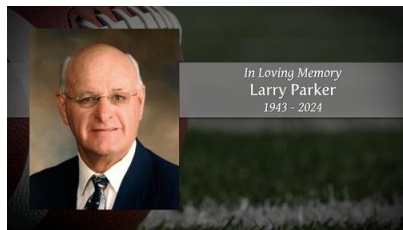
“ *Wharton Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Larry Gene Parker*



Wharton Funeral Chapel - May 17, 2024 at 04:06 PM



“ *Wharton Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Larry Gene Parker*



Wharton Funeral Chapel - May 17, 2024 at 01:09 PM



“ *I send my prayers and thoughts to the family at this time. May God be with you and hold you in His arms.*  
*Doris Rhea Jackson*

Doris Jackson - May 19, 2024 at 01:33 PM

BN

“ I will never forget “Coach P.” I will always remember him placing a firm hand on my shoulder to be followed by a firm handshake and a greeting like “ Mr. Nye, how are you young man?” He was a mentor and molder of boys into you men. He wasn’t just a coach he was **THE COACH!** Coach did everything for our football team his beloved Alva GoldBugs. He maintained the field, he worked on the equipment, and he taped more ankles than could be counted and let’s not forget his involvement in FCA. He gave his players pride in them selves and confidence to go out into the world and do great things. I will always cherish my memories of Coach P and I will be forever grateful for the time I had with him.  
Love You Coach, Brian Nye

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**Brian Nye** - May 18, 2024 at 07:08 AM

SF

“ Scott Ricker and Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Larry Gene Parker.



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**Scott Ricker and Family** - May 17, 2024 at 07:43 PM



“ 58 files added to the album Larry Memories Album



Wharton Funeral Chapel - May 17, 2024 at 03:04 PM



“ John, Monica, Miller, Myah, Jon Mark purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Larry Gene Parker.



John, Monica, Miller, Myah, Jon Mark - May 17, 2024 at 12:12 PM



“ John, Monica, Miller, Myah, Jon Mark planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Larry Gene Parker.

John, Monica, Miller, Myah, Jon Mark - May 17, 2024 at 12:12 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Larry Gene Parker.*



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May 16, 2024 at 08:46 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Larry Gene Parker.*



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May 16, 2024 at 08:37 PM



“ *The Marc Campbell Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Larry Gene Parker.*

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**The Marc Campbell Family** - May 16, 2024 at 08:37 PM



“ *Marietta Washington lit a candle in memory of Larry Gene Parker*



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**Marietta Washington** - May 16, 2024 at 02:56 PM

RH

“ Randy and Linda Hart purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Larry Gene Parker.



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**Randy and Linda Hart** - May 16, 2024 at 09:36 AM

RH

“ Randy and Linda Hart planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Larry Gene Parker.

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**Randy and Linda Hart** - May 16, 2024 at 09:36 AM

IK

“ Larry was probably the friendliest face in Alva. He was our daughter, Dacee's speech therapist and our son, Aaron had a great time dressing as his favorite coach (Coach Parker) complete with a shaved horseshoe shaped hair cut! We still laugh at the picture of them together. Enjoy Heaven, Larry!!!

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**Irene Kentner** - May 15, 2024 at 07:20 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Larry Gene Parker.



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May 15, 2024 at 02:53 PM

MT

“ *Such a sweet man. I remember so often seeing him holding a little one and calming their fears. He was kind and gentle and altogether lovely. 🙏*

Maureen Thomas - May 15, 2024 at 02:47 PM

CH

“ *Rest in Peace Mr. Parker.*



Charlotte - May 15, 2024 at 10:37 AM

TP

“ *He was my speech teacher and my son he will miss greatly orators go out to Charla family gid bless*

Tina parker - May 14, 2024 at 03:36 PM

CD

“ *Larry was a great man, Christian, and friend. When I was raising my kids by myself he always asked how the kids were doing and always was looking after my kids at school and church. I so much appreciated him and Charla. He will be truly missed*

Cheryl Penner Diefenbach - May 14, 2024 at 03:20 PM

MS

“ *What a great man and what an impact Coach P had on my life. I'm not sure the last time I saw him but I'm certain he brightened my day because he always did. My thoughts are with his wonderful family during this time of sadness. I pray you find comfort and peace in the arms of our Savior.*

Mark Sisco - May 13, 2024 at 10:13 PM

BB

*Our love to all the Parker Family. The love you showed to so many. I think of Laura who you and Charla, Ladd and Lisa welcomed into your home. Bless those who have loved him so much. May you feel the comfort of the Holy Spirit with you.*

Bill/Linda Beeler - May 16, 2024 at 07:16 PM

CS

“ *Never had anything but a kind word to say. He will be greatly missed. Prayers and thoughts for the family.*

Cynthia Campbell Smith - May 13, 2024 at 08:50 PM

SM

“ *Mr.Parker was a kind man always had a kind word and smile. He was the best speech teacher. Prayers for family*

Sabrina Moffatt - May 13, 2024 at 08:26 PM

JS

“ *Mr Parker, Coach P, Larry - always one of my favorites. He always had a hug for you. Always had something nice to say to you. Always asking how you are. He will always be missed. Prayers of comfort for the Parker Family, special people to me and mine!*



Julia Linder Schrock - May 13, 2024 at 07:50 PM

PL

“ I was a nurses aide at Share Nursing Home back in 72-74 during summers. I met Larry there. He was so much fun, full of orneriness as always. Later, we went to church with him and Charla. If you never had a massage from Larry, you missed out, he was the bomb! We sure did love him. Charla, our prays are with you. Greg and Pam Lyon

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**Pam Lyon** - May 13, 2024 at 05:58 PM

LM

Years since I've seen Larry and Charla. Loved them both as I attended Baptist church and was in the choir Larry was bigger then life and always funny and welcoming. Charla my prayers go to you and your family. Linda Murphy

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**linda murphy** - May 15, 2024 at 07:18 PM

JL

“ Blessings and respect.

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**Jon Linder** - May 13, 2024 at 05:38 PM

JT

“ So sorry for your loss. Larry was such a wonderful man. He will be missed by a lot of people. He will always be remembered for always caring about people. Hugs and love Charla to you and your family.



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**jana terrell** - May 13, 2024 at 05:29 PM

DS

“ So many great memories of Larry. I first met him as my daughter, Angela's speech coach in Kindergarten. He was so good with the kids. I will miss the handshakes and hugs at church as he made his way around the auditorium. He never met a stranger. He loved life. I will miss him.

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**Darlene Sanderson** - May 13, 2024 at 04:56 PM