



Walter David Millsap

August 11, 1934 - July 17, 2013

Walter David Millsap, age 78, went to be with the Lord on July 17, 2013, at the Siloam Springs Nursing Home and Rehab. He was born on August 11, 1934 in Muskogee, OK, to Scott and Pauline Millsap.

David grew up in Muskogee and graduated from Muskogee High School in 1952. During his years in school he was a boxer and became a Northeastern Oklahoma Golden Gloves Champ in 1952 and 53. His boxing name was the "Blond Bomber".

He received his Bachelor's Degree from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, receiving his degree in Industrial Arts and Coaching. During college, he met and married Loretta Parsley on December 17, 1955 in Tahlequah. They had three children Wally, Donnie, and Martha and in 1970 adopted two more, Edward and Kathy.

In 1956 he began teaching and coaching in Pineville, MO. In 1959, the Millsaps moved to Gentry, AR where David became the school principal. In 1963, they moved to Glenpool OK and he worked for one year as the school principal and then returned to Gentry in the fall of 1964. Until his retirement in 1986, Mr. Millsap worked for the Gentry School District as High School Principal, Guidance Counselor, Driver's Education teacher, and school Bus Driver. He had a Masters Degree in Education and a Masters in Counseling. After his retirement he continued to farm at his home west of Gentry. Mr. Millsap stayed involved with the activities in the Gentry school system where many of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren attend. He loved watching

the Pioneers, especially playing football and basketball, and rarely missed a game.

David became a Christian as a child and believed strongly in being an active member of his local church. He taught Sunday School and was an active deacon for many years at the First Baptist Church in Gentry. He loved missions and enjoyed supporting his children and grand-children on their many mission trips. Sharing Jesus was very important to him and he loved being a part of the Gideons International.

He is preceded in death by his parents; granddaughter Bridgette Kay Millsap and grandson Joseph Edward Denny.

He is survived by three sons, Wally Millsap and wife Kay, of Gentry, Donnie Millsap and wife Sandy, of Gentry, Edward Millsap and wife Fern, of Siloam Springs; two daughters Martha Hawkins of Gentry and Kathy Hummingbird and husband Damon of Springtown. He leaves behind grandchildren Heidi ,Courtney and Austin; Melissa, Scott, Craig and Michael; Hannah; Matthew and Amanda; and Thomas Denny. Great-grandchildren Matthew and Houston; Rebekkah, Colleen, Isabelle, Shaun, Aaron, Katie, Jaxon, David, Demia, Kiana, Sydney, McKenzey, Dylan and Aiden, and two brothers, Bob Lewis Millsap of Dennison, Texas, and Franklin Leon Millsap of Sachse, Texas. For the last seven years he and his wife have hosted foreign exchange students and he was a loving “grandpa” to fourteen students from all over the world. David was a supporter of the Benton County Fair, local 4-H clubs and several organizations that were special to young people. He will long be remembered for his story-telling, jokes and “Indian tricks”. He never met a stranger and always found someone to visit with.

Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday July 19, 2013 at Wasson Funeral Home in Siloam Springs, AR.

Funeral service will be at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday July 20th at the First Baptist Church in Gentry, AR, with Dr. Robin Cowin and Bill Stiles officiating. Burial

will follow at the Springtown Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be sent to the Gideons International.

Cemetery Details

Springtown Cemetery

Springtown, AR
Springtown, AR

Previous Events

Viewing

JUL **19.** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Wasson Funeral Home
441 U.S. 412
Siloam Springs, AR 72761
(479) 524-5131
wasson@wassonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.wassonfuneralhome.com>

Service

JUL **20.** 2:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Gentry
221 W Main St, Gentry
Gentry, AR 72734

Tribute Wall

JL

“ *Mr. Millsap was without any doubt one of the best people ever and will be missed. He will always be remembered with great respect and memories from school.
My sympathies for your loss.*

Jill and Patsy Lott - July 26, 2013 at 07:27 PM

DO

“ *Mr. Millsap was a wonderful man that always listened to any question that i would ask him. When I was 14 mr. Millsap would come to my house at 8 am and tell my mom to wake me up because it was time to work some cattle at his farm so I dragged out if bed and go but I always had the best time with the milsap family.
You will be missed.*

Donnie - July 25, 2013 at 07:45 AM

DA

Donnie - I have known your Mother and Dad since their college days. I married them in Grace Batist Church in Tahlequah when I was pastor there. I was only five years older then your Dad. Visiting them in Gentry was always special to me - one reason being that they came to own the farm where I was raised. My home was the white frame house near the highway just south of their present home. Every time I could, I would visit them when I was back in the United States from mission work in Costa Rica, Chile, Colombia and Argentina. I was always warmly welcomed and had a good time. FBC of Gentry was where I gave my life to Jesus, and I was baptized by Pastor Carl Nelson in Flint Creek, close to Springtown. Clarence Woody and Ralph Lillard were my Sunday School teachers during my high school years. This evening my wife and I had supper with Ralph's Grandson, Dale Allison and his wife. What a small world! Blessings on all of you. - Bob Adams

Dr. Bob (Bobby) E. Adams - August 10, 2013 at 10:41 PM

MR

“ To the entire Millsap family,

I was much saddened to hear of Walter's passing. Mr. Millsap was always one of my favorite teachers...and although it has been many years since I had the great fortune to learn under his guidance, those lessons never left me. He always worked to make learning fun..be it a lesson on how to drive (somehow doughnuts were an essential part of the process) or taking tickets in the cafeteria line (my first real job!) ...he always had a smile, a lesson and a great attitude to share...all of which were infectious and long-lasting. He truly took his role as a guide and mentor to heart...and made many positive impressions in my life. I appreciated him then and continued to over all the years since. Hoping that your memories of him will temper the sadness of his passing.

With warmest regard,

Marvin G. Dalla Rosa

Marvin G. Dalla Rosa - July 23, 2013 at 08:51 AM

CS

“ *Ms. Millsap, so sorry to hear of Mr. Millsap's passing. I pray that you may find peace in knowing he is with the Lord.*

Blessings

Charles Shelley

Charles Shelley - July 22, 2013 at 10:43 PM

CG

“ To one of the great educators of my life, Mr. Millsap! You knew you were valued. You knew you were believed in. He was always fair, full of grace and second chances. Let me share my senior counseling session at the end of my junior year as I met with Mr. Millsap to plan my senior classes. He said to me, " Chris, what do you want to do after you graduate?" I replied, " I want to go to the U of A " he said " you have a problem, as you know you failed Algebra 1 and to enter college you have to have Algebra 1 & 2." I replied "yes sir I know" and he said I'll make a deal with you, you take Algebra 1 & 2 first semester and you have a passing grade in Algebra 1, and you have a passing grade in Algebra 2 at the end of the year, I will give you credit for Algebra 1. At the end of my senior year I had passed both with a "B".

I always enjoyed visiting with Mr. Millsap, then and now as an adult. As a father I more fully understand the need for grace and second chances for my children and our young people. To the family I thank you for sharing your father and husband, I know your are blessed as I was and many others!

Thank you!

Chris Graves

Chris Graves - July 21, 2013 at 07:37 PM

ML

“ I graduated from Gentry High School in 1967. While waiting for the ceremony Principle Millsap handed me a letter. It was my acceptance to School of the Ozarks (a 4 year college in spite of the name), I had not known that he had applied for me. I have no doubt that I would never have attended college - I have a Bachelor's degree - without Walter David Millsap. May God bless and keep him and his.

Lt. Mikel Drexel Lott, Retired Rogers Police Department

Mikel Drexel Lott - July 21, 2013 at 10:28 AM

SY

“ Loretta, I just read about your sweet David's passing. My prayers have been said for all of you. Sheila Parsley Young

Sheila Parsley Young - July 21, 2013 at 01:07 AM

MF

“ Maxine Foster lit a candle in memory of Walter David Millsap



Maxine Foster - July 20, 2013 at 10:41 PM

BE

“ So sorry to hear of your loss. Many happy memories of "Mr. Millsap." Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

BettySoutherland - July 20, 2013 at 06:38 PM

JH

“ Mr. Millsap was one of those rare individuals that always said hello to any and all who passed by him. It never seemed to be an inconvenience to him to talk to any and everyone. I'm not sure there's a person in the 4 state area that he didn't know or at least recognize. 26 years after graduating from Gentry High, Mr. Millsap still knew me by my name, just as he did the first time I walked into school. He was a great and wonderful man who impacted so many lives. His presence at school functions will be missed. His presence in life will be deeply missed. Our prayers and thoughts are with you Ms. Loretta as well as the rest of your family. God Bless.

Jon Holt and Family

Jon Holt - July 20, 2013 at 04:53 PM

RA

“ *Mr. Millsap will be remembered for so many things. After hearing that he had gone to be with Jesus, my first thought was - he is whistling with our Lord and hearing well done good and faithful servant. Praying for you as you deal with such a great loss.*
Robert and Teddie Andrews

robert andrews - July 20, 2013 at 12:48 PM

SW

“ *Our prayers are with your family. Mr. Millsap was a very special man who touched and made a positive difference in so many peoples lives. God placed him here to do wonderful works and Mr. Millsap did just that to the best of his abilities. I respected him more than words can say, and I know all who knew him well felt the same. He lived a full life and he definately made a difference while he was here. May God comfort you during these times, and rest assured that Mr. Millsap is by God's side at this very moment.*

Steve Wilmott - July 20, 2013 at 09:37 AM

KD

“ *We wish to give our sympathy to the Milsap family and may you find comfort in a life well lived.* *Karen and Charles Digby*

Karen and Charles Digby - July 20, 2013 at 12:38 AM

TW

“ *Loretta and family, I have so many good memories of Mr. Millsap, from my high school years to just a few months ago. He always had a smile on his face, and in these later years, he reminded me so much of my dad. Loved him a lot, and he will be missed. My prayers are with you all.* *Tammy Weeks*

Tammy Weeks - July 19, 2013 at 10:28 PM

RN

“ To Loretta and Family;

Our hearts are broken on the loss of David. I (Randall) remember him from school. Lynn remembers she was the only one who could call him "David". To every one else he was "Mr. Millsap".



He is a great teacher, coach, and friend, a good mentor. We will always have him in our hearts.

Lynn and Randall Nix

Randall Nix - July 19, 2013 at 09:55 PM

DL

“ Loretta and Family,

We are so sorry to hear about David's passing. It was such an honor to have known him, you and family. God Bless and give you comfort during this difficult time.

Jerry and Dona Lawson

Dona Lawson - July 19, 2013 at 06:49 PM

RB

“ To Ms. Loretta and the Family,

There is so much that could be said to honor Mr. Millsap but words fail to express the great man he was on this earth. Better to think of the riches in Glory he has achieved in Jesus' Heaven.

I pray that Jesus will give you His peace and comfort in this brief time of separation from your loved one.

Like you, we will both miss him and look forward to seeing him again.

Randy and Regenia Barrett

Randy C. Barrett - July 19, 2013 at 03:05 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Walter David Millsap.



July 19, 2013 at 01:49 PM

TM

“ David was a kind man and a good neighbor. We will miss him dearly.



The Monreals - July 19, 2013 at 12:05 PM

MH

“ *Mary Sugg Holcomb lit a candle in memory of Walter David Millsap*



mary sugg holcomb - July 19, 2013 at 10:40 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Walter David Millsap.*



July 19, 2013 at 10:27 AM

SJ

“ *What an amazing kind wonderful man. There are really no words to describe him but we have great memories of Mr. Millsap. During our high school days, our ministry time at First Baptist and just having the pleasure and honor of knowing him. He and Loretta have always been special people. David will be truly missed but we know being in the Lords presence he is rejoicing and enjoying getting to be in the heavenly choir.*
Love to all the family,
Skip and Diane Jennings

Skip and Diane Jennings - July 19, 2013 at 10:26 AM

SJ

“ Skip And Diane Jennings lit a candle in memory of Walter David Millsap



Skip and Diane Jennings - July 19, 2013 at 10:20 AM

CG

“ Cheryl Gallaway lit a candle in memory of Walter David Millsap



Cheryl Gallaway - July 18, 2013 at 04:55 PM

CG

David and Loretta have been neighbors for many years, we will miss David he was always a joy to be around. Rest in peace David.

Cheryl Gallaway - July 18, 2013 at 04:55 PM

LM

Thanks, Cheryl. Even though we don't see you often it is good to have you for neighbors.

Loretta Millsap - July 23, 2013 at 09:33 PM

KW

“ Kimberly Willett lit a candle in memory of Walter David Millsap



kimberly willett - July 18, 2013 at 03:24 PM

TF

“ *The Marty and Marilyn Bayer Family purchased the Secret Garden Basket for the family of Walter David Millsap.*



The Marty and Marilyn Bayer Family - July 18, 2013 at 02:06 PM