



Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt

February 4, 1941 - November 8, 2025

Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt was born February 4, 1941, in Lula, Oklahoma, to C.L. "Blackie" Whisenhunt and Lora Mildred Marie Stevenson Whisenhunt. He died Saturday, November 8, 2025, in Owasso, Oklahoma, at the age of 84 years. Sam completed his secondary education in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and graduated with the East Central High School Class of 1959. He continued his education attending East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma, where he earned his bachelor's degree, then Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, where he earned his master's degree. This would be the beginning of a lifelong career in education as a teacher and counselor.

Sam was married on August 7, 1965, in Pecos, Texas, to Barbara Johnson. They made their home in Tulsa where Sam taught at Monroe Junior High before moving to Foster Junior High School where he also taught and began his career as a guidance counselor eventually moving to East Central High School as a counselor. After he retired from Tulsa Public School, he had a second career as a counselor at Tulsa Tech Airpark Campus. He considered his students success his life's work and was proud of all they accomplished. Sam was a strong man of faith and was a member of Central Baptist Church in Owasso where he served as a Trustee and on the building committee. He grew up in and was a charter member of Plainview Baptist Church in Tulsa where he was a Sunday School teacher, Deacon and served the congregation in many other capacities. He enjoyed a variety of pastimes including spending

time on the water fishing. He was also an excellent carpenter and his wooden cars, rocking horses, jewelry boxes, saddle stands, clocks and numerous other creations grace the homes of family and friends around the country. Sam was also known for the garden he kept his entire life and produce he shared with everyone—his pickled okra was prized by family and friends. Sam dearly loved his family, especially his grandchildren who affectionately knew him as “Papa”. Those he leaves behind who hold many cherished memories include:

His wife of over 60 years; Barbara

Two sons; Brian Lee Whisenhunt and husband Mitchell H. Smith

Eric Dwayne Whisenhunt and wife Becca Whisenhunt

Grandchildren; Lora Marie Whisenhunt

Samuel Lee Whisenhunt

Daxton Barrett Whisenhunt

He was preceded in death by his parents, and sister, Donna Marie Whisenhunt

Funeral service will be held 2:00 p.m. Friday, November 14, 2025, at the Mowery Funeral Service Chapel in Owasso with Pastor Clayton Chisum officiating. Final resting place will be at Lula Cemetery in Lula, Oklahoma with his parents, sister and many other relatives. Arrangements and services were entrusted to Mowery Funeral Service of Owasso.

www.moweryfs.com

Previous Events

Memorial Fund

NOV 14. 2:00 PM (CT)

East Central Alumni & Community Foundation
P.O. Box 691622
Tulsa, OK 74169
cardinal@echsfoundation.com
<https://www.echsfoundation.com>

Memorial Fund

NOV 14. 2:00 PM (CT)

Oklahoma Baptist Disaster Relief
300 Johnny Bench Dr. Suite 300
Oklahoma City, OK 73104

<https://www.okdisasterhelp.org/donate/>

Memorial Service

NOV 14. 2:00 PM (CT)

Mowery Funeral Service Chapel
9110 North Garnett Road
Owasso, OK 74055

Tribute Wall

EW

“ Emily W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt.

Emily W. - November 22, 2025 at 09:52 PM

AW

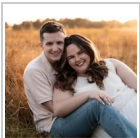
“ Mr Whisenhunt, as I knew him, lives in my memory as one of the few truly good human beings I've had the pleasure of knowing. I lived the past in the obituary where he saw his students' success as his personal mission. I found his care and kindness to be so genuine that even almost 40 years later, I remain inspired by this man. He may not have even remembered me, but i won't forget him.

Alex Wilson - November 22, 2025 at 01:28 PM

BW

Alexa, thank you for your kind words. I'm sure he would remember you and any siblings you might have had. And probably tell some stories about you. He was proud of his students!

Barbara Whisenhunt - November 23, 2025 at 01:46 PM



“ When meeting Sam for the first time, I asked him “what is your favorite memory?” He said his favorite memory was the day he met Barbara, knowing that she was going to be the one he would spend the rest of his life with.

Erin Johnson - November 19, 2025 at 08:31 PM

BW

Erin, thank you for sharing that!! It's of my favorite memories as well.

Barbara Whisenhunt - November 23, 2025 at 01:49 PM

BZ

“ *Uncle Sam lovingly made a doll cradle for my daughter Grace (his great-niece) when she was young. When she outgrew it, she gave it to my niece Rosemary, who used it for her dolls. Now I am taking it back to Wisconsin for my 2-year old granddaughter Hilda (Grace's daughter) to play with. It is so precious that it has come full circle.*

Beth Johnson Ziesmer - November 14, 2025 at 03:09 PM

PF

“ *Paola F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt.*

Paola F. - November 14, 2025 at 02:02 PM

RN

“ *Mr. Whisenhunt was my guidance counselor in high school. I found him to be warm, caring person, which mattered a lot at that developmental age when we're wondering where we wanna go for college and what we wanna do with their life. He was a really good man.*

Rick van Nostrand - November 14, 2025 at 09:44 AM

BW

Thank you, Rick. Being a help to students is why he loved his job so very much.

Barbara Whisenhunt - November 23, 2025 at 01:54 PM

BZ

“ One of my oldest memories of Uncle Sam was at Johnson Camp with Grandma and Grandpa, my parents, Sara, Mark and me, all the aunts and uncles, and all the cousins. I remember Uncle Sam and Uncle Steve cooking the rainbow trout we had all caught that day. It was delicious!



Beth Johnson Ziesmer - November 14, 2025 at 12:51 AM

JL

“ Joanne L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt.

Joanne L. - November 13, 2025 at 04:00 PM

BJ

“ My favorite Uncle Sam moment: He and my dad had taken 6 elementary-ish aged boys fishing. We had no luck. On the way home, he pulled into a dumpy gas station/convenience store and asked us all, “Who wants a Cherry slushie?” Six boys shouted out all the different flavors we preferred. He got quiet again and asked bluntly: “Who wants a Cherry Slushie?” We all figured out quickly that it was Cherry Slushies or nothing.

Barrett Johnson - November 12, 2025 at 10:33 PM

BZ

That is such a sweet memory.

Beth Johnson Ziesmer - November 14, 2025 at 12:52 AM

BW

That's a great memory, Barrett. So glad it made an impression on you. Thanks for sharing.

Barbara Whisenhunt - November 23, 2025 at 01:55 PM

LG

“ Love, Suzie and Randy Gilbert planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt.

Love, Suzie and Randy Gilbert - November 12, 2025 at 09:00 AM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt.



November 12, 2025 at 09:00 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt.



November 12, 2025 at 08:58 AM

SS

“ Mr. Whisenhunt was not only my school counselor from the 7th to the 12th grade, but he was also my Sunday School teacher at Plainview Baptist Church for many of those years. To say that he left an impression on my life is an understatement. He truly cared for his student, their grades, their welfare and their faith. He lived what he taught. Mr. Whisenhunt truly had a major part in me accepting Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior and my later growth as a Christian. I often reflect on those years of my life and remember Mr. Whisenhunt. As Ray Boltz said in his song, “Thank You for Serving the Lord, I am a life that was changed !”

Steve Strate

Steve Strate - November 11, 2025 at 10:47 PM

BZ

That is so beautiful.

Beth Johnson Ziesmer - November 14, 2025 at 12:53 AM

BW

Steve, thank you for sharing about Sam! That is so special.

Barbara Whisenhunt - February 09 at 09:43 PM

LH

“ Thank you Mr. Whisenhunt for being not only an amazing person but also one of the best school counselors anyone could ask for!! You made a lasting impression on me! You guided me in the right direction when it came to academics and just life in general ! It was an honor being your office aide! Forever grateful for you 🙏

Lisa Houston - November 11, 2025 at 07:15 PM

BW

Thank you Lisa. I know he would love your comment.

Barbara Whisenhunt - February 09 at 09:44 PM

RR

“ Roxy and Bob Roland planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt.

Roxy and Bob Roland - November 11, 2025 at 05:39 PM

RR

“ Roxy and Bob Roland purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt.



Roxy and Bob Roland - November 11, 2025 at 05:39 PM

AE

“ Anne Elfrink planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt.

Anne Elfrink - November 11, 2025 at 05:12 PM

AE

“ Anne Elfrink purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt.



Anne Elfrink - November 11, 2025 at 05:12 PM

SP

“ I met Sam and Barbara at Plainview Baptist Church many years ago. They were the young adult Sunday school teachers. Both Sam and Barbara showed Jesus’ kindness, goodness, and love to every member of that class. I am so thankful for them both! Although Sam will be missed here, I know Sam is loving being with our Lord!

Sarah Prather - November 11, 2025 at 04:44 PM

BW

Sarah, thank you for your comment. You and your family were so very special to us. If you have my number, please call me.

Barbara Whisenhunt - February 09 at 09:47 PM

LF

“ Laura Wade West and family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt.



Laura Wade West and family - November 11, 2025 at 04:25 PM

RB

“ Richard, Jeanie, Tammy, and Bart planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt.

Richard, Jeanie, Tammy, and Bart - November 11, 2025 at 12:04 PM



“ *Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Dwayne Lee "Sam" Whisenhunt.*



November 11, 2025 at 12:04 PM