



Eldon James Sams

May 3, 1942 - February 20, 2025

Eldon James Sams, 82, passed away on February 20, 2025, in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Born on May 3, 1942, in Perry, Oklahoma, Eldon was the son of Courtland and April Murphy Sams. He shared a special bond with his twin sister, Ethma "Sami" Barham, who never let him forget that she was five minutes older. He attended Central High School in downtown Tulsa before embarking on a life filled with hard work and dedication.

Eldon proudly served in the United States Marine Corps during two separate enlistments, from 1961 to 1965 and again from 1972 to 1975. His time in the military instilled in him a strong sense of discipline and resilience that carried through his life.

A skilled mechanic and long-haul trucker by trade, Eldon spent many years on the road, ensuring goods reached their destinations while also mastering the intricacies of engines and machinery. His hands were rarely idle—whether fixing an engine or crafting something from wood, he took pride in his work.

Beyond his career, Eldon had a deep appreciation for life's simple pleasures. He enjoyed fishing on quiet mornings, collecting coins that told stories of history, square dancing and competing, and delving into genealogy to trace

his family's roots. He had a passion for carpentry and could often be found working on projects with precision and care. In his downtime, he loved watching *Gold Rush* and old Western movies while indulging in one of his favorite meals—KFC chicken.

Eldon is survived by his beloved cats, Chester and Oscar; his sons Richard Barto, Scott Barto, Michael Barto, and Corky Sams; his daughters Angel Cox and Wendi Bowen; as well as 15 grandchildren—Timothy, Victoria, Tiffany, Malissa, Maranda, David, Benjamin, Laura, Christopher, Brandon, Amanda, Jessica, Ryleigh, Kaedynn, and Liam, 15 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his son Randall Sams; his elder brother Nathan Sams; and his twin sister Ethma "Sami" Barham and her husband Robert Barham.

Eldon's legacy lives on through the family and the memories he created with those who knew him. May his memory bring comfort to all who mourn his passing.

A visitation will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at Mowery Funeral Service. Funeral service will be held 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at the Mowery Funeral Service Chapel.

Cemetery Details

Floral Haven Memorial Gardens

6500 South 129th East Avenue
Broken Arrow, OK 74012

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **25**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mowery Funeral Service
9110 N. Garnett Rd.
Owasso, OK 74055
(918) 272-6244
<https://www.moweryfs.com/>

Funeral Service

FEB **26**. 10:00 AM (CT)

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

Tribute Wall

FG

“ Ferguson Buick GMC purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Eldon James Sams.



Ferguson Buick GMC - February 26, 2025 at 09:50 AM

FG

“ Ferguson Buick GMC planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eldon James Sams.

Ferguson Buick GMC - February 26, 2025 at 09:50 AM

SR

“ Sonya Rios purchased the Simply Elegant Spathi phyllum for the family of Eldon James Sams.



Sonya Rios - February 21, 2025 at 09:57 PM

SR

“ Sonya Rios planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eldon James Sams.

Sonya Rios - February 21, 2025 at 09:57 PM

LK

“ *Lisa Brunson-Smith & Rachael Knight purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Eldon James Sams.*



Lisa Brunson-Smith & Rachael Knight - February 21, 2025 at 03:19 PM

LK

“ *Lisa Brunson-Smith & Rachael Knight planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eldon James Sams.*

Lisa Brunson-Smith & Rachael Knight - February 21, 2025 at 03:19 PM