



W. Leon Ward

August 7, 1942 - February 8, 2017

'William Leon Ward was born August 7, 1942, in Green Forest, Arkansas, to James Wilburn and Chleo Geneva Hughes Ward. He died Wednesday, February 8, 2017, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the age of 74 years. Leon was reared and educated in Harrison, Arkansas, and graduated with the Harrison High School Class of 1960. He continued his education at Arkansas State Teacher's College, now the University of Central Arkansas, in Conway, Arkansas, where he also played baseball as a catcher. More importantly, he met the love of his life Beverly Ann Scott, and was married June 24, 1962, in Harrison. Leon spent 14 years in management with Montgomery-Ward and 34 years with Wal-Mart management. He went to Blackwell, Oklahoma, in 1980, then to Ponca City, Oklahoma, as the first Wal-Mart manager in Store #823, before retiring in 2010. He was Boss of the Year at the Ponca City store in 1986, which was also named Store of the Year in 1987. He was also a member of the Ponca City Jaycees. In 2012, Leon and Bev celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. In 2015 they moved from Ponca City to Owasso, Oklahoma, to be near their family. Leon and Bev were members of the First Assembly of God in Owasso and have been active in Assembly of God churches all their married life. Leon played semi-pro baseball in Oklahoma and Arkansas for three years as well as fast pitch softball in Kansas. He coached little league pony league baseball, football, and basketball. He worked in Boy Scouts as a leader and Scoutmaster. He started the first Royal Rangers group in Springdale, Arkansas, at the First Assembly of God. He was named Man of the Year at that church and served in several churches as board member and Sunday School Superintendent. He was also an avid fan of Oklahoma State University sports and the St. Louis Cardinals. Loving family members include: Wife; Bev, of the home Two sons and daughters-in-law; Kevin Ward and his wife Wendy, of Paragould, Arkansas Scott Ward and his wife Tonya, of Owasso, Oklahoma Five grandchildren; Blake Ward, Madison Ward, Jared Ward, Stephanie Smith and her husband Ryan, and Heather Ward. Great grandson; Mason Smith And a host of other relatives and friends. Funeral service will be held 11:00 a.m. Monday February 20, 2017, at the First Assembly of God, 1329 West Stephenson Avenue, Harrison, AR 72601. Arrangements and services were entrusted to Mowery Funeral Service of Owasso.'

Tribute Wall

TG

“ *I'm so sorry to hear Leon has passed. I shared many a good conversation with Leon, He was a great guy! Im proud to have been his Barber, and more so to call him my friend!* ”

Troy Graham - February 22, 2017 at 04:39 PM

JH

“ *'So sorry for your family's loss! Faith without seeing means we shall meet again!* ”

Joe and Joy Harmon - February 21, 2017 at 04:24 AM

DS

“ *'Our Heart felt prayers and warm thoughts are with you . Sending lots of Hugs and Love. \r\nWe Love You All\r\nDawson and Hart'* ”

Dawson and Hart Smith - February 20, 2017 at 05:12 PM

DJ

“ *'So sorry for your loss. Leon was a great boss and friend. He and Bev were like family. My prayers are with you all, my you all feel God''s comfort and strength in you time of sorrow.'* ”

Danna Johnson - February 16, 2017 at 03:50 AM

JK

“ *'So sorry to hear about your loss, thoughts and prayers for you and your family.'* ”

Jeff Kysar - February 15, 2017 at 07:53 PM

LF

“ *'So sorry to read about your father's passing. \r\nWe will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers.'* ”

Linda & Danny Futrell - February 14, 2017 at 03:03 PM

DK

“ *'Prayers for you and your family '* ”

Debi KYSAR - February 14, 2017 at 01:29 PM

SH

“ *'Our family is praying for you all. We love you!! I will never forget Leon telling me to pick between me or Len for a job with Walmart. I told him he better pick Ken cause I wouldn't stick with it. I was right, Leon helped us to have a 26 year career with Walmart! Leon was a precious man and we love you all very much!!'*

Susan Hoyle - February 14, 2017 at 02:46 AM

JH

“ *'Leon will be missed by his friends and relatives. However we know we shall see him again. Praying for you Beverley and family.'*

Julius & Mary Hocker - February 14, 2017 at 01:30 AM

SL

“ *'Enjoyed working with Leon at the Blackwell and Ponca City stores. When he would come in after he retired i was always greeted with his famous Hey Guy! Thoughts and prayers to Bev, Kevin and Scott. '*

Scott Lucas - February 14, 2017 at 12:41 AM

BG

“ *'Our heartfelt condolences to You all. He will be missed. '*

Bud and Robin Gardner - February 13, 2017 at 11:59 PM

BL

“ *'I worked with him at Wal-Mart. Thoughts be with everyone today and in the days ahead.'*

Bobbie Lucas - February 13, 2017 at 11:29 PM

CT

“ *'Thinking of your family during this difficult time.'*

Christie Tivis - February 13, 2017 at 05:52 PM