



## William Michael Polk

December 3, 1949 - February 28, 2025

William Michael “Mike” Polk was born December 3, 1949, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to William Frank Polk and Bertha Maye Brawley. He was raised by his father, Frank, and mother Jessie LaRaye Jenkins Damme Polk. He died Friday, February 28, 2025, in Collinsville, Oklahoma, at the age of 75 years. Mike completed his secondary education in Haskell, Oklahoma, and graduated with the Haskell High School Class of 1968. He continued his education attending Bacone College in Muskogee, Oklahoma, before earning his Bachelor’s degree in education at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Mike was married February 14, 1976, Valentine’s Day, in Checotah, Oklahoma, to Mary Vandiver. He began a longtime successful career as a history teacher and coach which took him to Porter, Checotah, Owasso, Coweta, and Oologah. He coached boys and girls basketball as well as football, softball, baseball, golf, and track. He led the Owasso Lady Rams to the 1990 Class 5A State Championship, the first in their basketball history. Some of Mike’s other cherished accomplishments in his career included the 1985 Oklahoma High School All-State Girls Basketball Coach for the Large East and Large East Offensive Coach of the Year, 1990 Frontier Conference Girls Coach of the Year, 1990 Oklahoma High School Coaches Association Girls Basketball Coach of the Year, 1990 All-State Large East Coach, and coach for the Oklahoma/Iowa All-Star games in Iowa in 1990.. Mike enjoyed a variety of pastimes, which typically revolved around the sporting events of his grandkids in his latter years. Most recently, he was still

keeping stats for his grandchildren's games with the Collinsville Cardinals. Mike relished his role as "Papa" to his grandkids, and also loved supporting all their teammates and coaches. He also enjoyed working daily crossword puzzles, reading, and the occasional poker games with friends, winning most of the time. Those he leaves behind who hold a lifetime of cherished memories include:

His wife of over 49 years; Mary

Daughter; Lindsey Schlomann and husband Brett

Son; Grant Polk and wife April

Grandsons; Chayse Schlomann and Callan Schlomann

Granddaughters; Marlow Polk and Harper Polk

Sisters; Rannah Perryman and husband Butch

Jalae Polk

Brother; Jonathan Polk and wife Jennifer

He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Faye, O'Connor, and father, Frank Polk.

Visitation will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 5, 2025, at Mowery Funeral Service in Owasso. Funeral service will be held 10:00 a.m. Thursday, March 6, 2025, at First Baptist Church of Owasso with Pastor Matthew Vandiver officiating. Serving as casket bearers will be Billy Oliver, Bob Coke, Danny Foster, Shane Eicher, Frosty Turpen, Mike Boyd, Rodney Goins, Roger Smith, and Jimmy McLish. Honorary casket bearers will be Larry Cariker, Larry Kennedy, Ron Ward, Jerry Thompson, Gary Nichols, Jonathan Polk, and Butch Perryman. Committal service and interment will follow at Graceland Memorial Park Cemetery in Owasso, Oklahoma.

# Cemetery Details

## Graceland Memorial Park Cemetery

Highway 169 and Highway 20  
Owasso, OK 74055

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 5. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

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

## Funeral Service

MAR 6. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church Owasso  
13307 East 96th Street North  
Owasso, OK 74055

# Tribute Wall

BS

“ I have so many great memories with Coach Polk! I was blessed to be a senior on the 1990 State Championship Team. We worked hard, but there was such a fun and relaxed atmosphere, a closeness that may only come from a team going all the way and bringing the trophy home. Coach was smart and confident: in one game, we were behind, I was fouled and had a free throws to shoot. He was telling us the game plan for after I made the shots, looks me straight in the eye and said, “And you WILL make the shots!” and finishes the plan. I walked back on the court telling myself, “Coach said I’ll make it, so I’ll make it” ...and I did. It was just a subtle way he put confidence in us. He built us up. He challenged us. He loved us. He inspired us. When we were going into the championship game, playing Ponca, who had already beat us 2 of the 3 meetings, he (and the great Larry Cariker!) just flat out-coached them. He instilled in us specific tasks: Chandler @ point just took over, Ayers completely shut down their leading scorer, I took on the coaches daughter who was a guard, but would post up and dominate, and did my best to quiet her contribution (side note, we both fouled out, but she did 1st!) Thanks Coach, for so much!!  
Love you, Beth Smither

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**Beth Smither** - March 06, 2025 at 09:10 AM

MH

“ Coach Polk was my high school basketball coach for three years at Owasso High School. I have been a coach now for 15 years. The gift he gave me that I wish coaches today could give their players was the gift of laughing. He always liked to tease and tell a joke. I never realized how valuable this was to me as a player. Basketball was always fun under him. He allowed you to just enjoy the game. It took me all these years of coaching and seeing that this gets lost in the perfectionism now in this day and age. Thank you Coach Polk for the memories of the game that way: You made it fun. Michelle Hazelip

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**Michele Hazelip** - March 05, 2025 at 10:53 PM

BP

“ Coach Polk was my favorite coach ... I also loved his history class bc he made it so interesting. I was lucky enough to get to cut his hair all these years after I finished high school and I treasure those talks we still got to have even just a few weeks ago . He would tell me how much better my daughter is at basketball than I ever was and she's only 11 . He kept me laughing . Always. Thankful for such a great Coach and friend , I will miss him ❤️

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**Britny Porter** - March 05, 2025 at 10:46 PM

RR

*I only know Mike Polk when he played Basketball at Haskell Oklahoma,He is 7 years older than me,But he was well liked and respected at Haskell Oklahoma*

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**Rom Redding** - March 10, 2025 at 02:00 PM

BB

“ Mr. Polk was my history teacher when I was in middle school. He was also so fun and always knew how to teach history where you had fun with it but also understood it. He was always so sweet and genuinely cared for his students. I loved him so much

Bailey Black - March 05, 2025 at 09:17 PM

DE

“ I ended up jumping on the golf team my senior year by the graces of Coach Polk. Coach was watching me on a par 3 as I over shot the green 3 different times, we both had to be chuckling because I wasn't the greatest golfer. He hollered "go for it D" and my next shot was chipped straight into the hole from about 45 yards out. It was for bogey but we both enjoyed it as if it was a hole in 1. Coach always had a positive spin on every situation. He will be missed tremendously.

Dakotah Edwards - March 05, 2025 at 08:56 PM

CP

“ Mr Polk was such a good history teacher in 6th grade! His class was fun because we got to watch a show every time we got to class first thing and he was so funny. He will be missed! One of Oologahs best teachers!



Cheyenne Pisciotta - March 05, 2025 at 05:34 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William Michael Polk.



March 05, 2025 at 03:59 PM



“ Mike was a neighbor when we were kids. We had such fun growing up. I remember there was lots of fun, our Moms were great friends.

Mary Riggins - March 05, 2025 at 12:45 PM

JC

“ Janae C. purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of William Michael Polk.



Janae C. - March 05, 2025 at 11:20 AM

JC

“ Janae C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Michael Polk.

Janae C. - March 05, 2025 at 11:20 AM

JR

“ Mike was one of my best friends & classmates at HHS. He excelled at any sport he chose and was the best choice for a class & team leader. I pray his soul rests in Heaven and he is granted forever peace.

Jack Rhodes - March 05, 2025 at 10:43 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of William Michael Polk.*



March 05, 2025 at 10:39 AM



“ *Jack L. Rhodes (Buddy) Holyoke, CO purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William Michael Polk.*



**Jack L. Rhodes (Buddy) Holyoke, CO** - March 05, 2025 at 10:32 AM



“ *I loved working with Mike. His joy, humor and stories. He was truly a person who made a lasting difference in this life and left the world a much better place. I am so sorry for your loss.*

**Ian & Linda Losee** - March 05, 2025 at 09:27 AM



“ *Grant and Family-  
I was sad to hear that Mike passed. I remember him always having a good laugh when I would be at the Pitt State baseball games when Mark and I were in college. Please know that both of us are thinking of you.  
Juliana Hudson*

**Juliana Hudson** - March 05, 2025 at 08:57 AM

TG

“ *The Gilligans purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William Michael Polk.*



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**The Gilligans** - March 04, 2025 at 08:09 PM

KO

“ *I will always remember Coach Polk and his relationship with my grandson Jacob Mader to whom he gave the nickname Meadowlark Lemon because he was always trying out some fancy shooting or ball handling. Jacob absolutely adored Coach and by extension, so did I. He had such a profound influence on so many young people and for that, we will be forever grateful. Rest in peace Coach. You will be missed by many.*

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**Kathryn Ouverson** - March 04, 2025 at 03:27 PM

CC

“ *Cardinal HS Boys 3 Point Booster Club purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of William Michael Polk.*



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**Cardinal HS Boys 3 Point Booster Club** - March 04, 2025 at 01:28 PM



“ I’ll never forget driving a bunch of drunk girls around in Debbie Angelo Wilkins big Lincoln to Mike’s house at 2 in the morning and him getting up and allowing us to come inside of so we wouldn’t attract any more attention in the neighborhood (after we had graduated of course, LOL).

*Angie Beaman Miller*

Dr. Angie Miller (Beaman) - March 04, 2025 at 12:14 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of William Michael Polk.



March 04, 2025 at 12:09 PM



“ 1985 Owasso Girls Basketball Team purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of William Michael Polk.



1985 Owasso Girls Basketball Team - March 04, 2025 at 09:53 AM

BC

“ *Bob and Debbie Coke Kari and Chris purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of William Michael Polk.*



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**Bob and Debbie Coke Kari and Chris** - March 03, 2025 at 01:26 PM

FL

“ *Fred & Barby Oliver, Mecca, & Lindsay purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William Michael Polk.*



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**Fred & Barby Oliver, Mecca, & Lindsay** - March 03, 2025 at 01:02 PM

FO

“ *So sorry to hear of the loss of Coach Polk. I coached with him during my time at Owasso from 1980-85. He was a joy to be around. Always made you laugh and had a positive attitude. I know he will be missed. Condolences from Barby and me.  
RIP Mike!  
Coach Fred Oliver & Barby*

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**FRED E OLIVER** - March 03, 2025 at 12:52 PM