

Marvin Jerrel Henderson

Life long Norman resident, Marvin Jerrel Henderson passed away Saturday, June 6, 2009 in Norman, Oklahoma after a brief illness. Known to his close friends and family as Jerrel, he was born June 2, 1925 to Clara and Mose Henderson. He is survived by his son Jerrel and his wife Dianne of Norman, their children Stephen of Norman, Scott and his wife Brandolyn of Las Vegas, Nevada, his daughter Barbara of Norman, his sister Marie Lovelace and her husband Tom of Oklahoma City, his sister Betty Hunt of Riverside, California and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, June and a son, Terry. He was also preceded in death by nine brothers and one sister. He was a long time member of Westside Church of Christ and had been active in teaching bible classes and when needed would fill in for other preachers. He loved his church activities and enjoyed the fellowship of his Christian friends.

1. He loved to tell stories and he took great pride in his life of hard work and dedication to his family and his faith. We listened to many stories about how he wasn't able to stay in school as long as he would have liked but he knew that jobs were scarce and he was willing to try just about anything to help his family. After the 9th grade, he went to Lawton and sold hot peanuts on the street and slept on an army cot to save money, he also took a summer job at Bellevue Amusement Park in Sulphur, again, sleeping on a cot and sending his earnings home to his mom and dad. Then, back in Norman, he landed a great job with Bogle's Service Station at Asp and White Street. Mr. Bogle asked him if he could drive and he said "Sure, I can drive"he was only 15 and had never been behind the wheel of a car before. Bu he learned quickly and was soon making a commission for bringing in the taxi business and even ended up buying a car from some broke college boys who were out of gas. Best job he ever had, he would say. Maybe because this was also where he met the love of his life, June. They met in 1941 and were married in 1942. They were together 37 years before she passed away in 1978.

He joined the Army Air Corps in 1942 and after his service he again came back to Norman where he worked at a variety of jobs. He was quite proud of the fact that he cooked in most every café in Norman back then. There was The Chicken Shack, McCall's, O.D. Simms, and the famous Levi's. Plus, he was pastry cook at the Bake Rite Bakery on Main Street and would tell of making 200 pies every night. In 1951 Jerrel went to work at Tinker Air Force Base. He stayed there until 1960 when he left and went to Fletcher, Oklahoma where he preached for a year. He then moved back to Norman and again worked in the restaurant business, Jamco Mfg., and was head of maintenance for John A. Brown Co. in Oklahoma City. He also continued to preach at small towns such as Blanchard and Wanette. He returned to civil service with the FAA Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center as an electrician and maintenance foreman. He retired in 1985. He was a wonderful fisherman, carpenter and of all things a computer techie.

Jerrel was a kind and generous man who leaves behind so many who loved him. Most special to him were his grandsons Scott and Stephen Henderson, whom he dearly loved and who dearly loved him. He made the world a better place and he will be truly missed by all who knew him.

There will be a visitation Monday, June 8 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Havenbrook Funeral Home. Funeral Services will be held at 10:00 Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at Westside Church of Christ with Leon Dennis officiating. Interment will follow at the I.O.O.F. in Norman, Oklahoma. Services are under the direction of Havenbrook Funeral Home of Norman, Oklahoma. In lieu of flowers, please make

donations in Jerrel's name to the Norman Veterans Center, Donated Fund, 1776 E. Robinson,
Norman, OK 73070

Send condolences online at <http://www.havenbrookfuneralhome.com/Obituaries.htm>