



## Perry J Baker

March 30, 1935 - May 1, 2020

Perry John (“Pete”) Baker, 85, a longtime Fairland resident and educator, passed away May 1, 2020 at Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He was born March 30, 1935 in Bernice, Oklahoma to Vent Ray and Jewell Alberta (Wynn) Baker. Pete married Arlene Roberta Cata on October 5, 1957 in Miami, Oklahoma.

He went on to attain his Master’s degree at Wichita State University in 1958 in Industrial Arts.

He was preceded in passing by his parents Vent Ray Baker and Jewell Alberta Baker Dover, two brothers Robert M. Baker and Billy R. Baker and his daughter-in-law Lea Ann Baker.

Survivors include his love of sixty-three years Roberta Baker of the home, son John Robert Baker, daughter Nancy Arlene Charles & husband John Charles, grandchildren Kellie Ray Brady and her husband Charle, Carla Meshell Brake, Megan Kay Cooper-Beard, Kristina Belcher and her husband Nate, Rachael Pate, Dustin Charles and Jacob Charles, his great-grandchildren Anaya, Chloe, Walker and Beckham Brady, Preston and Lainey Brake, Jack and Henry Beard, Cole and Cade Belcher, Issac, Elijah and Emma Turner, Kaylee Pate,

Jaylen Bassford, Isabella and Adelyn Rodgers, his brother Daniel Dover, and three sisters Olive Mae Goad, Patricia Carter and Phyllis Dover.

Perry was given the nickname of "Pete" by his aunt Jane Philpott when he was a youngster.

He and Roberta made their home in Fairland where they were both well-known and well-liked school teachers.

He instilled a good work ethic in his children, John and Nancy. Pete wanted to help everybody; he had a great smile that he used to charm everyone, whether he knew them or not. That great smile even charmed Arlene Roberta he loved her eyes. He said that Roberta's black eyes dance like lightning.

He was a loving father and husband devoted to his family.

He was a spiritual man and attended Hudson Creek Baptist Church in Fairland, Oklahoma where he accepted Jesus as his Savior along with his children. He also attended Southern Hills Baptist Church in Miami, Ok.

He taught Driver's Education, coached football, and coached girls and boys basketball. He had several winning girls basketball teams during his years of coaching.

He enjoyed gardening and yard work as evidenced by the clean atmosphere of his country home. He would grow extra vegetables so that he could give them away. He was so generous to everyone.

He enjoyed building as evidenced by the many homes he built and fine furniture, such as grandfather clocks, grandmother clocks, granddaughter clocks, hutches and cedar chests.

He was very friendly and treated everyone fairly. You could always find him speaking with strangers. He had a good sense of humor and a smile for you.

He liked having fun, telling jokes, teasing, and pulling jokes on family and friends. He also told many stories.

He also played cards, such as Spades, Hearts, Pitch, and was very good at winning. He and Arlene were in a bowling league for several years.

He liked frogs and collected many different types and shapes of ornamental frogs.

He enjoyed fishing for crappie, catfish and spoonbill with his childhood buddies Chuck, Bill, Elmer, Paul, Junior, Wayne, Stanley, his son, daughter, nieces, and nephews. He noodled catfish with his bare hands. One of them was a 62 lb. catfish!

One time his son John went with him and Elmer to noodle. John while in the water trying to get up his nerve asked, "Dad how do you know if a snake is in one of these holes?" Pete said, "You'll know!" John said, "How?" Pete said, "Every hair on your body will stand up!" John left the water and never went noodling again.

Pete enjoyed hunting quail with his son John & many friends and his favorite bird dog named Red. His friends and family always talked about how he was so fast on the draw and bagged more quail than anyone else.

He loved spending time with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren going fishing, camping, and having many fish fries with family and friends.

In the summers we would always go on a two week

vacation to see friends and new places: many camping trips to Roaring River in Missouri, Yellowstone National Park in Colorado, Glacier National Park in Montana and Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming.

He would always have a big fish fry at our Indian Ceremonial grounds every summer. It was our annual Green Corn Ceremonial time when we gave thanks for the plentiful harvests, children received their Indian names, we played games and visited with our relatives and friends for a week. Everyone knew that when Dad fried

fish they wanted to come say “Hello” and eat with us. He truly enjoyed it and so did many of our tribal people.

Pete was loved by everyone who met him. He was the rock in the family willing to help out family and friends. He was a great compassionate loving man and will be missed dearly.

“DAD”

I thank you, God, for my Dad,  
Who understood when things went bad;  
Who reigned supreme in his armchair  
And ruled our home from his throne there.  
A pillar of strength without a fuss,  
He worked day and night to provide for us.  
A Companion in my tender years,  
He molded my thoughts and calmed my fears.  
The backbone of our family—  
This is “Dad” from our memory.  
We miss you Pete but we know that you are in Heaven  
with your family.

In Arlene’s native tongue there are no “Good-byes”

only: "Until we meet again."

Due to Covid the family was not able to have a service or visitation when Pete passed.

There has been scheduled a Visitation on Saturday, May 7, 2022 from 2:00 PM until 5:00 PM at Brown-Winters Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Fairland.

Friends and family can share notes of encouragement by viewing Pete's Tribute Page at [www.brown-winters.com](http://www.brown-winters.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY 7. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Brown-Winters Funeral Home and Cremation Service (Fairland)

101 W. Conner

Fairland, OK 74343

(918) 676-3311

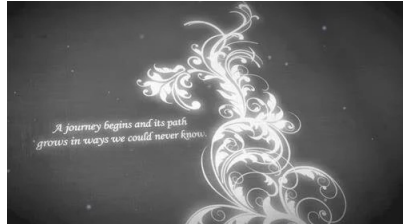
[info@brown-winters.com](mailto:info@brown-winters.com)

<https://www.brown-winters.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Brown-Winters Funeral Home and Cremation Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Perry J Baker*



**Brown-Winters Funeral Home and Cremation Service** - May 05, 2022 at 03:35 PM



“ *353 files added to the album LifeTributes*



**Brown-Winters Funeral Home and Cremation Service** - May 04, 2022 at 05:58 PM

CT

“ *Couch Baker was a great man, even though I only had him one year going to Fairland, he would always talk to me out in the public. RIP*

**Cheryl Tallman** - May 04, 2022 at 10:36 AM

SL

“ 7 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Sean W Logan** - September 03, 2020 at 10:18 AM

RH

“ *I will miss my fishing buddy. I still use my training from wood shop class. My deepest condolences to Roberta*

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**Ron Haynes** - May 20, 2020 at 11:21 PM

KT

“ *Kara Turner lit a candle in memory of Perry J Baker*



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**Kara Turner** - May 19, 2020 at 08:59 AM

MM

“ We are so sorry for your lost and our friend we will never forget him. He always had a story to tell us. A big smie on his face that lit up the room and made others smile. Take care Roberts he will be looking over you the same way he has for years and you him.

*Love Always*

*Mike and Cheryl McKibben*

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**Mike and Cheryl McKibben** - May 09, 2020 at 03:29 PM



*We were all blessed to know and serve Mr Baker. Praying for God's comfort and strength for you.*

*Ron Kelly*

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**Ron Kelly** - May 15, 2020 at 02:25 PM

BS

“ So saddened to hear of Pete's passing. We enjoyed 60+ years with Pete (and Roberta).

*We enjoyed many good times in Wichita, Kansas together--playing cards, eating and enjoying each others company. When we decided to move back to Oklahoma, we had Pete build us a house on some lake property we had. We moved into our new home in February, 1996. Pete had moved back to Fairland before we moved. Again we were blessed to have him and Roberta in our lives. We enjoyed fishing, playing cards and eating at each others homes. A lot of good memories were made. We hated to see them move to Oklahoma City when Pete's health started failing, but it was for the best. Prayers and hugs to Roberta, John Robert & Nancy during this difficult time.*

*Bill & Ruth Spotts*

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**Bill & Ruth Spotts** - May 07, 2020 at 08:34 PM

TL

“ *Tisha Linn lit a candle in memory of Perry J Baker*



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**Tisha Linn** - May 07, 2020 at 05:54 PM

TS

“ *Coach Baker taught me RESPECT! Smiling fondly as I write this! My Coach ! Ted Sheppard.*

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**Ted Sheppard** - May 06, 2020 at 07:19 PM

SW

“ *I have very fond memories of coach Baker. I remember in our woodworking class at Afton how difficult it was to get him to write his coveted "PB" initials on the edges of our footstool projects (signifying we achieved perfect straight edges and 90° corners). Some Afton classmates will remember we had to handplane the boards and get perfect 90° corners before we were allowed to proceed to the next steps in the project. Judging by the number of us who had trouble achieving this without using modern powertools, this must have been a tough task. It was hard to meet Mr. Baker's high standards, but he taught us some great life lessons.*

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**Steve Williams** - May 05, 2020 at 09:54 PM

SW

*Also ... I still have the cedar chest, stereo cabinet, and hand carved wooden bowl I made in coach Baker's class. I often think of him when I see them.*

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**Steve Williams** - May 05, 2020 at 09:58 PM

CM

“ I enjoyed Pete's humor and seeing him and Roberta together on most mornings I would see them at breakfast during the past couple of years. He was so sociable and we enjoyed pulling each other's legs with a good joke. I can still remember that he enjoyed eating his boiled eggs each day. I thoroughly enjoyed seeing him and Roberta each Thursday as I would lead devotionals. We would laugh because he passed the song sheet to Roberta for her to use and said he didn't need one.

*I wish that I would have had a relationship with Pete, before he came to live at Epworth Villa and had more time to share about what made him the man he was. Roberta was a wonderful help mate to him. They would always be together and loved talking sports, especially Thunder basketball.*

*I'm so sorry family, for the emotional pain and sorrow in Pete's death. I rejoice that he is with the Lord and we will have a great reunion as we spend eternity praising the Lord.*

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**Chaplain Adrian Martin** - May 05, 2020 at 12:41 PM

SM

“ Wonderful memories of Mr. Baker and Mrs. Baker. Great people, great teachers and great family. Prayers for Mrs. Baker, John and Nancy.

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**Stephen Mason** - May 04, 2020 at 10:53 PM

SM

“ *Mr. Baker’s drivers ed class was the first car I ever drove with an automatic transmission. He would give me grief because my left foot was always searching for the clutch. In his shop class, he helped me build a cedar chest that Julie and I kept with us for well over twenty years. He was a good man and my heart goes out to the family.*

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**Scott Middleton** - May 04, 2020 at 10:06 PM

DS

“ *I have wonderful memories of Pete at family gatherings over a span of many years. Those fish frys were awesome memories from the time I was a kid until taking my own kids. My son brought up his memories of the “big box of fish” and what fun we all had. Pete was always welcoming and funny. His fishing stories were awesome to hear. I recall he and Uncle Charles taking my dad “noodling” and running trot lines! My thoughts and prayers are with all of the family as I know he will be sorely missed!*

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**Diane Schartz** - May 04, 2020 at 01:26 PM

CF

“ Teachers leave such memories of our school years. Mr Baker was a coach that always told us that if we want to win we had to work hard to be successful and win. In 1967 Afton's senior players were Brenda Frost, Nancy Bell, Charlotte Vicory, Jonell Gibson and Elsa Lundy. They were a fun group and I loved playing basketball with them, The story I want to share happened at the off season volleyball practice in the old gym at Afton. Mr. Baker stepped outside to take a phone call. Brenda Frost said, "How many of you think I can hit that light fixture with this volleyball?" It was a high ceiling and no one believed that she could, but she did! Glass went flying everywhere and we all scrambled to take cover. When it was over, we got a broom and cleaned up the mess and when he returned we must have looked guilty, because he said, "What happened?" No one said a word. It was our secret! Then thankfully we were saved by the bell.....I did tell him later what happened and he said that he was not surprised by the shenanigans and he could see us running from the glass. Coach Baker thank you for your sacrifices that you made to teach us at Afton High School. Prayers for Roberta, the 2 children, and grandchildren.

James & Candy Fuser



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Candy Fuser - May 04, 2020 at 11:08 AM

MC


“ So very sorry for your loss, prayers for the family and friends!  
My fondest two memories of Mr Baker are the great times we had in shop and fishing! He had such an influence on me in shop and life itself! I am still doing woodworking projects today! My best memory was when he came and got me out of class to go for my driving test, we were gone for a couple hours due to we went fishing at bernice!  
🙄 great times! Mr. Baker, until we meet again! RIP

Mack Carrell - May 03, 2020 at 10:26 PM

DG

So sorry for his family, he was a special guy. I had Mr. Baker as my Driver Ed teacher too. I remember the first time I parallel park I did it perfect. He said pull out and go around the block and park again, you must have got lucky. So I did and park perfect again! He couldn't believe it. He didn't know I been driving since I was 9 on the farm!! He will be miss!!

Debbie gaines - May 03, 2020 at 10:57 PM

 Colleen Woodward

“ So very sorry to hear of Mr.Bakers passing. I remember getting a reduction in my drivers ed course he taught. I hit a rock in the road & it put a hole in the oil pan. He was a super nice person & prayers for his entire family

Colleen Woodward - May 03, 2020 at 09:56 PM

 Kathy Hunsperger Fansler

“ Years ago I joined a bowling league, not sure how it came about but I ended up on his and Roberta's team...I always thought his name was Pete for years. I came to Love those two people and always enjoyed seeing them through out the years. Prayers of peace to the family until we meet again.

Kathy Hunsperger Fansler - May 03, 2020 at 09:36 PM

DM

“ My heart is saddened by your loss. I will always hold those memories of your father taking the time to teach me everything there was to know about basketball and trusting that I could get the job done. I was privileged to work with him and Roberta for several years. I will always laugh when I remember a conversation between him and my youngest daughter Megan. Kenny and I will always hold your family in our hearts. Our love.

Diana Marshall - May 03, 2020 at 04:24 PM

SM

“ I loved Mr. Baker. He started calling me “Lefty” during drivers education. I panicked when he would tell me to turn, he would say right and I would go left. I saw him a few years ago and he still called me “Lefty”.  
So sorry for your loss, prayers to all.  
Shari Jones Murphree

Shari Jones Murphree - May 03, 2020 at 02:59 PM



“ Pete taught me so much about wood shop! Loved his class, and was blessed to get to stay in touch with him through Title VI. See you again soon. Roberta and family all my love and hugs through this difficult time

Becki Burleson - May 03, 2020 at 11:21 AM



“ Kandy Loehr lit a candle in memory of Perry J Baker



Kandy Loehr - May 03, 2020 at 01:36 AM

VB

“ *RIP Mr. Baker. Prayers for the family.*

Valerie Vandervort Boyer - May 02, 2020 at 11:19 PM

JC

“ *I taught several years with Pete. He was a great person and a great teacher.*

Joe Clapp - May 02, 2020 at 04:09 PM

CM

“ *Coach Baker was not only the best basketball coach ever, but an awesome role model to me! So sorry for your loss. He will be greatly missed by all.*

Claire Beth Marsh - May 02, 2020 at 02:21 PM

AC

“ *33 files added to the album Memories Album*



Annette Crafton Corbell - May 02, 2020 at 12:27 PM

FG

“ *Freida George lit a candle in memory of Perry  
J Baker*



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**Freida george** - May 02, 2020 at 11:37 AM