



Roger Wayne Fent

July 6, 1954 - December 29, 2015

Roger Wayne Fent, 61, of Miami passed away on Tuesday, December 29, 2015 surrounded by his family. He was born on July 6, 1954 in Kingfisher, Okla. to Ramon and Gala Fent.

The son of a high school Vocational Agriculture teacher, Roger was raised with a strong agriculture influence, an influence he has continued to instill in the lives of countless others during his career in education and the agriculture industry.

When Roger graduated from Wyandotte High School in 1972, he decided to attend Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College (NEO) where he graduated in 1974 with an Associate's Degree in agriculture. The following summer Roger married his wife Sherri Ballenger at the Cleora Methodist Church in Cleora, Okla. Roger then attended Oklahoma State University in Stillwater and graduated in 1976 with a Bachelor's degree in Animal Science. He soon returned to Stillwater as a full-time Nutrition/Physiology research herdsman while working towards his Master's degree in Animal Science with an emphasis in Swine Reproductive Physiology.

In 1981, Roger accepted a job offer to return to his alma-mater as an instructor and advisor in the NEO Agriculture Department. During his 32 years at NEO, Roger taught more than 20 different courses in agriculture and served

as president and vice-president of the NEO Faculty Association. Roger received many accolades during his teaching career including Outstanding Faculty Member chosen by the students of NEO, the Dobson Teaching Excellence Award, Miami Area Chamber of Commerce Distinguished Educator of the Year, Honorary State FFA Degree, Honorary American FFA Degree, OSU Animal Science Department Graduate of Distinction, Wyandotte High School Outstanding Alumni and was recently inducted into the NEO College of Agriculture Hall of Fame. Roger was very involved in community activities, serving on the Wyandotte School Board, as well as the Ottawa County Fair Board. He also dedicated many hours outside of the classroom as a 4-H leader, Little League baseball coach, youth basketball coach and a Sunday school teacher.

Mr. Fent was preceded in passing by his father Ramon Horace Fent.

Surviving family are his mother Gala Fent of Miami, his wife Sherri Fent of the home, his children, Russell Fent and his wife Kelli of Wyandotte, Nathan Fent and his wife Lee Ann of Oswego and Sara Fent of the home, his sister Laura Freeman of Miami and his four grandchildren Taylor Fent, Jace Fent, Gracie Fent and Logan Fent. Roger is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews and many other family members and friends.

Visitation will be Sunday, January 3, 2015 from 2-4 p.m. at Brown-Winters Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Miami, Okla.

Funeral service is Monday, January 4, 2015 at 10 a.m. at Grace Point United Methodist Church in Cleora, Okla. with Pastor Stephen Nation officiating. Interment will follow at the McLaughlin Cemetery in Cleora.

The family has asked that Memorial Contributions may be made to the Roger Fent Memorial Agriculture Scholarship in care of the NEO Foundation.

Friends and family may send the family notes of encouragement by viewing Roger's Tribute Page at www.brown-winters.com.

Cemetery Details

McLaughlin Cemetery

Corner of S 4530 RD and E 310 RD
Cleora, OK 74331

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 3. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Brown-Winters Funeral Home and Cremation Service
5 B Street NW
Miami, OK 74354
(918) 542-3311
info@brown-winters.com
<https://www.brown-winters.com>

Celebration of Life

JAN 4. 10:00 AM (CT)

Grace Point United Methodist Church - Cleora Campus
451154 E 295 RD
Ketchum, OK 74349
<http://www.gracepointumc.org/>

Tribute Wall

WL

“ Nobody ever believed in me the way Roger did, I remember being down and hard on my self because of feelings with my dad, and have not felt so lifted by any other person in my life, his belief in me was so strong that it led me build a strength and a belief in my self. His friendship was so sincere, not only did he help me see my value in the world but was firm in having me uphold it. We shared a passion which was self improvement, I remember him pleading with me to join his leadership class when I didn't want to, after a long sit in his office I agreed and it was the most memorable course I have ever taken. Since NEO I have attended many seminars and educational programs with an eye to become a better wiser person and hopefully inspire someone, Always with a dream to show up to my great teacher, friend and mentors home as a greater wiser man to humbly give him tribute. I regret not being more Clear in expressing my love and appreciation for Roger. Thank you for being such a great inspiration. I have no doubt that I am a better man today because of your Example and influence.

Wayne LeBaron
Class of 2002

Wayne LeBaron - January 17, 2016 at 04:38 PM



“ I have not spent a long time on this earth by modern standards but I do know three things in life to be true. It is easier to sell a "kid broke" horse than it is to actually find one, potential is a lot like a gun ...it doesn't do you any good unless use it, And you have to get up damn early if you are going to get one over on Roger Fent. I have never met man so eager to carry an intellectual conversation that he will take up the opposing side just for the sake of argument. I have never respected an educator more that I do Roger fent. He remains today the only man that has ever made me question my own stand on any subject matter (though I like to think he mostly agreed with me). He seemed to pride himself on his ability to argue any point weather he believed it or not and believe me he always put up an exceptional fight. My only current regret is that I did not contact him after my departure from NEO to tell him what an impact he had on my life then and what an impact he continues to have today... Here is to the man that taught me to open my mind and close my mouth. Though he has moved on his influence rings out in every debate I engage in.

My condolence,

Jordon Pierce

NEO class of 2010/ future president of the United States of America

Jordon Pierce - January 04, 2016 at 11:05 PM

“ Roger was an amazing man to be around. His humor and intelligence was seen in all that were blessed to know him.

Buddy Baker

Buddy Baker - January 04, 2016 at 02:18 PM

AS

“ *Russell and family:
Our hearts and prayers go out to you today. I remember your father
as one of the most positive people I met through Block and Bridle
activities at Oklahoma State.*
Art Sauder

Art Sauder - January 04, 2016 at 07:56 AM



“ *Cheeseboard Complete was purchased for the
family of Roger Wayne Fent.*



January 03, 2016 at 10:50 PM



Jessica
Douglas

“ *Mr. Fent was my advisor at NEO 96-98. He was definitely a person
that cared about his students. I remember struggling my Freshman
year. He called me in his office and brought me to tears when he
said he was proud of me and that he believed in me. There is never
an accomplishment of mine where I don't think about his
encouragement. He will be deeply missed. May God's peace and
love be with his family. Jessica Dell (JD) Douglas.*

Jessica Douglas - January 02, 2016 at 08:14 PM

SF

*Jessica, I just want to thank you for the Cheeseboard gift that you had
sent to our family. I could not find an address to send you a proper
thank you but want you to know how much your gift was appreciated.
Thank you, also, for your kind words about Roger. Sherri Fent*

Sherri Fent - February 04, 2016 at 08:36 AM

JD

“Rodger was one of my teachers at NEO. He never was short on words for my choice of shirts (which were always OU shirts). We had many heart to heart talks in his office from school to football to life. He was a true advisor of many. He never asked people to for much and always was willing to help. In days following and years he never once forgot who I was and always wanted to know how I was doing and if he could help. He was a man that I can say bled orange. I will wear a orange shirt for him on his day of his funeral. I truly loved this man and respected him to the ends of the earth.

Justin Downs - January 02, 2016 at 06:48 PM

AH

“Roger was my advisor at NEO and was such a wonderful, considerate, and caring person. My college career went in the direction it did due to his counseling and advising and I will always be grateful for having known him.

Andrea (Barnhart) Haner - January 02, 2016 at 05:25 PM

TS

“Roger was my advisor and teacher at NEO from 99-01. He was a great guy and made a big impact on many people in his career and he will surely be missed. Rest in peace Mr.Roger

Travis Shobe - January 01, 2016 at 11:26 PM

JC

“Joel Cape lit a candle in memory of Roger Wayne Fent



Joel Cape - January 01, 2016 at 02:14 PM

JC

“ Roger was my advisor at NEO - he had a tremendous impact on my academic success and future career. Great teacher and proud to call him a friend.

Joel Cape - January 01, 2016 at 02:13 PM

GC

“ Always respected Roger and the dedication he showed to all the young people and others who he worked with. Prayers for all the family.

Glenn Cole - January 01, 2016 at 01:43 PM

HB

“ He was a wonderful teacher & had an impact on many! He made working in the Ag office at NEO a great experience, always made me laugh, & gave needed advice (whether you asked for it or not). He will be missed & the memories shared are just a glimpse of the countless individuals he greatly influenced & touched!

Hollie (Guilford) Burnside - January 01, 2016 at 01:07 PM

SP

“ Roger was my advisor when I attended NEO in 1996. He was my favorite person! I am saddened to hear of his passing. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.
Shelley (Rogers) Potter

Shelley Potter - January 01, 2016 at 12:44 PM

AC

“ Roger was my advisor at NEO, he had such a huge heart and passion for his students and the classes he taught. I am privileged to say I knew him. I was very sorry to hear of his loss. My deepest sympathy for the family.

Ashley Collier - December 31, 2015 at 09:49 PM

JH

“ For many years I sold the tickets at the Basketball games at Wyandotte High School. Mr. Fent never failed to stop and talk with me. He was a good, gentle and intelligent man. I always felt encouraged after visiting with him.
This community has lost a wonderful educator and one of those people you just know in life that are special.
God Speed Mr.Fent
John Hartman and family

John Hartman - December 31, 2015 at 09:43 PM

EC

“ There were very few instructors at N E O when I worked there that stand out in memory as cherished colleagues and friends but Roger is one of them. He truly cared about his students. And he cared about N E O. Most of all he cared about and lived his family. I am proud to have known and worked with and for him. He means the world to me. He fought this battle of his life so bravely and valiantly. I will truly miss the genuine friendship of Mr. Fent. My heart and prayers go out to his family. Rest in peace dear friend...till we meet up yonder.

Elaine Collard - December 31, 2015 at 06:57 PM



“ *Condolences, Love and Blessings to the Fent family... Worked many years with Roger at NEO,, he was one of the best!*

Joanne Blevins - December 31, 2015 at 06:01 PM

MC

“ *Roger was a gentleman in every sense of the word. Truly respected and admired--I count it a real blessing to have been on the faculty with him and in his circle of teacher friends. His Christian fellowship will always be with those he blessed with his personality.*
Maxine Edwards Cornwell

Maxine Cornwell - December 31, 2015 at 03:57 PM

JD

“ *Roger was an incredible teacher and mentor with a true gift for making students feel welcomed and valuable. He took special care to encourage us and help us see the bigger picture of our education beyond NEO. He was very sharp and his sense of humor was contagious. We are so sorry for your loss and pray for comfort and peace during this difficult time. Our love and thoughts are with you all.*

Matt, Jill and Evelyn Duvall

Jill Duvall - December 31, 2015 at 02:31 PM

PG

“ Roger was an extra special person. I think I can speak for all of his former students when I say that he had a very heavy influence on our success in life. I hope that this will comfort his family somehow.

I loved his humor. He used to wear a fish tie at least once a week.

I remember the computer software he developed to calculate livestock judging scores. Was it called Tabulator?

He pushed us really hard and I learned so much from him. I will never forget him.

Paula Guinn - December 31, 2015 at 11:57 AM



“ Roger was my advisor and instructor at NEO from 89-91. I also had the privilege to work for him in the ag office. He was an incredible teacher and person. Roger Fent you are a legend at NEO and I'm proud to say I knew you.

Robin Knight - December 31, 2015 at 10:54 AM



“ Roger Fent is the reason I chose to attend NEO in 2012. He was an amazing man with tons of advice and love for all his students. Very sorry to hear of his loss. I will be praying for family and friends.

Hannah Fuller - December 31, 2015 at 09:46 AM

EC

Mr. Felt was such an incredible man. I am so proud that I had the privilege of knowing and working with him. You will surely be missed. You handled your cross so valiantly. You truly are an inspiration. I have always admired and loved you. My heart goes out to your whole family. Rest in peace dear friend. Till we meet again

Elaine Collard - December 31, 2015 at 05:59 PM

Shelly
Porter-
Burleson

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. Roger was such a kind person. As a board of education member, he made this brand new teacher to the area instantly feel part of the community. He recognized my work in my classroom directly at the first board meeting I ever attended. I was so surprised and a little embarrassed (because I was shy) but proud of the recognition. I know he will be greatly missed.

Shelly Porter-Burleson - December 31, 2015 at 09:08 AM

SA

“ What a wonderful man who taught his students and led his life with such caring and passion.



Sandy Ankenman - December 31, 2015 at 05:50 AM

BQ

“ Roger was my advisor from '93-'95 because I wanted to double major in Pre-Vet and Ag Ed. I remember him sitting me down and telling me that while I could do what I wanted, it was not realistic to try to do both, so I went Pre-Vet in the end. He was a great mentor, and an all around good guy. While I had lost contact with him, this is a real loss for the NEO family. Our prayers are with the Fent family during this time of grief.

Bill Quimby

Bill Quimby - December 31, 2015 at 01:19 AM



“ *Mr. Roger Fent was a great man. I met him in the 8th grade at an NEO speech contest! From that point on he recruited me to come to NEO. I did and it changed my life forever! He always saw more in me than I saw in myself! There has never been as great a teacher and never will be! He has touched so many peoples lives just like he did mine! Thank you Roger thank you so much! For challenging me and helping me become who I am today. You will be missed so much!*

Carla Henderson - December 31, 2015 at 01:18 AM

CA

“ Like many of the others, Roger was my advisor while attending NEO. He was a great mentor for so many students who valued his opinions, advice and thoughts. At one point in my stay at NEO, he was straight up honest about some of the unwise choices I was making, (even though I had never asked for his opinion). I had recently lost my Grandad, which made focusing on school work difficult. His words were exactly what I needed to hear and it prompted me to buckle down and get serious about college. I ended up deciding that NEO was not the place for me and transferred out before graduating. He gave me a stern but sincere talking too on my way out, telling me to finish my education and to not give up on myself and my goals. He even called me a few times after I left to check up on me. A few years later, I finally finished my 4 year degree and as soon as my transcript was official, I hand delivered a copy of it to him. I walked into his office carrying those papers with more pride than I had when I walked across the stage to receive my diploma in front of thousands. Seeing his smile and hearing him say that he was proud of me was worth every mile of the 2 hour drive it took for me to get there. The words and wisdom of Roger were what pushed me thru my college career, long after I was gone from NEO. He will be missed by many.

Casey (Shuler) Groose
'95-'96

Casey - December 31, 2015 at 12:20 AM

TC

“ Roger was a wonderful man that touched so many lives. He was my advisor and mentor in 1987 -88 and the reason I attended NEO. I saw him several times after and he always remembered me. He will be missed by so many. I am so very grateful for all that he did for me as a freshman at NEO.

Tracy Wagoner Carter - December 30, 2015 at 11:18 PM



“ Roger was my advisor and boss at NEO but he became more than that. He cared so much for each of his students. He was even willing to step up and be one of my NEO Dads at parent night for me with the NorseStars because my parents couldn't be there. He was a special man and will be missed very much.

Stephanie "Bauer" McCartney - December 30, 2015 at 11:06 PM



“ R.I.P. Mr. Fent
I was a student at NEO from Fall '07 - Spring '09- Forestry and wildlife. I only had one class with Mr. Fent- but I was blessed to get to know him through him being a mentor for pre vet club(I ended up a member of the club after spendend a lot of time helping build a homecoming float the fall semester of '07), my work study working at the college farm/ arena and having him as an advisor. Have many great memories of Mr. Fent always having a smile or encouraging word- and even when a person "messed up" (I was notorious for something going wrong) He would laugh it off saying "lesson learned". Best lesson he tought outside the classroom to all students that stepped into the Ag office was that" Honesty, Loyalty, Respect and a Smile" goes a long way.
Amanda Lawrence

Amanda Lawrence - December 30, 2015 at 10:11 PM



“ Roger was my advisor and mentor at NEO. He by far was my most influential teacher. He cared about le as a person first rather than a student. I went through a really rough time when I was attending NEO, and he made his goal to make sure i was ok before I returned to his class. I will always remember Roger. I am so glad I got to have him in my life. Prayers for his family.

Courtney Smith - December 30, 2015 at 09:52 PM

JR

“ Roger was my advisor, instructor and mentor during college. He was an amazing man with a heart of gold. He was always willing to help anyone out even after I switched my major he would still talk with me and help me through things. Roger also taught me how to actually drive a standard when I was doing my work study out at the college farm. He will be forever missed!

Jenny Rogers - December 30, 2015 at 09:38 PM

SN

“ Roger was my advisor and teacher at NEO. But more importantly he became my lifelong friend! He had a special way of connecting with the college kids. He knew my love of Ag and gave me every opportunity he could. He knew I was a tad shy and he pulled me out of it. I met up with him at the State FFA convention and he went out of his way to try to talk my son into NEO. The last time I spoke to him he was so excited to tell me about each of his children, since I babysat the kids while he and Sherri bowled in a league. He was a bright spot in my life during those days! May God comfort his family. You will all be in my prayers. 🙏

sheila Ramsey- Neal - December 30, 2015 at 09:29 PM

LH

Roger and I shared the same swine herd through graduate school. He had all the males and I had all the females. He was always had smile and and positive attitude. It's sad too see him gone. For all those who had privilege to know him, I challenge to pass his passion and attitude on as we go through life.

Les Hutchens - January 11, 2016 at 02:49 AM

AB

“ Roger Fent was my advisor from 1995 to 1997. I remember at our first meeting he asked me, "How do you define success." He told me that his definition was doing what makes you happy. Watching him joke around and work with the students at NEO I could tell that he was very successful. I will always remember the guidance he gave me and can credit him for helping me become successful as well.

Prayers and thoughts are with his family.

Aaron Barrett

Aaron Barrett - December 30, 2015 at 08:35 PM

LM

“ Roger was my advisor at NEO as well as a mentor and someone I could turn to if I had a question about anything in life. I wasn't an ag major like most of his students but being on the Equine judging team put me in his path. He helped me figure out that Journalism was the career path for me and helped me get my credits lined up to go to the J-college at OU. Both things were out of his field of expertise but he took the time research what I needed to make college best for me and my future. He always had a smile and a kind word.

Always cheery and positive. The only time I ever saw him cross was when I didn't follow the directions to a T in his computer class. To be honest, I didn't read the directions and I deserved that one. I also learned a very important lesson that day. Thank you, Roger, for your kind heart, for giving your time to change my life and for playing a part in making me a better person. Lydia Miller (Lawler)

Lydia Miller - December 30, 2015 at 08:04 PM

TR

“ A great man that always commanded respect as well as gave it. May God bless him and his loved ones.

Troy Applehans

Troy - December 30, 2015 at 07:52 PM

BP

“ My name is Brian Barrett I graduated from NEO in 1994. Roger was my instructor in several of the classes I had and after taking his swine production I was hooked. My girls and I now raise show pigs in Gravette Ar. I owe my love and passion for pigs all to him. He was a great instructor and an even better man. My thoughts and prayers are with all of the family and friends. He will be greatly missed.

Barrett Show pigs - December 30, 2015 at 07:03 PM

ML

“ Roger was one of my teachers at NEO and he believed in me. We saw him at Sam's about five years ago and he got to meet my family. He was interested in what was going on in our lives. I was sad to hear he was sick from Pete Smith, and have been praying. May God surround your family with love and prayers in your time of grief. God Bless! Melinda Reynolds Larson

Melinda Reynolds Larson - December 30, 2015 at 06:35 PM

JP

Roger was my advisor at NEO from the years of 1981 to 1983. I remember when I left NEO for Oklahoma State to further my degree one of my classes that Roger taught OSU wasn't going to accept. I along with some other classmates called Roger to tell him. He drove to Stillwater and met with Agriculture Education staff brought his curriculum to show them what he had taught us, they accepted the course. This was just one example of the type of educator he was. NEO just lost a great teacher one of my favorites.

John Parker

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John Parker - December 31, 2015 at 01:40 PM