

I read of a man who stood to speak
at the funeral of a friend.
He referred to the dates on the tombstone
from the beginning...to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth
and spoke the following date with tears,
but he said what mattered most of all
was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time
that they spent alive on earth.
And now only those who loved them
know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own,
the cars...the house...the cash.
What matters is how we live and love
and how we spend our dash.

So, think about this long and hard.
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left
that can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough
to consider what's true and real
and always try to understand
the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger
and show appreciation more
and love the people in our lives
like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect
and more often wear a smile,
remembering that this special dash
might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy is being read,
with your life's actions to rehash...
would you be proud of the things they say
about how you spent YOUR dash?

In Loving Memory of



*Donald Clyde
"Don" Cheek, Sr.*

July 9, 1937 ~ May 9, 2025

Donald Clyde "Don" Cheek, Sr.

Entered into Life:
July 9, 1937

Entered into Rest:
May 9, 2025

Funeral Service

2:00 P.M.

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Kincannon Memorial Chapel

Altus, Oklahoma

Officiating

Brad Pryor

Interment

Navajoe Cemetery

East of Friendship, Oklahoma

Pallbearers

Chance Kelly ~ Heather-Jo Smith

Joshua Kelly ~ Sarah Cheek

Johnathon Don Harrold ~ Jordan Harrold

Audra Cheek ~ Jolee Harrold

Honorary Pallbearers

Don C. Cheek, Jr. ~ Eddie Kelly

Billy Bone ~ Jackie Cheek

Troy Harrold, Jr. ~ Melvin Angelly

Larry Blundell ~ Ron Ward

Don Clyde "Don" Cheek was born in Lindsay, OK on July 9, 1937, to parents, Clyde William Cheek and Grace Harriett (Keeler) Cheek. Don was raised in Lindsay and was a proud graduate from the Class of 1956 from Lindsay High School. Shortly after high school, Don was drafted by the United States Army. He went to bootcamp at Fort Polk, LA and was transferred to the Oklahoma Army National Guard where he received an honorable discharge for his service. Don went to work for the Oklahoma Tire and Supply Company, later named OTASCO in Lawton, OK. There he met Mary Jo Blundell "Jody" with the help of her brother-in-law, Billy Bone, also employed by OTASCO. Don and Mary Jo were united in marriage on December 24, 1961, at the Pentecostal Holiness Church in Durant, OK, where Mary Jo was raised. They have enjoyed the last 63 years together.

As a young married couple they settled in Lawton, OK until OTASCO transferred Don to Fayetteville, AR as the store manager. OTASCO sent the young family to a few other towns before they made their way to Altus, OK. Don turned down the offer to be promoted to District Manager to stay in Altus to raise his family. They settled in Headrick in a home he and his family built off of Highway 62. Upon the completion of his OTASCO career, Don owned and operated the Coast to Coast Store in Altus and then renamed his business Western Auto until he retired in 1991. Don didn't stay retired too long and went to work for Wilmes Ford in Altus as a Service Manager until he fully retired in 1995.

Don enjoyed raising Quarter Horses until a barn fire halted his operation. As Mary Jo got ready to retire, he surprised her with their cattle operation. During this time, Don appointed himself "Chief Caretaker" for his family. He took his role very seriously; supporting his family during illnesses, hospital stays and being present at all the grandchildren's activities. He was determined not to miss a single thing. Don truly loved helping and taking care of all his family. Don enjoyed riding horses, promoting our local Great Plains Stampede Rodeo, and participating in the Doan's Crossing every year. He also enjoyed watching NASCAR, the Cowboy channel, OU Football and Softball. Don was 1 of 9 children and he loved to host the Cheek-Keeler Family Reunion every Memorial Day in Lindsay, OK. Don was a loving husband, father, Papa, and friend who will be missed greatly by all who had the privilege to know him. Don passed away on Friday, May 9, 2025, at the age of 87.

Don was preceded in death by his parents; all but one of his brothers and sisters, Ermyl Cheek, Maudele Bischoff, Fern Logan, Helen Wand, Wanda Fish, Wesley "Bud" Cheek, and Charlene Carter.

Family members left to honor Don's legacy are his wife, Mary Jo Cheek of their home in Headrick; his three children, son, Don C. Cheek, Jr. and his wife, Ethelynn of Marlow, OK; two daughters, MSchell Cheek-Flowers and her husband, James Flowers of Midland, TX; and Necole Harrold and husband, Troy, Jr. of Altus; his sister, Judy Orem of Houston; eight grandchildren, Chance Kelly, Heather-Jo Smith, Joshua Kelly and his wife, Jessica, Sarah Cheek, Johnathon Don Harrold, Jordan Harrold, Audra Dawn Cheek, and Jolee Harrold; three great grandchildren, Shelby Kelly, Acelee Smith, and Leilani Harrold; as well as numerous nieces and nephews, other family members, and many friends.