

Kenneth Paul (Ken) Kirby, age 86, passed away peacefully on May 27, 2026, at his home in Bethel Acres surrounded by family. Ken was born on January 6, 1940, in Caddo, Oklahoma, to Monnie Marie (Tucker) Kirby and Silas Irrie Kirby, the fourth of six children. He graduated from Sulphur High School in 1958. Ken married Maelena Saar in March of 1960. They were married 19 years and had two daughters, Melinda Carol on February 20, 1961, and Cindi Ann on November 2, 1962.

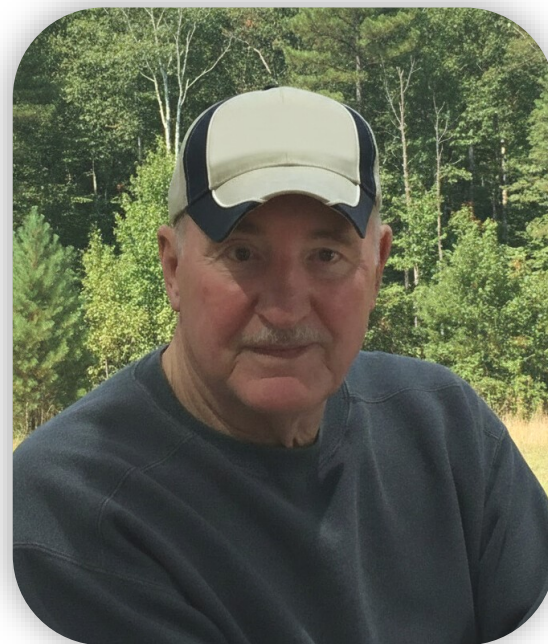
Ken married Erma (Collett) Faulk on November 9, 1987. They began their married life in Prague, Oklahoma, later relocating to Shawnee then Bethel Acres where they enjoyed their country home and spending lots of time making memories with their cherished grandchildren, children and other family members. He had a talent for working with his hands and could always come up with a way to fix anything that was broken or invent an easier way to do a task. He was ornery, witty, and never afraid to say exactly what was on his mind. He was such a sweet partner and more often than not called Erma his Angel Pie. As a young boy and into adulthood until health issues robbed him of the majority of his ability to hear, Ken loved to coon hunt with his lifelong friends, spending many hours roaming the woods and countryside with them and his beloved hounds. He retired from Oklahoma Natural Gas Company in 1995 after 35 years of service. He accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior when he was 39 years old at First Baptist Church of Harrah, Oklahoma, and always regretted that he hadn't done it much sooner. His fondest wish and prayer to the end of his life was that his children and grandchildren would do the same before it is eternally too late.

Ken is survived by his wife of 38 years, Erma, his daughter Cindi Ann Watson and partner, Jerry Duncan of Yukon, OK, step-daughters Shelly Harrell and husband Curtis Harrell and Lisa Gifford all of Shawnee, OK, son-in-law Steve Halsted of Corpus Christi, TX, sister Peggy Johnson and husband, Rollie Johnson of Yukon, Oklahoma, sister and brother-in-law Lawana McKinley and husband, Perry McKinley of McLoud, Oklahoma. He is also survived by 9 grandchildren, Dustin and Brady Watson, Kirby Halsted and Noelle (Halsted) Moore, Christopher, Amanda and Casey Harrell, Stephanie and Jeremiah Gifford as well as 19 great-grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews and extended family members.

Ken was preceded in death by his parents, Silas Irrie and Monnie Marie Kirby, his daughter, Melinda Carol Halsted, his brother and sister-in-law, Thomas Samuel and Billie Kirby, sister and brother-in-law, Joyce Faye and Ernest Wilson, sister and brother-in-law, Wanda Jean and Leon Clausen, sister and brother-in-law, Linda Kay

WALKER
FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICE

In Loving Memory Of
Kenneth “Ken” Paul Kirby



January 6, 1940
May 27, 2026

Letting Go

*The angels gathered near your bed
So very close to you
For they knew the pain and suffering
That you were going through*

*I thought about so many things
As I held tightly to your hand
Oh, how I wished that you were strong
And happy once again*

*But your eyes were looking homeward
To that place beyond the sky
Where Jesus held His outstretched arms
It was time to say "goodbye"*

*I struggled with my selfish thoughts
For I wanted you to stay
So we could walk and talk again
Like we did just yesterday*

*But Jesus knew the answer
And I knew He loved you so
So I gave to you life's greatest gift
The gift of letting go*

*Now my heart will carry memories
Of love you gave to me
Until we meet again in Heaven
Where the best is yet to be*

Ken Kirby

Date of Birth

*January 6, 1940
Caddo, Oklahoma*

Entered Into Rest

*May 27, 2026
Shawnee, Oklahoma*

Memorial Ceremony

*Tuesday, June 9, 2026
Two O'clock in the Afternoon
Sharon Baptist Church
Shawnee, Oklahoma*

Officiant

Clint Dawkins

Soloist

Kelley Garcia

Musical Selections

*"God on the Mountain"
"Lily of the Valley"
"One More Day"
"There Was Jesus"*