



Mr. Fred Ballard

December 2, 1946 - April 2, 2021

Mr. Fred Ballard, 74, of Oak Flat, passed from this life on April 2, 2021, at his residence. He was born December 2, 1946, in Sulphur Springs, Texas to the late Lorenzo “Red” and Addie Belle (Prock) Ballard. Fred was raised in Eloy, Arizona where he graduated from High School and went on to attend Eastern Arizona College before earning a full athletic scholarship to Arizona State University where he played football and baseball. His education was put on hold to serve in the United States Marine Corps where he served two tours in Vietnam. After his honorable service, Fred returned to Arizona and finished his education with a Bachelor’s degree in Education and a Master’s degree in Criminal Justice. Mr. Ballard went on to a long career with the Arizona Department of Corrections and eventually rose to the position of Warden. He also ran the first halfway houses in the state of Arizona. After his retirement, Fred was contacted by private prison company G.E.O., who requested he restructure jails/prisons in Texas and Illinois. During his life, he was also a truant officer, a teacher and coach in the public school system. Mr. Ballard was a member, and attended, the Church of God in Christ in Mt. Enterprise.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by an infant grandson; brother, Bill Ballard; and sister, Mary Butler.

Survivors include his wife, Carlene Ballard of Oak Flat; children, Rhea Ballard and fiancé Ricky Laun of Oak Flat, Michael Larson and wife Cristina of

Eugene, Oregon, Paula Ballard of Dover, Delaware, Brandon Ballard of Oak Flat, Nathanael Ballard of Arizona, Pamela Ditsch and husband Chad of Kansas, and Megan Ballard of Oak Flat; brothers, Bobby Ballard of Carthage, Hank Ballard of Arizona, and Jim Ballard of Georgia; sisters, Helen Thompson and Shirley Tinker, both of Ft. Worth; grandchildren, Alexis Marshall-Miller, Ashton Ballard, Brett Ditsch, Isabella Ballard, Makenzie Banks, Kaylee Ditsch, Teaguen Larson, Zander Ballard, Keetin Horner-Laun, Vanessa Ditsch, Ariza Ballard, Ezra Larson, and Ariz Ballard; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, other family, and many friends.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at www.crawfordacrim.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Janis and I are so sorry to hear of Fred's passing. Fred was like a brother to the Smith family. We cherish all the fond memories of Fred and the Ballard family. We send our deepest sympathy, our love and our prayers to all of you. Paul & Janis Smith*

Janis Dahlgren Smith - April 16, 2021 at 04:52 PM

JS

“ *I'm so sorry to hear this. Fred was a roommate to my brother in Phoenix when he was running Halfway homes in the area. They both grew up together in Eloy and went to High School together. Fred also hired me to run the Recreation Programs at the Prison in Florence years ago. I looked at Fred as an inspiration and great man. My brother who also passed away June 21, 2019 loved Fred and often spoke of him and tried to keep in touch with him as much as possible. It was difficult at times when Fred left Arizona and went to Texas. Fred was full of wit, compassion, and care for others, but he didn't take any nonsense from any one. He will be truly missed by me as he was a friend and brother. May God bless this great man.*



Jerry W. Smith - April 16, 2021 at 11:24 AM

VC

“ *Sending condolences to the Ballard Family, graduated with Fred he was a good friend. God has him in his glory. Rest in peace friend.*

Virginia Chavarrias Corral - April 15, 2021 at 06:53 PM

LW

“ So sorry to hear Fred’s passing. Long ago in high school I went to the junior prom with Fred and a few other dates too. I treasured him as a friend. He will be missed.

Leigh (Ordway) White - April 13, 2021 at 11:18 AM

DF

“ Delrena Fabovich lit a candle in memory of Mr. Fred Ballard



Delrena Fabovich - April 08, 2021 at 10:50 PM

CP

“ Sorry for your loss, Fred was always such a great gentleman. Wishing you all the comfort that you need during this sad time. RIP

Carolyn Patterson - April 08, 2021 at 05:56 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Mr. Fred Ballard.



April 08, 2021 at 10:36 AM

GC

“ Gabriel Jordan Chevrolet lit a candle in memory of Mr. Fred Ballard



Gabriel Jordan Chevrolet - April 08, 2021 at 07:33 AM

SM

“ Shannon Marsh Mckey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Fred Ballard



shannon marsh mckey - April 08, 2021 at 07:26 AM

JV

“ Jeanetta Vanderwater lit a candle in memory of Mr. Fred Ballard



Jeanetta Vanderwater - April 08, 2021 at 07:22 AM

DD

“ Dixie Duncan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Fred Ballard



Dixie Duncan - April 06, 2021 at 12:35 PM