



Paul Ritter

October 5, 1935 - April 18, 2015

Paul D. Ritter, 79 of Centralia, passed away, Saturday, April 18, 2015 at Good Samaritan Regional Health Center in Mt. Vernon surrounded by his wife and children. Mr. Ritter was born October 5, 1935 in Seminole, Oklahoma, son of Bayles Arkley Ritter and Elsie Kathryn (James) Ritter. He married JaNean West on March 8 1959 and they later divorced and she preceded him in death on April 23, 2010. He then married Darleen Dorries on October 6, 1984 in Breese and she survives in Centralia. In addition to his wife of 30 years, he is also survived by a son, Brad Ritter of Ozark, MO; three daughters: Shel Lee Haik and husband Bryan of Springfield, MO, Wendy Sparrow and husband James of Nixa, MO and Misty Booyens and husband Matt of Springfield, MO; a step-son, Tommy Dein of Aviston; a step-daughter: Shelly Ray and husband Joe of Centralia; nine grandchildren: Jonathan Ritter and wife Collette of Springfield, MO, Nathan Ritter and husband Britini of Nixa, MO, Spencer Haik of New York City, NY, Autumn Haik of Springfield, MO, Tessa Haik of Springfield, MO, ChanTell Barrington and husband Jerry of Springfield, MO, Joshua Dearing of Springfield, MO, Abigale Francios of Ozark, MO and Mason Brown of Nixa, MO; a step-granddaughter, Emmalee Ray of Centralia; seven great-grandchildren: Maliee, Jailyynn, Brayden, Ashlyn, Jayden, Pyper, Lucy and a great-granddaughter on the way; four brothers: James Ritter and wife Bonnie of Hoffman, Jerry Ritter and wife Ruth Ann of Texas, Ron Ritter of Texas, and David Ritter and wife Sharon of Oklahoma; a sister, Betty Evans of Junction City; several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. He was

preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Tom Ritter. Paul graduated from Centralia High School and then attended Oklahoma University. He then served in the U.S. Army. Mr. Ritter worked in the oil fields and Burlington Northern Railroad. He also served as a Police Officer in Centralia for 35 years and retired 2000 and then went to serve as a Security Guard at the Clinton County Courthouse until 2012. Paul enjoyed classic cars, watching sports, an avid St. Louis Cardinals fan, and an avid OU Football fan. Most of all he loved spending time with his family, friends, and four legged companions. Funeral Services for Paul Ritter will be held Thursday, April 23, 2015 at 11:00 A.M. at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia with John Willis officiating. Burial to follow at Hillcrest Memorial Park in Centralia. Military rites will be accorded at the gravesite by the American Legion Post 446 and VFW Post 2055. Visitation will be held Wednesday evening from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. at the funeral home and from 10:00 A.M. until the time of service on Thursday. Masonic Rites will be accorded at 7:00pm, Wednesday evening by the Centralia Masonic Lodge #201 at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Centralia Humane Society and will be accepted at the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home in Centralia, which is in charge of arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

JF

“ So sorry for your loss. God Bless

Janet Finley - April 30, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ We're so sorry for your loss Darleen. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and the entire family. Gary and Penny Sprehe

Gary Sprehe - April 23, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ Very nice and kind man even as a cop

kenny foster - April 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JE

“ Good memories of a very special person. Our sincere sympathy to all the family

Jerry - April 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ You were a good man and a good officer. You gave me my first ticket...always enjoyed talking with you at the car wash. You will be missed! R.I.P Mr. Ritter

Cheri Clark - April 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ Paul...a good man, a good cop, one of the good guys. Helped kids through the decades by giving them a break. We will never forget him in our adult years. Peace be with him and all of his family. So sorry for your loss.

Craig Hatfield - April 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ So sorry for your loss Darlene...he was a good man and a good cop! Definitely a one of Centralia's finest! I really enjoyed talking to him when he came in the car wash...he was a hoot! I am glad I got to see him and say Hi when I saw you guys at the Diner in Sandoval. R.I.P. Mr. Ritter

Cheri Clark - April 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ I would like to extend my deepest, sincerest, heartfelt sympathy to Darlene (Dorries) Ritter and entire Ritter Family on the loss of your Husband, Father, and Grandfather. May God keep you all strong to carry on in your lives. God Bless You All and may your loved one rest in peace. Amen.

Beverly Hellmann - April 22, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Fond memories of the many nights that we talked about you and Grandpa Claypool as well talking about my uncles the Simer boys and my cousins The Evans boys, Paul you were a good inspiration of why I kept my butt out of trouble, you always threatened to whip it as though you were my kin. You will always hold a special place in my heart! From my family to yours my sincere thoughts and prayers, ps Paul grandpa James and Uncle D are waiting for you in Heaven to go fishing and hang out.

Cassandra Stinde - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ Misty sorry for your loss you and your family are in my prayers your dad was an awesome man who always looked out for me RIP Paul

chad justice - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ I am so very sorry for your loss, Paul was a wonderful man and police officer. He served on the Centralia Police force with my daddy Paul Morgan. They were some of the best police officers and men of all time. Paul had a very infectious smile and that laugh was contagious..Prayers for your family at this time of loss

Christy Lockwood - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Paul was a special inspiration to my becoming a police officer.He also was a personal friend.May God bless his family.And may he rest in peace farewell my friend for now.

steve hays - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ WE ARE SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS. I DIDN'T KNOW PAUL PERSONALLY, BUT WHEN I VISITED THE COURT HOUSE HE WAS ALWAYS SO NICE TO ME. ALWAYS SAYING FUNNY THINGS TO MAKE ME LAUGH. BLESSINGS ON YOUR FAMILY.

BARB MUELLER - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ Darleen: So sorry to hear of the passing of Paul. He was a wonderful man and a great friend and will truly be missed. Our prayers are with you and your family!

Larry and Ann Wells - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Paul was one of best! Will always have memory of his smile and laugh. Enjoyed working with him back in the good days. Former PO. Currently working at Community Link with Tom..

Beth Hake - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ Paul Ritter

Kathy - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ he was a great man, and good friend. prayers for the family..

roger dixon - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ He was the Best !

Janet Bryant - April 21, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ I was so sorry to read of the passing of Paul. He, uncle Ron and I had a blast at Woolworth's at the mall. He was one heck of a guy and I enjoyed knowing him from many years ago. My prayers go out to Darlene and the kids.

Jane Edmonson Curry - April 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ J D Jolliff

April 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *Misty: Condolences to you and all your family. May your Father rest in peace, and your memories of him live on.* ”

Donna Simons - April 20, 2015 at 12:00 AM