



Stillwater Pioneer Athlete Memorial



KENNETH L. CROSS

August 12, 1942 - January 6, 2013

Stillwater High School Class of 1960

18th Annual Memorial Induction Ceremony
September, 2013

Kenny was born in Stillwater, Oklahoma on August 12, 1942, the son of Hazel Oretta (Hemphill) Gross. He was educated in the Stillwater school system and graduated from Stillwater High School in 1960, which was the last class in the old high school. He attended Northern Oklahoma Junior College, Oklahoma State University and Central State University. He also

served in the Oklahoma National Guard.

While at Stillwater High School, Kenny lettered in football, basketball, baseball and track. He was an All-State "Honorable Mention" quarterback and was point guard on the basketball team in 1958-59 and 1959-60. Stillwater was State Basketball Champions in 1959 and 1960. In the 1960 state high school basketball tournament, he was named the Most Valuable Player.

Kenny married Jeanine Godley in 1968 and that same year moved to Bartlesville, Oklahoma. They had one child Derek Nathan Cross who still lives in Bartlesville. He taught Business Education and helped coach basketball, football, wrestling, and track in the Bartlesville school system. He also coached weightlifting and physical education at Bartlesville Mid High. After retiring from teaching, he was employed at the Wellness Center at the Jane Phillips Medical Center. He retired in July, 2012 to care for his wife Jeanine who preceded him in death on August 26, 2012.

Kenny loved sports not only as a participant but as a spectator. He was a big OSU, Green Bay Packers, Boston Celtics and St. Louis Cardinal fan and followed Stillwater High School sports as much as possible. He was a "natural" athlete and could play almost any sport very well. He never lost a round of golf with his high school classmates while in high school or college.

Kenny was a true gentleman. He was kind and considerate of others and like Will Rogers never met anyone he didn't like. However, when he was playing sports he knew how to be a leader and take charge of the game. He was greatly loved and will be missed by all those who came to know him.

Presenter

Roger Beecham, Stillwater Class of 1960