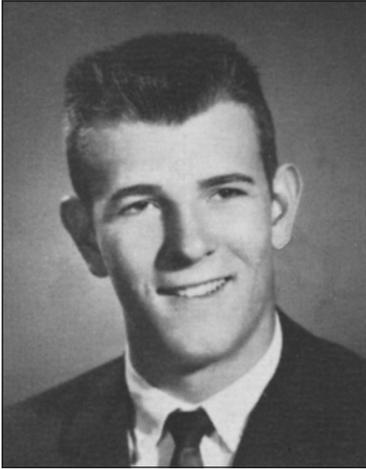




Stillwater Pioneer Athlete Memorial



THOMAS GAYLE CURD

February 26, 1944 - July 27, 1997

Stillwater High School Class of 1962

10th Annual Memorial Induction Ceremony

October 1, 2005

Thomas Gayle Curd was born in Stillwater, Oklahoma to Bill and Flossie Curd. He had an older brother, Billy (Harvey) Curd. Tom attended Lincoln Elementary School, Stillwater Junior High and graduated from Stillwater High School in 1962. Tom enrolled at OSU on a football scholarship, but eventually transferred to Cameron Junior College on a Basketball scholarship, where he received his associate degree.

Tom married Karen McRoberts in 1970 and together they had two children, Tiffany and Kevin. Tiffany and her husband Brad Crosier have a 2 year old son, Cole and reside in Edmond, OK. Kevin and his wife Stephanie Hulett, have a 3 year old daughter, Avery and reside in Oklahoma City.

Tom's innate athletic ability helped him evolve into a team member, team player, and team leader. He began his athletic career by participating in little league. He was a member of the 1954 Murphy Mites 10 and under basketball team that captured 1st place in the Junior Olympics tournament. In junior high and high school, Tom played football, basketball, and baseball. One of Tom's highlights, was playing on the 1961-62 Pioneer football team that went undefeated (10-0) and ranked no. 1 in the State. Tom played both offensive and defensive end, while the Pioneer team averaged an unbelievable 40 points per game on offense to the opponents 3 points. Seven opponents were shut out. This would have been an amazing record for any high school team but what made this record even more outstanding was that they were in an extremely strong conference. The big disappointment to this outstanding season was a conference policy of not participating in post season playoffs. So probably one of the greatest football teams in school history did not get to have the opportunity to win the coveted "State Championship". He played one year of football at OSU, before transferring to Cameron College in Lawton to play basketball. In his adult life he continued to play recreationally, racquetball, softball, basketball, golf, and tennis. He coached basketball, baseball, and softball for Kevin and Tiffany. He was a huge OSU fan and continued to support the teams as a season ticket holder for football and basketball.

Tom's professional career included working 30 years for the Federal Bureau of Prisons. He was very successful in his career. He started as a prison guard with promotions over the years to Captain and eventually Associate Warden. His career took him all over the country. Tom lived and worked in Kansas, Oklahoma, Florida, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, Washington D.C., North Carolina, Virginia, Minnesota, California, and back to Oklahoma to retire and be near his family and friends. He had many commendations throughout his career, but was most proud of the role he played in developing one of the top SWAT teams in the country while working in Lompoc, California.

Tom was a big man physically - 6'4" in height and weighing 240 pounds. He was also a big man in more important areas of his life. Tom was generous and kind to others as well as encouraging and helpful to all, especially those less fortunate. Tom is gone but not forgotten.

Presenters
Doug Foster
Stillwater High School, Class of 1964
Mike Powell
Stillwater High School, Class of 1962