



## *Stillwater Pioneer Athlete Memorial*

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Gerald E. Turner

August 29, 1947 - October 13, 2011

Stillwater High School Class of 1965

20th Annual Memorial Induction Ceremony

September 26, 2015

Gerald was a loving and thoughtful man, known to his family and close friends as "Jerry". He was born to Ada and Dewell Turner, Sr. on August 29, 1947. He departed this world on October 13, 2011. He was the fifth child of nine and was very serious minded in his approach to life. He used his gift of gab to encourage his peers and siblings to, "Reach high; anything is possible; follow our dreams." He loved the idea of being a role model and always had an encouraging word. Jerry accepted Christ in his life at an early age; his church home was Mount Zion Baptist church.

Jerry started his early education in the Stillwater school system, attending Washington Elementary School, Stillwater Junior High, and graduating from C.E. Donart High School in May 1965.

During his junior and senior high school days, Jerry played football, was in the band and enjoyed being in the drama club. Jerry's true love was wrestling.

After high school, Jerry attended Hiram Scott College in Scotts Bluff, Nebraska on a wrestling scholarship. Due to health issues, he was forced to follow other career paths. He later transferred to Oklahoma State University where he graduated with honors in 1970, earning his bachelor's degree in education.

Jerry's early love was the theater and radio. He was main stream in his thinking process which led him to want to debate any and every topic of conversation, so it was a natural progression that he entered into the talk show radio arena. He was often compassionate and passionate in his beliefs. He saw himself as a representative of the humble and the downtrodden, becoming a great advocate for those who struggle in life.

He was also a person who loved to travel and meet all manner of people. While in his travels he had radio disc jockey gigs in Cleveland, OH; Kansas City, MO; San Francisco, CA; and Oklahoma City, OK.

Jerry later went back to school and received his master's degree in education. He taught English and theater arts in high school in Fayetteville, NC; Kansas City, MO; and Stockton, CA. He was loved by his students and was fondly remembered as "Mister Miyagi" (Karate Kid Master)

Jerry is survived by three children: Neila Wilson, Christopher Wilson, and Brian Matthew.

*Presenter*

*Cleo McGlory, Stillwater High School Class of 1965*