



Chelsea C. Cook

DEC 21, 1936 - JAN 20, 2020



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FLORAL HAVEN

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Chelsea C. Cook

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Chelsea C. Cook was born in Marysville, California, on December 21, 1936 to Preston and Lillie B. Cook. Despite being told he would not walk again after contracting polio as a child, Chelsea not only walked, but marched through much of the rest of his life. He played Tuba at Henryetta High School, where he is remembered by band-mates as the smallest kid in the band carrying the largest instrument.

Chelsea continued his music studies at the University of Oklahoma before graduating from Central State College, now University of Central Oklahoma, where he also received a Masters in Music Education. He taught at several Oklahoma schools before becoming the band director at Wewoka High School, a job he held from 1966 to 1979. He is remembered for his tough standards and devotion to students. Chelsea taught grade school for three more years in Wewoka before moving into administration and finished his education career as a principal at Henryetta Junior High.

During his early career, Chelsea packed up the family and headed out for a year long teaching adventure in Australia, which the kids remember chiefly as the place where they lived on the beach and where their car broke down dependably.

During his “retirement” Chelsea did missionary work and became editor of the Henryetta Free-Lance, where he wrote a column called “And Furthermore”, which continued to be carried in several Oklahoma papers until just a few years before his death.

Throughout his life Chelsea was a prolific volunteer - church choir director, international mission planner, Tulsa Airport Ambassador, and book manager/Santa Clause at the Salvation Army Store in Broken Arrow. Chelsea discovered bee-keeping in his seventh decade of life, a passion he enjoyed sharing with anybody who was interested and even some who weren't.



Obituary

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Chelsea and his wife Carol, who was by his side for 60 years, managed to squeeze in trips to Europe, China, and Latin America.

On a couple of cruises, they took the whole family, which includes his son Christopher and wife Jenifer, daughter Cari and husband Ronnie Smith, and son Jeremy and wife Jonene. They have nine grand-children and six great-grand-children who all call Chelsea “Pop”.

He is remembered as a most devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend, planner of projects, compulsive collector/hoarder, optimist, irascible Scotsman, lover of children, and as a man who defeated the odds to stay on his feet and as the poet says, “fill every unforgiving minute with sixty seconds’ worth of distance run”.

Feros Ferio, Pop. We will miss you.




Events


Chelsea C. Cook

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Memorial Service

 **Saturday**, February 1, 2020

 12:30 PM CT

 **Floral Haven Funeral Home Chapel**
6500 S 129th E Ave., Broken Arrow OK 74012





Tribute Wall

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Janis Dawson posted:

On behalf of the Oklahoma Music Educators Association, we are deeply sorry at the passing of Chelsea. May knowing his former colleagues are keeping his family in our thoughts and prayers bring some comfort and peace to them. Janis Dawson, OkMEA Cares

February 22 at 5:40 PM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Cook family.



February 1 at 6:02 AM



Mary C Smith posted:

The best band director, choir director and friend that Wewoka had while I have lived here. It was a blessing for us to have known him. Our whole family loved him and his family

January 31 at 1:25 PM



Candace Norman posted:

Chelsea - a formidable, exacting educator who's love of music inspired all his pupils to do their very best, put yourself out there, and try a little harder. He earned all his pupil's respect and love, we probably would have followed him anywhere - Yea Band! As an adult my husband Jamie and I enjoyed many visits and dinners out with he and Carol, spending hours talking politics, and the state of the world, they always entertained us with their latest travel stories, beekeeping mishaps, and family news. I'll miss you awfully Chels, and I pray that Carol and kids will know His peace that surpasses all understanding, Vaya con Dios, Chels.

January 31 at 8:51 AM



Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Cook family.



January 31 at 7:11 AM



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Anonymous sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Cook family.

January 31 at 5:31 AM



Anonymous sent a Medium Dish Garden to the Cook family.

January 30 at 3:26 PM



Anonymous sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Cook family.

January 30 at 9:14 AM



Anonymous sent a Written in the Stars to the Cook family.

January 29 at 6:46 AM



Anonymous sent a Medium Dish Garden to the Cook family.

January 28 at 4:32 PM



Anonymous sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Cook family.

January 28 at 11:16 AM





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SD

Suzy, Rod, And Dave sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Cook family.

January 27 at 12:49 PM



DM

Dee Dee (Fleming) Mitchell sent a Fiery Lily and Rose to the Cook family.

January 27 at 6:53 AM



TL

Tina (Miner) Lowery posted:

I will always remember a tough band leader, one that always pushed me to better. I'll remember the man that was funny and kind and a great family man. He was a treasure to our community of Wewoka. We will always remember him and the great legacy he left so many of us with...the love of music!

January 25 at 9:10 PM

SJ

Sey Jones posted:

When we all lived in Anaheim, I remember you and Jerry did the dishes every night! I thought I'd died and gone to heaven! I hate doing dishes to this day. I remember how very happy you made my sweet Carol and for that alone, I'm so grateful we tread a few miles together. I miss you. It feels so empty when I think of Tulsa. While we grieve for you, I celebrate your heavenly birth! Seymouria Duncan Jones

January 25 at 12:08 PM

JY

Jan Yeager posted:

My favorite teacher. He demanded commitment. No slackers allowed in his band. His students respected and loved him.

January 23 at 4:36 PM



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OS

Olin Smith posted:

I'm sure I speak for many of Chelsea's former students when I say my life might have been quite different if I hadn't met Chelsea Cook. He instilled in all of us a love for great music. What a fantastic band director he was! Stephenia Lobaugh used to say Chelsea conducted like a true artist, which was high praise from her. Chelsea could be ornery and a fine rascal. Also, he was kind and affectionate and forgiving, especially of youthful indiscretions. He will be greatly missed. Olin Smith

January 23 at 3:39 PM



Anonymous sent an Arrive in Style to the Cook family.



January 23 at 11:44 AM

KR

Kristy posted:

Chelsea was my lighthouse in a rough storm. He may not have realized it at the time, but he started me on the journey that would save me. Over the years I have thought of him fondly and am deeply saddened to hear of his passing. I know your recent battle was rough and I am happy that you are no longer in pain. We are all so fortunate to have had you in our lives even if it was just a brief moment. Rest in Peace and may your family know of the wonderful gifts you brought to the world!

January 22 at 2:53 AM

CM

Cheryl Campbell Muirhead posted:

The news that Mr Cook passed over shocked me to the core. I ask God to help his family get through this. He was a much respected scrappy man who was a true musician. May he be allowed to direct the best Band in Heaven to bring all souls closer to Jesus. I'll miss you and always remember you. Cheryl Campbell Muirhead Wewoka High School Class of 1967. 🙏❤️

January 21 at 6:42 PM

BB

Barbara Butner posted:

Mr. Cook! We love ❤️ all that did for us! You helped raise us! So sorry to not know that you were I'll. So many wonderful memories that you were a large part of! Smart, talented, truthful and truly a man of integrity. We will miss you and your wonderful words of wisdom. See you in a few, dear friend. Xoxoxo

January 21 at 5:05 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Chelsea by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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