



Glen Dale "Sparky" Sparks

January 1, 1932 - November 22, 2014

Glen Dale "Sparky" Sparks of Waldron, Arkansas went to be with his Lord and Savior Saturday, November 22, 2014 in Waldron, Arkansas. Sparky was born January 1, 1932 in Winfield, Arkansas to Arvil Sparks and Opal (Cheek) Sparks. Sparky was 82 years, 10 months and 21 days old.

A jack-of-all-trades, Sparky moved back to Waldron from California in 1955, and opened the service station across from the Sale Barn with his family. He married Wanda Jean Whitmire in June of 1956. After the filling station, Sparky worked for AVI. He then began his career as a car salesman for Theo Money Chevrolet, then Denton Motor Company. Sparky then took office as the Scott County Treasurer, and remained there for 18 years. In 1986, his wife, Wanda, passed. Sparky remained the Scott County Treasurer until 1990 when he began a two year term as the Scott County Judge. He retired from public office after that to return to selling cars for Carl Laird. He married Mary Jo McDowell in April of 1993, and in the early 2000's, he began working to map the county roads for the new 911 emergency system. A civic minded man, Sparky was a member of the Lions Club and the Rodeo Club. He served on the Board of Directors for Western Arkansas Counseling and Guidance, Scott County Senior Citizens Center, and the Waldron Housing Authority. He was a long time member of the Waldron First Baptist Church.

Perhaps Sparky is best known as a musician having played alongside his

sons Roger and Russell their whole lives. Formally, he was a member of the band Poteau Valley Boys, and informally he would play with anyone who would let him. He would sing with his sons and Sparks Grass, the Turkey Track Band, the Louisiana Grass and the First Baptist Church choir. Sparky would also volunteer his time and played music at the Waldron Nursing Home for the residents and staff. He loved going to Turkey Track and did odd jobs for the festival from picking up rocks when Bill and Juanita Churchill first opened it, to driving the shuttle bus for Bill, Linda and Dusty Lovett. When he wasn't volunteering his time he preferred to play washers and visit. While he was never an avid sportsman, later in life he really enjoyed his early morning fishing trips with his good buddy, AG Morrison. Besides fishing, he loved Jesus, this community, NASCAR and the Razorbacks. The icing on his cake, however, was "wrestlin" with his great grandson Cayman and was lucky enough to spend his last evening on Earth with him.

Sparky leaves behind to cherish his memory, two sons: Roger Sparks and wife Tammie of Waldron, Arkansas and Russell Sparks and wife Dawnette of Lavaca, Arkansas. PaPaw will forever remain in the hearts of his grandchildren, Kayla Sparks and husband John Carnahan and Cortland Sparks all of Waldron, Arkansas and one great grandson Cayman Black of Abbott. Sparky will also be a treasured memory for one brother, Gerald Sparks of Raleigh, North Carolina and two nephews, David Sparks and wife Tiffany of Lonoke, Arkansas and Jeff Sparks and wife Danielle of North Little Rock, Arkansas, one step-daughter, Melanie McDowell and step granddaughter, Alysia Skinner and husband Josh of Greenwood, Arkansas.

Sparky was preceded in death by his first wife, the mother of his boys, Wanda and his second wife Mary Jo, his parents, Opal and Arvil Sparks, and a step-daughter, Stephanie Garza.

Sparky 's life celebration will be at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 26,

2014 at the First Baptist Church in Waldron, Arkansas with Rev. Randy Hogan and Rev. Warren Gassaway officiating. Arrangements and cremation are being entrusted to the Heritage Memorial Funeral Home in Waldron, Arkansas.

Sparky's pallbearers will be Cortland Sparks, John Carnahan, Gary Nelson, Eddie Swisher, Mark Ward and A.G. Morrison.

Sparky's visitation will be Tuesday, November 25, 2014 from 12:00 noon until 8:00 p.m. at the Heritage Memorial Funeral Home in Waldron, Arkansas where Sparky's family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Scott County Senior Citizens Center, Waldron Lions Club or the Waldron First Baptist Church, c/o Heritage Memorial Funeral Home, P.O. Box 358, Waldron, AR 72958.

Cemetery Details

Sehorn Cemetery

Waldron, AR 72958

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **25**. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Heritage Memorial Funeral Home
1879 West 6th Street
Waldron, AR 72958
(479) 637*1212
info@heritagememorialfh.com

Family Will Receive Friends

NOV **25**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Heritage Memorial Funeral Home
1879 West 6th Street
Waldron, AR 72958
(479) 637*1212
info@heritagememorialfh.com

Celebration of Life

NOV **26**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Waldron First Baptist Church
Hwy 80 & Main Street
Waldron, AR

Tribute Wall



“ *Heritage Memorial Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Glen Dale "Sparky" Sparks*



Heritage Memorial Funeral Home & Crematory - November 25, 2014 at 01:30 PM

AB

Loved the tribute, I will never forget that big ole smile!

Ann Bingham - November 28, 2014 at 08:38 AM

CM

“ *Russell & Roger I am so glad that I was able to know your dad. Both of you have your dads smile and contagious laugh. Scott County watched you both grow up with a dad that loved his family and Scott County folks. Your dad has a servants heart and spirit that loves the Lord. Opal & Arvel Sparks blazed the trail for your dad, now he has blazed the trail for you both. God Bless to you and your families - Charlene Moore-Alewel*

Charlene Moore-Alewel - December 08, 2014 at 09:01 PM

KH

“ *I will never forget you as you would always encourage me in my music and I always looked forward to seeing you whenever I made it back home. Heaven just got brighter when you entered in. Ken Huens*

Ken Huens - November 28, 2014 at 07:52 PM

MB

“ Sorry for your loss. He raised some good boys!! Monte and Cheryl Brotherton.

Monte Brotherton - November 26, 2014 at 08:55 AM

"P

“ "Jeto" Piles lit a candle in memory of Glen Dale "Sparky" Sparks



"Jeto" Piles - November 26, 2014 at 08:34 AM

"P

Roger & Russell, your Dad was one of the finest men I know. Always had a smile on his face & a handshake. Always enjoy playing pool with him at the Center. When my mother needed something done around the house that needed fixing Glen Dale was always there to help. "Sparky" was a wonderful cousin. My thoughts & prayers are you & family. God Bless.

"Jeto" Piles - November 26, 2014 at 08:47 AM

JF

“ Russell, Roger and family
God placed an angel in your families life with a dad, grandpa, and brother that touched all of our lives. Plus we all were allowed to share in the gift of Sparky's laughter, joy and presence that God sent him to share. I'll never forget the joy music played in Sparky's life. The joy you boys picking brought to him. Can't wait till we play another stanza of "The Old Country Church" in heaven....with Sparky's genuine smile.
God's blessings
Jimmy Cook family

Jimmy Cook family - November 25, 2014 at 09:42 PM

BV

“ *Barbie Owens VanMatre lit a candle in memory of Glen Dale "Sparky" Sparks*

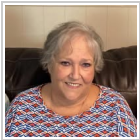


Barbie Owens VanMatre - November 25, 2014 at 08:37 PM

LG

“ *My deepest sympathy to the family of Glen Dale he was a special man and will be missed my all.*

Linda Goodner - November 25, 2014 at 05:07 PM



“ *I have very fond memories since childhood of the Sparks Family, I lived close to their Grandpa and thought so much of the whole family, Sparky was a very good Christian influence down through the years, I am so sorry for your loss, praying for comfort for all of family. Love and Prayers, Cathy (Waganer) Sandifer and Family*



Cathy Sandifer - November 25, 2014 at 04:18 PM

NS

“ *Glen Dale was an important part of my life since I was a child. He used to practically live at my parents' house and he loved by mother's cooking. I think you could say that Glen Dale never met a stranger. He was loved and he will be greatly missed. I want to offer my sincerest condolences to his many friends and his family. - Norma Stinson*

Norma Stinson - November 25, 2014 at 03:10 PM

AN

“ Roger, Russell, and family:
I am so very sorry for your great loss and the loss to the community. Sparky was a true friend and he will be greatly missed. I have many fond memories of growing up in Scott County and most of those involve your family in some form or fashion. My prayers are with you and the family.
Argie Nell

Argie Nell Nichols - November 25, 2014 at 02:42 PM

BC


“ *Sparky was a joy to be around. I will truly miss his smiling face and incredibly positive attitude, as well as my hug every 3rd Friday of the month.*
Fondly, B.J. Cobb, WACGC

B.J. Cobb - November 25, 2014 at 01:48 PM

RR

“ *Russell and Roger and all family, we are praying for the comfort of the Holy Spirit to come surround you and fill you with peace. We'll never forget Sparky.*

Ron and Donna Ramsey - November 24, 2014 at 10:50 PM

 Vicki
Chronister
Jenkins

“ *I am so glad you came into our lives, I will miss you. My only regret is I moved away and didn't get more time with you, This is truly, a loss for me and everyone who's life you touched, You were a wonderful and kind man, RIP uncle Sparky I love you and will miss you.*



Vicki Chronister Jenkins - November 24, 2014 at 08:49 PM

DD

“ Roger, Russell, and families, I am so sorry for your great loss. Sparky was a special man and I'll really miss him. He was always so cheerful and happy! He was a very good friend to mom and dad, as well as the rest of our family. I will remember him fondly always!
Love and prayers, Darla

Darla Dozier - November 24, 2014 at 06:18 PM

RL

“ When we first moved to Arkansas, we had to go to every "pickin and singing" because we had to hear Glen Dale and all the country singing...daddy just loved it. Every time some would play Orange Blossom Special daddy would just tap that foot...He loved Glen Dale so much.... And he'd tell stories of the ornery ness they got into... And just laugh. When they were together it was so much fun... The family get togetherness we had years ago... Your mom playing horse shoes and Aunt Opal., good memories. Glen Dale always had a smile and kind words... What a legacy he leaves 😊 I agree with Allison's words... Great man
Love you all
cuz

Rick and Lynn - November 24, 2014 at 06:17 PM

MY

“ Mike And Kim Young lit a candle in memory of Glen Dale "Sparky" Sparks



Mike and Kim Young - November 24, 2014 at 05:49 PM

NS

“ *Norma Starr lit a candle in memory of Glen Dale "Sparky" Sparks*



Norma Starr - November 24, 2014 at 05:12 PM

SW

“ *Shirley Watkins lit a candle in memory of Glen Dale "Sparky" Sparks*



Shirley Watkins - November 24, 2014 at 04:11 PM



“ *John Wagner purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Glen Dale "Sparky" Sparks.*



John Wagner - November 24, 2014 at 02:57 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Glen Dale "Sparky" Sparks.*



November 24, 2014 at 02:22 PM

JE

“ Our prayers for Comfort and Peace go out to the family during this sad time. One thing for sure when you seen "Sparky", no matter where it was, you would get a big "Hello" and that wonderful warm smile. He was such a great pillar of our community, and such a great Christian example of how we should all live our lives. Much to be learned from that example. Love & Prayers

Joni and Gerald Essman - November 24, 2014 at 02:14 PM

ME

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family during this time. Mark and Melinda Stevens

Melinda - November 24, 2014 at 01:22 PM

LM

“ When Steve first came to Waldron and visited with everyone in town, Sparky became one of his best friends. We both think he is one of the finest people we've ever known. No matter how long we were away at times Steve's phone would ring and it would be Sparky calling to checkup on him. What a fine person and what a loss for Waldron. His family will be in our prayers. We will miss him.



Lynn & Steve Meeks - November 24, 2014 at 01:00 PM

SB

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this time. Sparky will be missed. Chris & Stephanie Brewster



stephanie brewster - November 24, 2014 at 11:39 AM



“ *Such a delightful man, one who was always eager to see a friendly face and so eager to be the first to greet you, such a loss for all who knew him, Heartfelt thoughts and prayers to his family.*

Michael Oakes - November 24, 2014 at 11:31 AM

DS

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.*

David and Michelle Sparks - November 24, 2014 at 10:42 AM

MR

“ *I cannot remember a time that Mr. Sparks did not have a smile on his face. All of us will miss that smile until we see him again.*

Marcus Richmond - November 24, 2014 at 10:32 AM

CL

“ *We at Waldron Nursing Center are so saddened by the passing of Glen Dale "Sparky" as he has been such a faithful Volunteer and brought such "Joy" to our residents over the past 30+ years with helping us at the bingo games, bringing the Blue Grass music with all of the boys in the group and just being a friend to all of us. He will be greatly missed, our thoughts and prayers will be with the entire family through the many sad days ahead.*

Christine Lees LSW/ADC

Waldron Nursing Center Residents



Christine Lees - November 24, 2014 at 09:56 AM

BL

“ *Glen Dale a very special man was loved by all that knew him. I remember the little boy who liked ice cream cones and was always a little gentleman. He will be so missed by one and all who knew him. Loved you Sparkie.*

Betty Jo Lee - November 24, 2014 at 08:52 AM

TT

“ *Sparky was a friend anywhere you saw him. He will be missed. Your family is in our prayers.*



Thurston & Beth Tinder - November 24, 2014 at 08:28 AM

WS

“ *With deepest sympathy.*



Waldron Nursing Center Reidents / Staff - November 24, 2014 at 08:16 AM

AB

“ *Was so sorry to hear of Glen Dale's passing. Thinking of you all at this time.*

Ann Bingham - November 24, 2014 at 07:22 AM

GN

“ Have so many memories I can't count. Always happy and kept everyone laughing at family reunions and such. I'm a better man for just knowing him.

Gary Nelson - November 24, 2014 at 07:17 AM

CB

“ What a great man, and great-grandfather to our Cayman! I am honored to have known Sparky for so many years, he always had a loving smile for everyone. Prayers and hugs.

Cindy Black - November 24, 2014 at 05:54 AM



“ Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Glen Dale "Sparky" Sparks.



November 24, 2014 at 04:44 AM

SW

“ Sandra (Liles) Walker lit a candle in memory of Glen Dale "Sparky" Sparks



Sandra (Liles) Walker - November 23, 2014 at 11:17 PM

AV

“ I loved your dad he was always there to help if you needed it

Alice Via - November 23, 2014 at 11:02 PM

AS

“ We all sure love your dad!!! He was always smiling and shining that light! I know there must be a long line to greet him in Heaven, but I know two people who couldn't be happier he's there!! He was my Pop's favorite cousin and honored him so well during his funeral....what a blessing to finish your race as well as he did!
Allison and Jeremy Slankard

allison slankard - November 23, 2014 at 10:25 PM

PR

“ I am so very thankful that I was blessed to have the privilege of knowing Sparky. What great memories I have. I will truly miss him. Thank you Roger and Russell for sharing your music with the nursing home residents. Your Dad volunteered his time and made the residents feel so special. His crown is shining so brightly now!!
Love and prayers.

Patti & Dave Roets - November 23, 2014 at 10:08 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Glen Dale "Sparky" Sparks.*



November 23, 2014 at 09:51 PM

MP

“ Sparky was a man who always tried to do the right thing. He made friends with anyone he met and I never heard him say anything bad about another person. He raised two fine talented sons who will miss him along with all the family, but this separation is temporary for the Christ followers who loved him. He has completed his Victory in JESUS.

Mike Powell - November 23, 2014 at 09:40 PM

WV

“ Russell and Roger, thoughts and prayers for you and your family during this time. He always had time for a smile and a hand shake. He will be missed until we see him again,

Will and Kristy Vaughan

will vaughan - November 23, 2014 at 09:35 PM

SH

“ So sorry to hear of Glen Dale's death. I just saw him walking the other morning as I went to work. He truly was a wonderful person, Never met a stranger and was always so upbeat. He will be missed by many. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.
Terry and Shirley Cox



Shirley - November 23, 2014 at 09:09 PM

JM

“ One of Waldron's best! Our thoughts and prayers are with your family!

Jason and Cindy Mitchell - November 23, 2014 at 08:39 PM

RJ

“ Roger and Russell (slats)sorry to hear about Sparky. Truly one of most kind and considerate people I have every met. He will truly be missed. Mary was just saying the neighborhood is not the same without him she already misses him walking down the street. May God Bless Ray (moe) and Mary Jett

Ray and Mary Jett - November 23, 2014 at 08:04 PM

MC

“ Roger and Russell, Your Dad was one of a kind! He had a smile and kind word for everyone he met. My parents always enjoyed visiting with him and talking about the good old days. May God comfort and give you peace.

Melissa Ferguson Coggins

Melissa Ferguson Coggins - November 23, 2014 at 06:50 PM

DS

“ We are so sorry to hear of the passing of your loved. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of sorrow. Sparky was a very special man and will be missed by all that knew him may God comfort and strengthen is our prayer.



Debbie and Waymon Sparks - November 23, 2014 at 06:17 PM

AG

“ I called him "Sparks" when I seen him. He had a way to make you feel special and like a true friend. Always upbeat and just a genuine person. R. I. P. Thanks for all your kindness! Prayers to his family/friends!



Angie Gardner - November 23, 2014 at 05:33 PM

DH

“ We pray God give your family the comfort and peace that only He can do at the loss of your loved one. What a glorious day for Glen Dale!! You have so much more to go to Heaven for that you did a few days ago. God Bless each and everyone of you.

Danny and Carla Harrison

Danny and Carla Harrison - November 23, 2014 at 05:28 PM



DJ

“ Your family is in our thoughts and prayers!
Whit & Danielle Jameson

danielle jameson - November 23, 2014 at 05:18 PM



RH

“ Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.
Sparky was a wonderful man and he will be so missed.

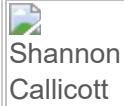
Roger & Jana Holcomb - November 23, 2014 at 04:52 PM



LH

“ Roger & Russell. We are so sorry to hear of your Loss, Glen Dale was such a great man, you can be so proud to have had him in your lives for so long. He touched everyone he crossed path's with. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you..

Larry & Deloras Horn - November 23, 2014 at 04:31 PM



Shannon
Callicott

“ *I have known all of you for as long as I can remember. I am saddened to hear of Sparkys passing but am praying for all of you.
Love Shannon Womble Callicott*

Shannon Callicott - November 23, 2014 at 04:19 PM

JR

“ *Roger and Russell, So Sorry about your Dad. May God Bless and Comfort you through your loss. Sparky will be missed by all who knew him.*

James and Lottie Richmond - November 23, 2014 at 04:10 PM

KH

“ *Sparky was always so friendly to everyone. We first met him at The Rock Cafe. He was always so proud of his sons. He will be missed! We have our deepest sympathy for his family and keeping you all in our Prayers!
Sincerely, Lee and Karen Hoden*



Karen Hoden - November 23, 2014 at 04:06 PM

BH

Roger & Russell so sorry for your loss. Never saw him that he didn't have a smile.

Betty & Gary Hunt - November 23, 2014 at 04:23 PM

CG

Glen Dale(Sparky) always had a smile for everyone , he will be missed greatly! So sorry for y'all's loss.

carlton and meredith graham - November 23, 2014 at 06:32 PM

LJ

I can't remember, or imagine, Waldron without him. A great person who will be missed. Thoughts and prayers are with my classmate, Roger, Russell and all of Glen Dale's family

Larry Jones

Larry Jones - November 23, 2014 at 06:55 PM

JB

Roger a and Russell and families, so sorry to hear about Glen Dale's passing. Have known him for a long time. Have a lot of good memories of playing music with him and you boys and him when he was county judge. Had a loot of fun at the old courthouse. May God be with you and comfort you all in your sorrow.

Curtis and Jean Billings

Jean Billings - November 23, 2014 at 07:51 PM

TC

Well I can't imagine Waldron without Sparky! The over 50 years I've known him, he always had a good word to say, a hug , and genuine concern for you! I will miss him but know is is rejoicing in Heaven ! Prayers sent to all the family who will miss him dearly!

Teresa Culpepper - November 23, 2014 at 10:02 PM

DW

Thr first thing that came to my mind about Sparky was our square dancing days. He would always dance "the Salty Dog" with me because I seemed to be the only one who could keep up with him. Those were great times. His family is in my thoughts and prayers.

Dianna Harvey Williams - November 24, 2014 at 10:21 AM