



## Merl Ree Gray

June 15, 1940 - May 29, 2020

Merl Ree Gray, 79, of Tulsa, passed away Friday, May 29, 2020. He was born June 15, 1940, in Ramona, OK, to Ree and Ella Gray. He had worked for Boeing as a supervisor and structural mechanic. Merl was a member of Faith Church and was an elder, deacon, Sunday School superintendent, Sunday School teacher, janitor and singer. He enjoyed fishing, solitaire and yard work. Merl is survived by his wife of 60 years, Gladys Gray; his children, Timothy Gray and wife Carol of New River, AZ, Tammy Applegate and husband Danny of Tulsa, OK, Thomas Gray and wife Sally of Oklahoma City, OK, Anthony Gray and wife Lisa of Nowata, OK, Tracey Gray and wife Kim of Springfield, MO; fifteen grandchildren; twenty great-grandchildren; his brothers, Floyd Gray of Corsicana, TX, Gary Gray and wife Lyn of Tulsa, OK. Merl was preceded in death by his parents; and infant son, Terry Gray.

Viewing: 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., Monday, June 1, 2020

Visitation: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Monday, June 1, 2020

Service: 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, June 2, 2020

All at Moore's Eastlawn Chapel, 1908 S. Memorial Drive, Tulsa, OK

Moore's Eastlawn Chapel

918-622-1155

# Events

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**JUN**   **Funeral**                      10:00AM

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Moore's Eastlawn Chapel  
1908 S. Memorial, Tulsa, OK, US, 74112

# Comments

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“ A webcast video has been added.



**Moore Funeral Home** - June 02 at 10:02 AM



“ Thank you for live streaming Merl's memorial service - i wish i could be there! praying for you all. Rebecca

**Rebecca Anderson** - June 02 at 11:07 AM



“ Sure wish we could be there with you today. We love you, Gladys! Praying God's perfect peace to cover you! Suzanne and kids

**suzanne** - June 02 at 11:18 AM



“ Merl leaves a legacy that is worth far more than any material riches!

**Rebecca Anderson** - June 02 at 12:03 PM



“ Aunt Gladys and family my prayers are with all! Uncle Merk was always a very good uncle!!! And man of God!!!! He will be miss by Candy Randolph and family

**Candy Randolph** - June 02 at 12:58 PM



“ My heart breaks that I could not be there. He was a wonderful man who I thought very highly of. Praying for you guys.

**Pam Lollus** - June 02 at 11:37 PM



“ Gladys, I am sorry I missed Merl's funeral. I thought about you and your family all day. Merl and you always showed your support to our family. It was always great to look up and see you both. I love you and your family.

**Marlene Fields** - June 03 at 05:40 PM



“ As a child at the Minick reunion, I can remember Merl singing a solo most years. On the way home, my Mom and Papaw and GG would talk about what a beautiful voice he had. I grew up enjoying to hear him sing. Now he is singing with them all in Heaven. What a day, glorious day, that will be to hear that heavenly choir.

**Everta Cannafax** - June 09 at 11:14 AM

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“ Love Merl and Gladys. Dear dear friends. Merl will be missed.

Lois Allison - June 03 at 07:18 PM

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“ Your Neuro/Stroke Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Merl Ree Gray.



Your Neuro/Stroke Family - June 01 at 12:56 PM

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“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Merl Ree Gray.



June 01 at 12:56 PM

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“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Merl Ree Gray.



June 01 at 10:23 AM

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“ Gladys Faye  
We are so sorry to hear of your loss. We didn't know Merl was getting so bad but we want you to know you are all in our prayers.  
J.R.(Randy) and Cindy Hahn

J.R Hahn - May 30 at 11:27 PM

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“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Merl Ree Gray.



May 30 at 10:15 PM

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“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Merl Ree Gray.



May 30 at 09:08 PM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Merl Ree Gray.



May 30 at 03:16 PM

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“ Tim and Carol Gray purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Merl Ree Gray.



**Tim and Carol Gray** - May 30 at 02:34 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Merl Ree Gray.



May 30 at 02:28 PM

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“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Merl Gray.



May 30 at 12:07 PM

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“ Let me share one story about the kind of man Merl (or just Grandpa to us) was... If you have ever been to the old Faith (Assembly) on 21st street you can walk through this with me.

When Faith was in between youth Pastors, I went to lunch with Pastor Kelly Goins & Scott Case, there at the sushi bar, they offered me the Interim Youth Pastor position. After lunch, I went back to the church, and grandpa was there (of course he was, he was always there). He could see the excitement on my face or something because he grinned real big and said, “well.”

Then he said, “come here” and he began to walk toward that back hallway at the back of the church. (You guys know, the narrow hallway that was also used for storage of all kinds of stuff...)

He took me to that little storage closet that seemed to be his own little private maintenance man honey hole. It was filled with all kinds of stuff. He grabbed that blue vacuum and the extension cord that had Merl written on it and took me out into the fellowship hall/youth room.

He said, “If you can learn how to operate and use this thing, you’re going to make a great youth pastor.” From that moment on, I always made sure I was running that vacuum after a youth event/service, etc. I wasn’t going to leave it to grandpa after that discussion.

At first, I didn’t know how to take it, but looking back on it I can see where Grandpa, in his own special way, was teaching me what it meant to be a servant. He taught me that to be a great leader, I had to be a great servant, quietly serving behind the scenes, off the stage, in complete humility.

“To be first is to be last.”

He demonstrated it by living it and teaching it. He was and is a GREAT LEADER!  
We will miss you grandpa but we will see you again! We love you!

**Michael Smith** - May 30 at 12:02 PM