



Frank Dennis Matthews

September 15, 1936 - October 21, 2025

Frank Dennis Matthews, 89, of Enid, Oklahoma, passed away at his home on October 21, 2025. He was born on September 15, 1936, in Gage, Oklahoma.

Frank proudly served in the United States Air Force, and after his military service, he worked as a jet engine mechanic at Vance Air Force Base. He also owned and operated A&W Drive-In, Rogers Cleaners, and Frank's Mobile Home Service Co. He would tell you these were his part-time jobs. He retired from both Champlin Refinery and Northrop Grumman at Vance Air Force Base.

Frank was known for his tireless work ethic, teasing sense of humor, and willingness to share his opinion about almost everything with anyone who'd listen. Frank never met a stranger. Behind the jokes and inquisitive looks was a true encourager who cared deeply for others. Frank sought to follow Jesus with all his heart. He often said, "I don't want to miss Heaven," and those who knew him believe, by grace, he surely didn't.

Frank loved his wife dearly, caring for Maudie with tenderness through ill health and missing her every day since her passing ten years ago. Together, they had four children, and although their infant daughter, Shelley Dawn, preceded them in death, the family legacy continues through children: Denise (J. David) Sowders, Rob (Carmencita) Matthews, and Debbie (Dennis) Moore and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and even great-great

grandchildren; sisters, Mary Peacock and Ida Schneider. Frank was happiest when his loved ones gathered around his table to enjoy food he and Maudie prepared. Overnight visits to Papa's house usually meant pancakes the next morning and if the Dallas Cowboys were playing, everyone watched with the TV sound off – his rule!

Celebration of Life Service will be November 4, 2025 at 10:00 am in Cedar Ridge Wesleyan Church, 5101 West Randolph. Just as they wished, Frank and Maudie's ashes will be interred side by side at Memorial Park Cemetery-Enid, in the Garden of Hope.

Frank believed that life was better with a full stomach, Jesus in your heart, and a little bit of mischief. He will be greatly missed!

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

6405 Memorial Dr
Enid, OK 73701

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

NOV 4. 10:00 AM (CT)

Cedar Ridge Wesleyan Church
5101 W. Randolph Ave.
Enid, OK 73703

Tribute Wall

MS

“ Jim and I are sorry to read of Franks passing. Jim worked with Frank at Champlin and I knew him also from the base. What a great man! Always so much fun to be around.
Marilyn & Jim Stewart

MARILYN STEWART - November 15, 2025 at 11:32 AM

SM

“ Where to start, he was a lot of things - a loving husband, father, grandfather and then some. He became someone in my life where I could call and talk life with. We shared old and new stories. We laughed and sang lots. We would sing "nobody knows the trouble Ive seen" together. We would laugh about how the world feels upside downs sometimes. I am blessed in the last few years to have a growing and loving relationship with. He gave me an open heart and ears in times I needed it. I love you forever, Papa.

Shelly Marie - November 03, 2025 at 08:54 AM

DS

“Yesterday I drove to Galveston to pick up a sweet baby boy and bring him back for placement with a super-excited family. He is their very first child, and I’m telling you right now — that little guy is going to be smothered with LOVE!

After they left, I reached for my phone to call my daddy. Every time I was traveling to get a baby, I’d call him and say, “I’m off to pick up a baby!” And he always replied, “Well good! What kind of baby is it?” He wanted all the details — boy or girl, race, healthy — and always ended the same way: “Do you have a family, or do you need to bring that baby to Papa?”

My daddy, known as Uncle Frank to most kids, loved babies. And he loved adoption. Every single one of his grandchildren came into our family through adoption. Debbie adopted her husband’s boys before he passed away. Rob adopted from the Philippines. And we adopted from Nicaragua and right here in Texas. We used to tease Mom and Dad that they had their own United Nations — Alabaman, Nicaraguan, Filipino, African American. Daddy was so proud of his multicultural family, and he loved each child with all he had.

Since Daddy died, I’ve found myself thinking a lot about heaven. I picture him walking around, scooping up babies of every creed and color, saying, “Hey, I’m Uncle Frank, and I love me some babies.”

And if you know, you know — Shelley was showered with love when Daddy got there. ❤️



Denise Matthews Sowders - October 31, 2025 at 07:09 PM

BD

“ *Babcocks, Shays, and Davis’s purchased the Treasured Lilies Spray for the family of Frank Dennis Matthews.*



Babcocks, Shays, and Davis’s - October 30, 2025 at 08:16 PM

RM

“ *I met Frank 65 years ago and have loved him since and I miss him terribly. He taught me a lot and made me the man I am today.*

We talked every day, and I so miss those calls. Some were nonsense, some not.

I have no doubt he's in heaven with my mom, little sister Shelley Dawn and many other friends and relatives. I'd bet mom was waiting for a kiss. They kissed a lot!

I encourage all of you that read my short note to leave a note of your own. A story, a memory. Share something about my Dad.

Rob Matthews - October 30, 2025 at 05:47 PM

RM

“ *1 file added to the album Pics*



Rob Matthews - October 30, 2025 at 05:39 PM