



Richard "RD" Bland

October 26, 1925 - August 8, 2018

Richard Dean (RD "Dick") Bland, 92, Enid, OK passed away on Wednesday, August 8th

following a short illness.

Visitation will be held Monday, August 13th from 5:30-7PM at Anderson Burriss Funeral Home. Graveside service will be held at 2PM, Tuesday, August 14th at the Enid Cemetery with Curt Johnston officiating. Funeral arrangements are being handled by Anderson-Burriss Funeral Home.

RD was born in Enid, OK on October 26, 1925 to Orin T. and Goldye Bland. He had a twin brother, Dwain. He graduated from Enid High School and both young men begged their parents to enlist in the Army Air Corps. RD was stationed in Ridgewell, England with the 381st Bomb group, the Bat Out of Hell Squadron as a waist gunner on a B-17, the Fox. On a bombing raid over Brux, Czechoslovakia, on Feb. 14th, 1945, the Fox was hit and the crew bailed out. RD was taken prisoner of war and declared missing in action. He was honorably discharged in Dec. 1945 and received the Purple Heart. On November 14, 1945 he married Frances Johnson. He worked a variety of jobs and ran his own electrical business until retiring at the age of 70.

RD was an avid fisherman and hunter along with his brother Dwain, they enjoyed taking many celebrities and businessmen on hunts during the Grand National Quail Hunt. In 2014, RD was awarded the Woodring Wall of Honor

Legacy Veteran of the Year. RD loved spending time with his grandkids and the great grandchildren provided so much joy in his later years.

He is survived by his daughter, Lisa and husband, Mark Selix of Enid, OK; a son Richard O. Bland and wife, O' Rita, Tomball, TX. Grandchildren, Richard Cody Bland & Tyler Bland, Portland, OR, Cole and Amy Selix, Moore, OK, Matt and Rae Selix, Enid, OK, Maggie and Michael Hudson, Del City, OK. Great grandchildren, Xander and Edie Selix, Moore, Trace and Buck, Enid, OK

RD was preceded in death by his parents, brother, wife, Frances and daughter, Dana.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be given to Wounded Warriors or Disabled American Veterans with the funeral home acting as custodian.

Cemetery Details

Enid Cemetery

East Willow
Enid, OK 73701

Previous Events

Family Visitation

AUG 13. 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Anderson-Burris Funeral Home
Enid, OK

Graveside Service

AUG 14. 2:00 PM (CT)

Enid Cemetery
East Willow
Enid, OK 73701

Tribute Wall

RD

“ To Family of Dick Bland,

I have known Dick all of my life as I grew up on 2005 W. Randolph, the property of Perry Davis family since 1931. In recent years we had breakfast or lunch many times at the Willow Cafe sharing hunting and fishing stories, our lives, and mutual friends. He gave me a hat from the 381st Bomb group and I gave him different books. We both subscribed to Fur Fish & Game. I was captivated by his account of bailing out of his B-17, capture and life as a POW. All of this culminated into a man that was an honor to know and learn from as he was the best.

Ray Davis

Ray Davis - August 14, 2018 at 10:42 AM

LI

Ray, thank you so much for your sentiment. My dad spoke fondly of you and I am glad you had lunch with him — he always enjoyed you!

Lisa Bland-Selix

Lisa - August 16, 2018 at 10:33 AM

CB

“ *Lisa, I'm sorry to hear of your father's passing. All my love and prayers are with you and your family. Such a loss. Cindy Ridge Braly*

Cindy Ridge Braly - August 13, 2018 at 08:38 AM

LI

Thank you, Cindy! I appreciate you taking the time to give your condolences!!!

Lisa - August 16, 2018 at 10:45 AM

NB

“ *Lisa, I'm sorry about the loss of your dad. What an amazing man.
Love, Nancy Traylor Burgett*

Nancy Burgett - August 11, 2018 at 10:36 AM

LI

Thank you, Nancy! We appreciate it!

Lisa - August 16, 2018 at 10:46 AM

SC

Lisa so sorry to hear about your Dad. I have been traveling most of the summer. He was a FANTASTIC man with such a great attitude about life. Sherrie

Sherrie Childers - August 20, 2018 at 06:01 PM

LI

Thank you, Sherrie. We will really miss him but as my husband said he lived the life of three people with so many experiences etc!

Lisa - August 22, 2018 at 02:00 PM