

Curtis “Gayle” Ward

April 29, 1925 – January 12, 2025

Curtis Gayle Ward was born in Stillwater, OK, to E.B. and Velma Ward on April 29, 1925 and passed away in Stillwater on January 12, 2025. Soon after his graduation from Stillwater High School in 1943, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corp. After his honorable discharge, he enrolled at Oklahoma A&M, graduating with a business degree in 1951. On November 27, 1959, he and Patricia Ann Kincaid were married. Gayle began his career working in the front office of the family-owned Ward Chevrolet dealership. He soon became the service manager and worked in that position until the dealership was sold. Next, he began acquiring and managing real estate rental properties and laundromats. He finished his working career at the USDA Agricultural Research Center’s Hydraulics Laboratory, retiring in 1989. During his career at the laboratory, he designed and constructed the necessary equipment and infrastructure for the various lab functions. In addition to woodworking, his hobbies consisted of stamp collecting, photography, model airplanes, and boat racing. Gayle was preceded in death by his parents, his brother, Newton, and younger sisters Jean and Leah. He is survived by his wife, Patricia, daughter Linda (Cliff) Eberle, son Roger, and several grand and great-grandchildren.