



## Austin Edward Marsh Jr.

July 20, 1943 - May 15, 2017

Austin Edward Marsh, Jr., 73, of Altus, Oklahoma, passed away May 15, 2017 at home with his family by his side.

Born July 20th, 1943 in Hugo, Oklahoma, Austin was the only son to Austin, Sr. and Gladys (Loman) Marsh. His mother and grandmother initially raised Austin in Ada, Oklahoma, while his father served in the Pacific theatre of WWII. His father returned, when Austin turned three, and moved the family to Jackson County in search of share cropping jobs.

Austin began working the cotton fields, alongside his mother at the tender age of five, and would continue farm work throughout his school years, developing a love of the land that never left him.

Austin started grammar school in Blair but later transferred to City View where he would graduate in 1961. He attended college at Oklahoma Christian College in Edmond where he met his future sweetheart of 54 years, Sarah Jane Baize. They were married in her hometown, Muskogee, Oklahoma on August 30, 1963. Together, they had a daughter, Carrie (born 1964) and a son, Sean (born 1970).

Starting adult life with very little financial means, Austin relied on grit, ambition, and self-determination. He discovered a talent for salesmanship and earned a living in his early twenties through a series of sales jobs. His dream was to return to his roots; and in 1972, he purchased a 400-acre farm west of Blair and moved his family back to Oklahoma. Operating with little capital and plenty of overhead, this endeavor proved overwhelming, and he reluctantly

sold the farm in 1977 and turned back to sales. He obtained a real estate license in 1978 and went to work for a local Altus real estate firm before launching a firm, shortly thereafter. This would be the first of other successful businesses to follow.

After selling his share in the real estate firm to his partner, he moved on to the auto industry. In 1981, Austin perceived a market for the first auto auction in the southwest corner of the state, obtained an auto dealer's license, and opened Altus Auto Auction. The auction would soon become a thriving family business; and in 1991, he partnered with a friend and launched a second auction in Lubbock, TX and co-managed both auctions. Fifteen years later he sold his share of the Lubbock interest but continued to run the Altus auction, along with his wife and son, until his cancer diagnosis in December 2017.

Austin's greatest passion would always be farming, and in summer of 1983, he purchased a Headrick property, the first of several to follow, and raised cattle and wheat, while continuing to run the auctions. Eventually, he built a farming operation, which now includes an annual harvest, processing wheat for his farms and several neighboring farms. One of Austin's happiest pastimes was driving to his farms to look over the wheat pastures and check the cows.

Austin has a hilarious sense of humor and loved to laugh, cut up, and tell stories. He loved family gatherings, BIG family dinners (made Jane-Style) and lively conversations around the breakfast and dinner table. He loved westerns, talking politics, playing dominoes, visiting with good friends, and drinking LOADS of ice tea. To his family, he was a larger-than-life, one-of-a-kind character who, in addition to being our grand patriarch, will be proudly remembered as a scuffler and scrapper who was never afraid to try, and a visionary who could turn his dreams into realities. He was dearly loved and will be dearly missed.

He is survived by his wife, Jane; his son, Sean and wife Beverly of Altus; his daughter, Carrie, and her husband Jerry Don Yowell of Euless, Tx; his grandsons Josh, Logan, Cade and Ethan and granddaughter, Johnna; his

mother, Gladys; his sister Judy Jones and her husband, Elbert, of Oklahoma City; his sister Felice and her husband Dewayne of Altus. His father preceded him in death.

Services for Austin are scheduled for Thursday, May 18, 2017, 2:00 P.M. at the Elm & Hudson Church of Christ with Daniel Ingram officiating. Interment will follow at Victory Cemetery.

Viewing will begin Wednesday, May 17, 2017, 1:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. at the Peoples Cooperative Funeral Home located at 1400 West Main in Lone Wolf, 580-846-9018. On-line condolences can be made by visiting [www.peoplescooperativefuneralhome.com](http://www.peoplescooperativefuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Victory Cemetery

Altus, OK

# Previous Events

## Viewing

MAY 17. 1:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

People's Co-Operative Funeral Home  
P.O. Box 146  
1400 W. Main  
Lone Wolf, OK 73655  
(580) 846-9018  
pcfeco@gmail.com

## Funeral Service

MAY 18. 2:00 PM (CT)

Elm & Hudson Church of Christ  
400 N. Hudson St.  
Altus, OK 73521

# Tribute Wall



“ *Austin Edward Marsh Jr.*

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October 08, 2023 at 02:10 PM



“ *Austin Edward Marsh Jr.*

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October 04, 2023 at 11:28 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to the Marsh family. He always made me feel welcomed in his home. I know he loved his grandchildren so much. To see him interact with them just proved his love. Cathy Bradburry & family.*

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**Cathy Bradburry** - May 17, 2017 at 07:01 PM