



Carl Lee Melson

January 16, 2025 - June 29, 2025

Carl Lee Melson of Sulphur, Oklahoma was born on January 16, 1944 to Gordon & Mabel (Black) Melson. He went to be with the Lord on Sunday, June 29, 2025 at the age of 81 years, 5 months and 13 days in his home in Sulphur surrounded by his beloved family.

Carl was a born and raised Oklahoma native, and after school he found his passion in coaching football and track for 41 years. He coached all over, living and coaching in Marlow, OK, Beaver, OK, Sulphur OK, Konowa, OK, Hobbs, New Mexico, Enid, OK, Ada, OK, Moore, OK and Denton, Texas. He was very athletic, having run over 50,000 miles in his lifetime. He completed 27 full marathons, including the Boston Marathon. Carl found the love of his life when he was 21 years old and he and JoLyn were married on January 22, 1965 in a ceremony in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and the two have been married for 60 years. He took great pride in his career as a coach, impacting the lives of 1000's of athletes during his 41 year career as a coach. He coached several state champions in track and he never had a losing season as a head football coach. He was a beloved member of each community he touched and he will be greatly missed by many.

Carl is preceded in passing by his parents, grandson Tobin Kerley, brothers Virgil Melson and Al Melson, and niece Connie Melson.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife of 61 years, JoLyn Melson, his daughter Michael Ann & husband Bill Kerley; sons Chris & wife Judy Melson, Branden & wife Traci Melson; brother Gordon & wife Pat Melson and sister-in-

law Kathy Melson; grandchildren Scott Kerley, Lynlee Walker, Kyler Melson, Jordan Melson, Major Melson, Brooks Melson, Jaden Oberkrom and Tanner Oberkrom; great-grandchildren Kash Walker, Kyrie Walker, and Cooper Moreland; nephews Alan Melson, John Melson and Rowdy Cole and nieces Ginger Melson, Dana Munoz, Barbara Hoppe, Dixie Odle, and Holly Bristol.

Family hour will be held on Wednesday, July 2, 2025 from 5 to 7PM in the Crossway Church Foyer. Services will follow on Monday, July 7, 2025 at 1PM at Crossway Church in Sulphur, Bill Leveridge officiating. Interment will take place at Oaklawn Cemetery in Sulphur. The family has asked that in lieu of flowers, please make donations to FCA, or the Baptist Children's Home.

Cemetery Details

Oaklawn Cemetery

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Sulphur, OK 73086

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 2. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Crossway Church
2108 W Broadway Ave
Sulphur, OK 73086

Funeral Service

JUL 7. 1:00 PM (CT)

Crossway Church
2108 W Broadway Ave
Sulphur, OK 73086

Tribute Wall

EG

“ Carl has been a true friend and always have smile, I called him my buddy and a true OU fan. I love his wife and I will always cherish their friendship



Elaine Guilloz - July 07, 2025 at 12:05 AM

VG

“ JoLyn and family I am so so sorry. Saying a prayer for you all.

Vicki Godwin - July 03, 2025 at 10:24 PM

LB

“ To the Melson family – First, and most importantly, let me offer my condolences and wishes for comfort in this difficult time. I will be unable to attend the visitation or services but want to take the opportunity to share my experience as one of his former players and the impact he had.

In the grand scheme of Coach Melson’s 81 years, the time we shared was brief but, for me, it was especially meaningful. I am a member of the Sulphur High School’s class of 1975 and a member of the football team he coached. We had some talented players and, under Coach Melson’s leadership, we were able to chalk up enough wins to make it to the playoffs. We didn’t achieve our ultimate football goals that season but we experienced important life lessons through him about hard work, shared sacrifice, continuously seeking improvement and belief in your teammates. Those still stick with me today and in the end are more valuable than any set of wins we collected. Among my lasting memories of Coach are trying to keep up on those early morning training runs through the park during the summer ahead of our senior season, watching game films on the weekends at his house following Friday’s contest and his pep talks on game day. I still think of those times often.

As we explored our respective life paths, I fell out of touch with Coach but I was hoping we might touch base this coming September at our class’ 50th reunion. That will no longer be possible but I know he will be in our thoughts as we reflect on our high school years and we will raise a glass in his memory. I’m certain in the coming days you will be hearing countless tributes to Coach Melson from those whose lives he impacted, and please know I am grateful to be counted among those. Rest in Peace Coach Melson and Godspeed.

Larry Blevins - Kirtland, Ohio

Larry Blevins - July 01, 2025 at 04:09 PM

PL

So sorry to hear of Carl's passing. Carl was and always be highly respected among his fellow coaches for his dedication to the profession and to the many lives he touched during his career! RIP Coach and prayers to the family now and in the days ahead.
Phil (Sonny) Landrum

phil landrum - July 02, 2025 at 07:02 AM

RS

I was sad to learn of Carl's passing. I graduated from Sulphur in 1964 but got to play some sports with Carl. He was always a positive person and pleasant to be around. We crossed paths numerous times during our adulthood and it was always a good thing. To Jolyn and all of Carl's family I offer my sincere condolences. RIP Carl.

Richard Sherfield - July 02, 2025 at 12:46 PM