



Mella "Mel" Everett Towell

April 6, 1935 - June 23, 2021

Mella "Mel" Everett Towell, age 86, of Ozark, Arkansas died peacefully at home on Wednesday, June 23, 2021. He was a retired cattleman and a former owner of Towell Mercantile in Dalton, Arkansas and the Pocahontas Livestock Auction. A member of the Open Range Cowboy Church in Ozark, he was a devout Christian and loving father. Born April 6, 1935 in Beech Grove, Arkansas to Chester and Mayfair Piety Towell, he was preceded in death by his parents; an infant sister, Meredith Towell; and three brothers, Glenn, Dennis and Jim Towell.

After graduating from Lynn High School in 1954, he moved to Rockford, Illinois where he served as general foreman at Reed Electra Mat where his team developed the very first dollar bill changer. Returning to Arkansas in 1968, he owned and operated the Towell Mercantile in Dalton, Arkansas. In addition to his livestock business, Mel sold insurance for Auto Club of America.

After his retirement in 2015, he spent most of his time working on his farm, the T-Bar where he worked his cattle and trained horses and mules. He often took his wagon and his favorite team of horses to events at Paragould Children's Home, Jonesboro Human Development Center, church events and schools where he gave free wagon rides. The one thing that "Papas" may have enjoyed even more than his cattle and horses was spending time with his grandchildren and later his great-grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife, Dr. Marcia Hillard-Towell of Ozark; two sons, Jeff

Towell of Pocahontas, Arkansas and Mark Towell of Dalton, Arkansas; two daughters, Nikki Jo Towell of Paragould and Rhonda Rothgeb and husband Dave of Mammoth Springs, Arkansas; eight grandchildren, Mark and Jacob Towell, Derek and Tyler Powell, Matthew, Justin, and Ryan Gifford and Laura Lee; and fourteen great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be held from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM Wednesday, June 30, 2021 at Shaffer Funeral Home 2315 West Commercial Street Ozark, Arkansas.

Funeral Service will be held at 2:00 PM Wednesday, June 30, 2021 at Shaffer Funeral Home with Brother Tommy Herndon and Brother Zach Belt officiating under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home with burial at Highland Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Ken Belt, Aaron Brauer, James Hillard, Daxter Sharon, Brian Smith and Michael Watkins.

Memorial Donations can be made to The Open Range Cowboy Church, 267 Airport Road, Ozark, Arkansas 72949 and The Children's Home, 5515 Walcott Road, Paragould, Arkansas 72450.

Cemetery Details

Highland Cemetery

Highway 64 West
Ozark, AR 72949

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 30. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Shaffer Funeral Home
2315 West Commercial Street
PO Box 680
Ozark, AR 72949
(479) 667-4147
shafferfuneralhome@gmail.com

Funeral Service

JUN 30. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Mella "Mel" Everett Towell*

January 30, 2023 at 02:28 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mella "Mel" Everett Towell.*



June 28, 2021 at 12:35 PM



“ *Mell will be missed by many . Thanks for letting all your Jonesboro friends know of Mell's passing. Marcia I will pray for God's peace for you and all the family Love to you - Vickey Mullally*

Vickey Mullally - June 26, 2021 at 09:28 PM



“ *Mella was family. I've known him since I was a little girl. His brother Jim was my brother in law. I never was around him that he wasn't the most pleasant kind man. Many memories today of him his mom dad & brothers. He will always be a good memory for me. Love to you Marcia and the kids. May God be with you.*

Lynda "Cresap" Perry - June 26, 2021 at 04:44 PM



What an honor to have know a true gentleman, man of God! Loved to hear him tell stories of his child hood adventures , and hear him pray!!

stephanie - June 28, 2021 at 10:27 PM

CP

May God give you peace and comfort. Known Mella since I was small..graduated with my husband, Jim and brother J.T.enjoyed watching him play basketball! Blessed my sister and I were able to attend his service. He will be greatly missed

Carolyn Penn - July 02, 2021 at 10:51 PM