



Billy Harjo

March 28, 1950 - May 7, 2026

Billy Harjo, a resident of Henryetta, passed this life on May 7, 2026, at the age of 76. He was born March 28, 1950, in Okfuskee County, Oklahoma, to Muriel Harjo Sr. and Marian (Lewis) Haynes.

Raised in Fort Worth, Texas, Billy returned to Graham during his junior year of high school. Following graduation, he moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico, where he attended college and earned a degree in art.

Billy spent six years in Macon, Georgia, where he coached basketball and taught science and art at Warner Robins School. Billy managed the Creek Nation Trading Post in Macon GA as well as Okmulgee. He later worked as a bingo caller for approximately nineteen years, eventually serving as a kitchen supervisor before retiring.

Billy was internationally recognized as a champion Fancy War Dancer, and it was often said that “when he danced, his moccasins smoked.” He was also well known for his exceptional beadwork artistry. Even in recent years, Billy continued teaching beadwork classes and sharing the history and cultural traditions associated with the craft. He regularly attended beadwork art shows and possessed the remarkable ability to bead nearly anything.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Marian (Lewis) Haynes and Muriel Harjo Sr.; and his stepfather, Bill Haynes. Brothers; Daniel Harjo, David Harjo and Muriel Harjo Jr.

Billy is survived by his brother, Gerald Harjo and wife Mardi of Franklin, Georgia; sisters, Beverly Chancey and husband Devin of Weleetka, and Charlotte Starkey and husband Bart of Henryetta; nieces, Misty Reece and husband Anthony of Celina, Texas, and Mindy Johnson and husband Mark of Weleetka; great-nieces, Breawna and Tayelor Starkey; great-nephews, Jase and Lane Johnson; along with a host of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will be held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at the Rogers Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Wallace Gambler officiating. Interment will follow at the Haynes Family Cemetery in the Ryal Community. Services are under the direction of Rogers Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 11. 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Rogers Funeral Home
1302 West Main Street
Henryetta, OK 74437
(918) 650-9090
rogersfh@aol.com
<https://www.rogersfuneralhomeinc.com>

Funeral Service

MAY 12. 2:00 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Rogers Funeral home created a Tribute Video in memory of Billy Harjo*



Rogers Funeral Home - May 09 at 09:12 AM

NB

RIP Billy

Neva Blankenship - May 11 at 01:41 PM

SK

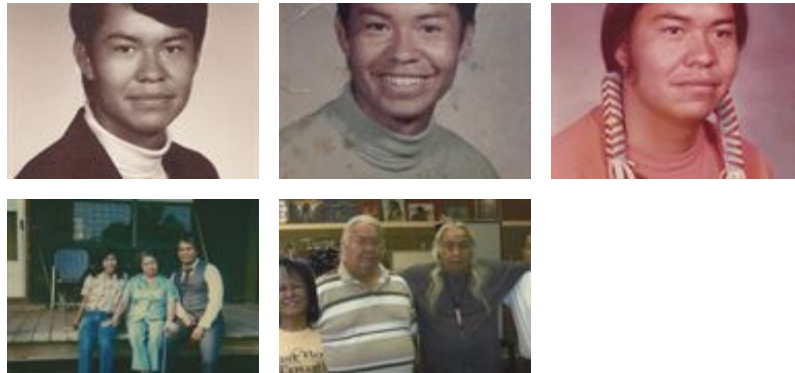
“ *Beverly & family, we're so sorry for your loss. I remember your family coming in the furniture store with your mom & Bill when we were just kids. That's where you and I became friends. I will be praying for the loss felt by you and your family.*



Susan Kelch - May 12 at 01:33 AM



“ 23 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Rogers Funeral Home - May 09 at 09:10 AM

NB

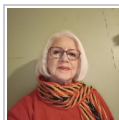
RIP Billy

Neva Blankenship - May 11 at 01:45 PM

NB

You will be missed

Neva Blankenship - May 11 at 01:46 PM



Gerald and family, Billy was always friendly and talkative. He had his ways and let you know what he thought. He did beautiful beadwork and liked to talk about his days in Mrs. Wapp's class at IAIA. You have my sincere sympathy.

Sandy Wilson - May 12 at 12:25 PM

TT

“ *Thomas Taylor purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Billy Harjo.*



Thomas Taylor - May 08 at 10:31 PM

SS

“ Will miss my dear friend since we were at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe so many years ago...we shared the love for traditional art including dance. Gosh we just seemed to be laughing all the time even after graduating,teaching, sharing ideas, doing art shows, powwows, I could go on and on.I will surely miss my dear friend. Much love Billy.

Sandra (Deer-Leader) Simpson - May 08 at 07:55 PM

RJ

“ Billy , I will miss you but I know you are in a better place my friend, Beverly and Charlotte and Gerald.. my prayers go out to the family: God bless The Jacobs family John, linda, sluggo and Russell

Russell Jacobs - May 08 at 01:15 PM

IF

Condolences Beverly, Charlotte and Gerald prayers for comfort and strength for you and your family's

Irene Jacobs and families - May 08 at 03:28 PM