

James Gyano "Red" Bell, 80, died Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2009, while surrounded by his family, at his residence in Liberal. He was born June 28, 1929, to Hubert Nolan and Audrey (Williams) Bell in Clinton, Okla. He married Alma Rae Holford June 24, 1955, in Okalahoma City. She survives. He was a 1947 Hobart High School graduate and then attended Oklahoma University. In 1949, he graduated from the National Dry Cleaning Institute.

He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War from 1950-54 and helped in creating the "Avenue of Flags" at the Liberal Cemetery. He was the former owner and operator of Red Bell Cleaners in Liberal.

He was a former member of Liberal Elks Lodge, American Legion No. 80 and LaSociete Des 40 Hommes Et 8 Chavaux.

He enjoyed playing golf, watching football and golf on TV and playing pool and ping pong with his wife, son and friends.

Other survivors include one son, J.G. Bell of Liberal; one daughter, Kristi and Scott Smiley, Lenexa; and three grandchildren, Kevin Bell, Ethan Jantz and Spencer Jantz.

He was preceded in death by parents and one sister, Martha Sue Hodges.

o A memorial service will be at a later date.

The family requests no visitors.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to St. Catherine's Hospice in care of Kitch-Brenneman Funeral Home, 1212 W. Second, Liberal, KS 67901.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.brennemanfuneralhome.com.