

Jeanine Foster
Winfield Kiwanis Club

Jeannine Foster died July 7, 2015. She was a long-time member of the Winfield Kiwanis Club. Jeannine taught elementary grades in Oxford following her education as a teacher. She continued teaching fifth grade at Irving Elementary School in Winfield. She received a Master Teacher award while teaching at Irving in 1990, just prior to her retirement. She also served as the co-coordinator for the National Flat-Picking Championships at the Walnut Valley Festival for many years after retirement.

Joel D. Hofer
Junction City Kiwanis Club

Joel D. Hofer died September 22, 2015. He was a 50-year member of the Junction City Kiwanis Club serving as President and on several other committees during that time. In 1960 he moved to Kanopolis, KS to teach K-12 vocal and instrumental music. In 1963 he moved to Junction City, KS and was the vocal music instructor at the newly constructed Ft. Riley Junior High. Later he spent six years working civil service at Ft. Riley, but in 1966 he returned to teaching as the band instructor at the Junction City Junior High. He retired in 1994.

Byron H. Gilmore
Lawrence Kiwanis Club

Byron H. Gilmore died in October, 2015. He was a devoted member of the Lawrence Kiwanis Club, attending meetings faithfully even when he was in poor health and it was difficult for him to walk. In 1940 he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and served his country honorably and with valor until the end of WWII. After the war he attended Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas and remained in the military until 1966 when he was honorably discharged from the Air Force with a rank of Colonel. He moved with his wife and son to Lawrence in 1996.

Herbert Gene Whitlow
Tecumseh Kiwanis Club

Herbert Gene Whitlow died November 16, 2015. He was a charter member of the Tecumseh Kiwanis Club. He was born in Tecumseh, Kansas and was a descendant of Potawatomi Indian, Louis Vieux. With a partner he started Latta-Whitlow Plumbing Company in 1956. He taught trade school two nights a week for 13 years. He gave many young men, and one woman, a good start in life at a good trade. In 1986, he was named plumbing contractor of the year by Delta Faucet Company and the National Association of Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors.

Larry A. McDonald
Thomas County, Colby Kiwanis Club

Larry A. McDonald died November 17, 2015. He was a member of the Thomas County, Colby Kiwanis Club. He followed his love for farming and joined a harvest crew, starting his own harvesting business at the age of 21. He was employed with Woofter Construction since 2006.

Evelyn M. VanKempseke
Old Mission Kiwanis Club

Evelyn Madge Van Kempseke died November 18, 2015. She was a long-time member of the Old Mission Kiwanis Club. Thirty-three years ago she founded Shawnee Community Services where the idea was and continues to be to provide a "hand up" to the less fortunate. The mission is to offer deep compassion to anyone in need along with feeding the hungry, clothing the naked and helping prevent homelessness. She never took a salary in all her years working in the community or as CEO as Shawnee Community Services. She served in leadership capacities on many boards involved with safety, charity and strategic use of resources throughout the Metro area. Her involvements were broad and deep, focusing on civic organizations and social services. She worked to help expand United Way into Johnson County, was a founder of the Johnson County Christmas Bureau and the Shawnee Safety Council. Recognition for her community work began when she received a Certificate of Excellence from Johnson County United Way and she has since been recognized for her contributions to Kiwanis, Lions Club, Shepherd's Center, Rotary, and Daughters of the American Revolution; and was named Shawnee Citizen of the Year. She was the first person to become an honorary lifetime member of the Shawnee Chamber of Commerce. She is a winner of the Johnson County Rotary Paul Harris Award and the DAR National Community Service Award; she was recipient of President Ronald Reagan's Golden Rule Award and was twice named Woman of the Year by Shawnee Journal Herald readers. Evelyn is also represented on the city's historical mural in Shawnee City Hall. Most recently she was honored by the KC Royals for lifetime achievement with the Buck O'Neil Legacy Award.

Edward P. Call
Manhattan Kiwanis Club

Edward P. Call died January 5, 2016. Dr. Call was Professor Emeritus, Kansas State University where he served for 42 years. He as a 40-plus year member of the Manhattan Kiwanis Club where he was a past president and was recognized as a Distinguished Secretary. He received the Kiwanis International Foundatio's Tablet of Honor and was recognized by the Kansas Kiwanis Foundation with the James Putnam Medallion. He was an avid supporter of youth programs through Kiwanis and the 4-H Club programs.

Howard 'Leroy' Brooks
Manhattan Kiwanis Club

Dr. Howard "Leroy" Brooks died January 7, 2016. He was a member of the Manhattan Kiwanis Club. After completing his Ph.D. at Kansa State University he joined the faculty at K-State as an extension entomologist until his retirement in 2004.