

# Norman Nevill Durham

February 14, 1927 – May 13, 2022

Norman Nevill Durham was born on February 14, 1927, in Ranger, TX to Harold and Bernice (Griffith) Durham, and he passed away in Stillwater, OK on May 13, 2022. Norman grew up in Eastland, TX, where he graduated from high school. Following his high-school graduation, he enlisted in the US Navy and was discharged in 1945 as a pharmacist mate third class. Following his discharge, he attended North Texas State University where he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in biological sciences and chemistry. He began the doctorate in 1951 at the University of Texas-Austin where he majored in bacteriology and biochemistry. He received the doctorate in microbial genetics in 1954, after which he became employed at Oklahoma A&M as an assistant professor, teaching microbiology. In 1967, he became the Dean of the Graduate College at OSU. He served as dean until 1991 when he was selected to serve as Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs. Before he retired in 1995, he served as Associate Vice President for Academic Planning. In 1999, he was inducted into the Oklahoma Higher Education Hall of Fame. Norman was dedicated to his community, state, and nation, serving the Stillwater Chamber of Commerce, Oklahoma Water Resources Research Institute, the National Center of Groundwater Research with the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Institutes of Health, as well as several others. Norman met his future wife, Jane, when she was a student in his bacteriology lab at the University of Texas-Austin. They were married on July 26, 1952, in Muleshoe, TX. She predeceased him. Norman and Jane were the parents of four daughters: Susan (Richard) Mueller, Janet (Bradley) Gaskins, Diane Durham, and Linda (David) Bender. Norman has five grandchildren and one great-grandson.