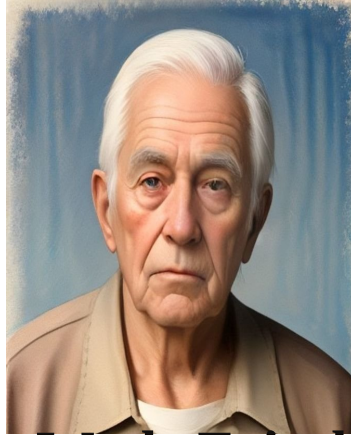




Otis Wade Fairchilde

June 5, 1948 - August 29, 2026

Biloxi, Mississippi

Otis Wade Fairchilde died in Biloxi on August 29, 2026. He was 78. Born in Biloxi on June 5, 1948, into a Gulf Coast household that treated work as a language. He learned early that a day is something you finish, not something you wait for.

He laid beads that held ships together through Gulf storms. A hood scratched with his initials hung in the garage; apprentices learned that pride is a straight seam. Colleagues still mention a welding hood scratched with his initials.

He married Della in 1973. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised a son through public schools and ordinary weather. After Della died in 2019, he kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember a porch light left on for anyone walking home late. He liked early mornings before the heat or the noise. He died in Biloxi, among streets he never needed to explain. The garden will come up next spring without being told.

Services

A memorial gathering in Biloxi with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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