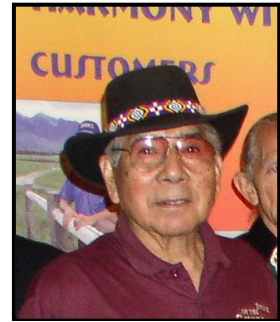


## JERRY WOLFE

Jerry Wolfe was born on September 28, 1924, to Owen and Lucy Ann Wolfe. He was the baby of the family and had three sisters: Annie, Rose, and Mary. He attended boarding school in Cherokee and joined the Navy on July 21, 1943. On June 6, 1944, Jerry was among a group of 16 men aboard landing craft tank (LCT) #616 as they participated in the invasion of Normandy. During his naval career, he worked on an aviation repair vessel and a destroyer escort. In 1946, he was released from the Navy only to rejoin the same year. By the time his group traveled to Newport, Rhode Island, for training, Jerry had advanced to the rank of 2nd



Class Petty Officer and was in full charge of the 13 men who made the trip.

He married Juanita Bradley on January 2, 1949. They have five boys and three girls. Jerry is a mason, and his work in native stone is renowned throughout the southeast. He loves to weave stories about the mountains and the Cherokee people using subtle humor. He played stickball in his youth and began playing again in the early 1950's after his release from the Navy. Later on, he became a caller for stickball games at community events and during the Cherokee Fair. For many years, Jerry has carved the ball sticks used by players across the Reservation, and there is a high demand for his ball sticks.