

**Darrell and Tawana Cheshier
2024 OSDF Hall of Fame**

Darrell Cheshier was a gardener, a hunter, and a fisherman which led him to obtain his Bachelor's degree in Agronomy from OSU which led him to find Tawanna and on August 20, 1977 he and Tawanna got hitched which led him to become the County Executive Director for Grady County Farm Service Agency.

As years passed, Tawanna told Darrell if he would take square dance lessons with her, he could get a set of golf clubs that he really wanted. He took the lessons with her and got the golf clubs. He quickly gave up golf but kept the clubs which are still in the closet. They graduated from lessons in 1989.

Their daughter was born that year. They have two children, Andrew and Kyla, who grew up on the dance floor. In fact, there are several pictures that show them in high chairs during a barn dance, and others with the kids running around on the floor in between lessons and tips. They even took roller skates with them as they got older and would skate on the dance floor. Darrell and Tawana were able to remain involved throughout the years as the children grew up and got involved in activities. Kyla took lessons and graduated from Mainstream when she was 13.

Darrell and Tawana have been Club President for the Swinging Chicks for over 10 years. They have spent time and effort arranging for and manning booths at county fairs, rodeos and other events to recruit members and raising funds for the club. They recently became South Central District President in January of 2024.

Fun fact: Darrell sent out a weekly newsletter to over 100 people, but he only types with 2 fingers so the "Tidbits Newsletter" is always in all caps. Tawana spends her time making door prizes for square dances. On October 18, 2024, the Hall of Fame committee mailed a letter informing Darrell and Tawana that they were nominated for the OSDF Hall of Fame award and they would be receiving it at this year's Festival and he could invite friends and family. He was so excited he cried.

Unfortunately, on November 2, earlier this month, Darrell passed away unexpectedly. As his square dance family, we express our sincere sympathy to Tawana and their family. Tawana says: "The square dance "family" is a real thing and we have always felt welcomed and loved by the group."

Please welcome Darrell and Tawana to the Oklahoma Square Dance Hall of Fame.

Tawana, will you and your family please come forward.