



MSG (Ret) Lonnie Merrill Dean

December 14, 1962 - May 6, 2021

Lonnie Merrill Dean was born December 14, 1962 in House Springs, Missouri, to Lawrence Monroe Dean and Nancy Evelyn (Stonebraker) Adair. He peaceably left his home in Richland, Missouri, and went home to God Thursday, May 6, 2021, with his loving family by his side, having attained the age of 58.

Lonnie grew up mostly in Buckhorn and Richland areas in Pulaski County, graduating from Richland High School in 1981.

He made a profession of faith and attended Church as long as his health allowed. His love for God, his family, and friends was as immense as the ocean.

After graduating, Lonnie joined the United States Army in 1982, proudly serving his country for the next twenty years. In 2002 he retired, receiving an honorable discharge for his service. During his military career, with the Army Lonnie was also awarded with the Meritorious Service Medal (2nd Award), Army Commendation Medal (4th Award), Army Good Conduct Medal (6th Award), National Defense Service Medal (2nd) Award), Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Noncommissioned Officer's Professional Development Ribbon with Numeral 3, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge, with Grenade Bar, Sharpshooter

Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar, Driver and Mechanic Badge with Driver-W Bar, US Army Gold Recruiter Badge, Noncommissioned Officer Training Session, 1 Week, 1998, Transition Noncommissioned Officers CRS, 2 Weeks, 1997, Recruit Quota System Basic Operation Procedures, 1 Week, 1997, Retention Noncommissioned Officer Basic CRS, 2 Weeks, 1987. Lonnie also served as commander for the color Guard in the opening ceremony of the 50th anniversary of D-Day in Utah Beach Normandy, France in 1994. A quote Lonnie posted once read, I served...A Soldier for Life. He not only served his country, but Lonnie also served wherever there was a need...community, church, family, or a friend in need. He had a servant's heart.; and even became a Boy Scout Leader, which he greatly enjoyed.

On October 15, 1983, Lonnie married Joellyn Rae Homan in Richland, Missouri, soon God blessed the happy couple with three wonderful sons who brought even more joy and love into their home.

Lonnie received his master's degree in business and accounting while in the military, putting his education to good use, later opening his own business, Tax Pros and More, serving St. Robert, Richland, and Lebanon areas.

In Lonnie's younger days he was selected by the National Junior Bowlers league however, due to circumstances beyond his control, could not follow through with his dream. He loved life and being outdoors. Prior to his illness, Lonnie was an avid runner and enthusiastically ran several half marathons, and community fun runs. He spent much of his time chasing and capturing sunsets, sharing them on social media. Lonnie was also a big supporter of Spirit FM.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence Monroe Dean, and Nancy (Stonebraker) Adair, half-brother, Lawrence "Big Larry" Dean and brother Lester Dean.

Lonnie leaves behind to cherish his memory, his loving wife, Joellyn of the home; three sons: Sam Dean of Licking, MO, Andy Dean of Crocker, MO, and Tim Dean of Richland, MO; two brothers: Lloyd Dean (Theresa) of Wichita, KS, and Larry Dean (Blanche) of Bracey, VA; two sisters: Carol Baranowsky (Rich) of St. Louis, MO, and Terri Evans of St. Louis, MO; father and mother-in-law, Junior and Barb Homan of Richland, MO; brother and sister-laws, Rich and Dee Ann Homan of Richland, MO, and Jonathan and Angie Homan of Lebanon, MO; several nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends. Services were held at 12:00 Noon, Tuesday, May 11, 2021, in the Memorial Chapel of Richland with Bob Leinbaugh officiating. Favorite music selections played were, "I Can Only Imagine," "Even If," and "Sail On." Serving as escorts were Lloyd Dean, Larry Dean, Rich Homan, Jonathan Homan, Dan Dean, and Kevin Emmert. Burial with full military honors followed in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery, Waynesville, Missouri.

Services were under the care and direction of Memorial Chapel of Richland.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of MSG (Ret) Lonnie Merrill Dean and may be left at the Memorial Chapel of Richland.

Online condolences may be sent to www.memorialchapelsandcrematory.com

Cemetery Details

Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Fort Leonard Wood

25350 Hwy H
Waynesville, MO 65583

Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of MSG (Ret) Lonnie Merrill Dean*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - May 12, 2021 at 09:33 AM



“ *its not the same without you dad.
i always knew this family would fall apart but i never thought i would be the one out in the cold.
never thought i would miss the days you made sure we had what we needed. never should have taen having a roof over my head for granted*

Andy Dean - August 25, 2025 at 02:16 PM



“ *MSG (Ret) Lonnie Merrill Dean*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM

RB

“ Lonnie, you were one of the “original four”. We all had such great time growing up together..so much fun! I’m glad I got to reconnect with you back in February (after all of these years). Strange though that you popped up in my mind after so much time had passed. Perhaps it was God’s way of letting me say goodbye. You will be missed.

Robert J. Brich Lt Col (ret) USAF

Robert Brich - July 21, 2021 at 05:24 PM

KC

“ I miss you uncle Lonnie and you will always be in my heart and I’ll always be thinking of you I love you



katelin castick - May 11, 2021 at 03:59 PM

DB

“ Gena and I send our deepest condolences to all the family. Lonnie was a wonderful man who loved the Lord and loved his country. Growing up, he was like an older brother to me and I have many wonderful memories of times spent together. May the Lord provide peace and comfort during this difficult time.

David Brown - May 11, 2021 at 03:22 PM

AN

“ He was the kind of man that wore his heart on his sleeve. A one of a kind overall great man. He always had an answer or solution to any problem. I will always cherish the talks and heart felt messages. You were taken to soon my friend. With love always. Angie!

angie - May 11, 2021 at 09:59 AM

GM

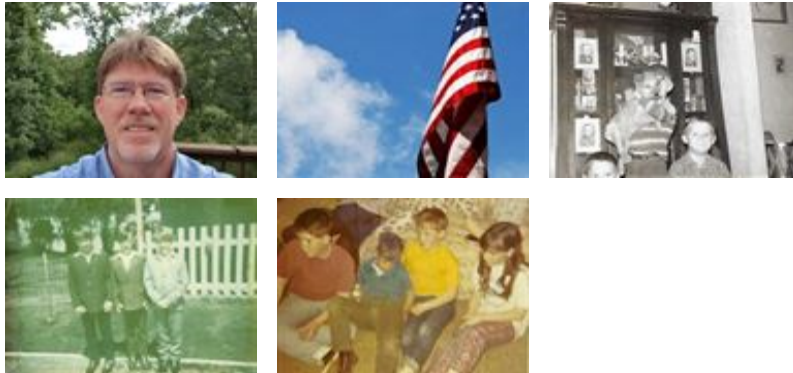
“ *Lonnie, thank you for the journey you took us on; both the beauty of America that you visited and shared through your photography, and sharing the struggles of the battle you so bravely fought.*



Gloria McBeth - May 10, 2021 at 07:49 PM



“ *140 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - May 10, 2021 at 07:12 PM

RH

“ *Regina Hutton lit a candle in memory of MSG (Ret) Lonnie Merrill Dean*



Regina Hutton - May 10, 2021 at 10:41 AM

JW

“ *Lonnie and I met a few times at events. I may have made his photo a time or two at the events but we bonded over sunset photos on Facebook. After he got his awful diagnosis, I cried. Then, I watched and learned. He posted his struggles and joys for all to see, with honesty and humor. I was grateful to see each post and saddened when he could post no more. I appreciated him more than he knew. He is missed.*



Jax Welborn - May 10, 2021 at 08:14 AM

AH

Yes this is so sad.. I just spoke with him a month ago.. and sadden to here of his diagnosis..!! He will be missed.. always waved at me and spoke when I would run into him..

Angie Hale - May 10, 2021 at 10:40 AM

DH

“ *Della & Russ Hage lit a candle in memory of MSG (Ret) Lonnie Merrill Dean*



Della & Russ Hage - May 08, 2021 at 08:04 PM

RH

“ *Robin Hobbs lit a candle in memory of MSG (Ret) Lonnie Merrill Dean*



Robin Hobbs - May 08, 2021 at 04:23 PM

MH

“ *Sending my love and sympathy to you all. May God be with you and comfort you in this sad time. Marge from Mendon.*

Marjorie Hyer - May 08, 2021 at 10:38 AM

CB

“ *CSM(Ret)Harold&Brigitte Burleson lit a candle in memory of MSG (Ret) Lonnie Merrill Dean*



CSM(Ret)Harold&Brigitte Burleson - May 08, 2021 at 09:32 AM

PG

“ *Pulaski County Camp Gideons lit a candle in memory of MSG (Ret) Lonnie Merrill Dean*



Pulaski County Camp Gideons - May 08, 2021 at 09:31 AM

TM

“ I am very sorry to hear this Lonnie was always good to me and my family.

todd malin - May 07, 2021 at 06:40 PM

SH

“ Shirley Henry lit a candle in memory of MSG (Ret) Lonnie Merrill Dean



Shirley Henry - May 07, 2021 at 05:46 PM

WW

“ Sorry for your loss.
Prayers for the FAMILIES 🕊



Wm&Ana Willoughby - May 07, 2021 at 04:23 PM