

Dean Mattix

July 16, 1945 - June 26, 2022

Dean Mattix, proud husband, father, grandfather, William Penn Statesmen fan, and long suffering Cubs Fan died on Sunday, June 26, 2022.

For those who knew Dean, you know he loved his family, his community, his friends, the game of golf (some days), fishing, and all his various sports teams. Dean always had an opinion, story, or smile to share. But here are some things you might not know about Dean.

Dean was his middle name. He was born Harold Dean Mattix on July 16, 1945, in Atascadero, CA, to Harold and Katherine Green Mattix, while his father was serving in the US Army. After that short stint as a California boy, his family moved back to Oskaloosa, where he lived a long and happy life. He graduated from Oskaloosa High School (go Indians!) in 1963, and from William Penn College (go Statesmen!) in 1970. As he finished college, he met Margaret Nelson, a first-year teacher at Grant School, the very same elementary school that Dean himself attended. They wed in Burlington, Iowa on June 20, 1970. To this union, two children were born: Jennifer and Jason. He taught them to ride a bike, catch a fish, play ball, swing a golf club (one much better than the other), but most importantly, to be tough, independent, and hard-working.

As for hard work, Dean spent most of his adult life working for the State of Iowa. He started with Job Service and worked there until he retired in 2008, when the Department was known as Workforce Development. He met many friends and saw many changes over the 36 years he spent with the

Department. In addition to his various roles with the State, Dean, an avid golfer, also coached golf at his Alma Mater, William Penn College. He so enjoyed working with the many athletes he coached and looked forward to those annual trips south to kick off the season in some warm-weather destination. Dean loved sports. Golf, baseball, football, basketball, track, you name it, he was interested. He was the best softball coach a kid could ask for. He was that crazy dad who followed his son on every hole of every golf course the kid played. He loved teaching his grandsons to fish and golf. He loved attending Cubs games with Jason, Golden State Warriors games with Jenn and Oakland Raiders games with his son-in-law Mike. If it was a sporting event, Dean was in, and he always had an opinion! The highlight of his love for sports and his family came this past February when he was able to visit Northern California to see both his grandsons play high school basketball. There were endless discussions following each game. If you know Dean, you can practically hear him meticulously recount every play with Connor and Liam!

Dean was an active member of the First Christian Church in Oskaloosa, where he had attended since he was a boy. He has served as a deacon, an elder, and a pretty terrific Sunday School teacher. And in retirement, he played his fair share of dart ball and dominoes, making more lasting friendships in the process.

He was also very involved with the Elks organization, serving as Exalted Ruler and District Deputy Director several times. These roles brought the opportunity for he and Margaret to travel to some great places and meet many new friends. He organized the local and district Hoop Shoot annually and the annual state golf tournament. In fact, at the time of his death, Dean was busy managing golf entries that continue to arrive at the house, a job that Margaret will do her best to carry on for Dean this season.

We are so lucky to have known Dean and build so many memories over the years. We'll miss him every day.

Dean is survived by his wife Margaret, of 52 years, his daughter Jennifer and

husband Mike Moore of Pleasant Hill, CA, his son Jason of Chicago, IL, his two grandsons Connor and Liam Moore, his brother Joe (Diane) of Weaver, IA, his sister Cindy (Dale) Braden of Oskaloosa, sister-in-law Kathy and brother-in-law Stan Young of Osage Beach, MO, and brother-in-law Jim and sister-in-law Jennifer Nelson of Cheyenne, WY, in addition to many nieces, nephews, and so many friends.

Dean was preceded in death by his parents, Harold and Kate, in-laws LeRoy and Phyllis Nelson, and sisters-in-law Janet Hiller and Debbie Mattix.

Funeral Services for Dean will be held at 11 a.m., Friday, July 1, 2022, at the First Christian Church in Oskaloosa. Cremation will follow the service and burial will be in Old White Cemetery. Visitation will begin at 11 a.m., Thursday, June 30, 2022, at Langkamp Funeral Chapel; the family will greet visitors from 5-7 p.m. Thursday evening. Memorials may be made to William Penn University or First Christian Church.

Cemetery Details

Old White Cemetery

Oskaloosa, IA

Previous Events

Open Visitation

JUN 30. 11:00 AM (CT)

Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory
2116 N 3rd St
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
(641) 672-2181
langkampfuneralchapel@gmail.com
<https://www.langkampfuneralchapel.com>

Family and Friends

JUN 30. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

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<https://www.langkampfuneralchapel.com>

Funeral Service

JUL 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Christian Church
119 A Avenue EAst
Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Tribute Wall



“ *Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Dean Mattix*



Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory - June 30, 2022 at 06:36 PM



“ *Dean Mattix*

October 05, 2023 at 11:57 PM



“ *I really enjoyed whenever Dean came into the office. He worked so hard to control his many medical problems. Yet he always had a good attitude. (Ok he WAS grumpy in the hospital but wouldn't we all be?) Margaret , it was an honor taking care of the two of you, patients like you made everything worthwhile, I am loving retirement but I miss you both. My deep condolences .*
Dr Anne Whitis

Anne Whitis - July 01, 2022 at 10:15 PM

DM

“ Dick & Cindy Mott-Brown lit a candle in memory of Dean Mattix



Dick & Cindy Mott-Brown - July 01, 2022 at 09:33 PM

DC

“ Dean was a pitcher at OHS. When he was a junior, I was a sophomore catcher. Dean had a curve ball that probably broke 18”. However he did not have a fastball, just the slow curve. Marshalltown evidently had never seen a curve ball. He would throw the first two pitches down the middle, they would swing and miss as it broke outside. After two strikes, he threw at the batter and as they bailed out it broke across the plate for strike three!! They batted around twice without hitting much, but by the third time they figured out if it coming at you, swing.... It was all over for Dean.

Don Cummings - June 30, 2022 at 05:51 PM



“ 4 files added to the album LifeTributes



Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory - June 30, 2022 at 05:33 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory - June 30, 2022 at 12:19 PM

GA

“ I knew Dean for a long time. I played church league softball with Dean, and he was a hell of a player/competitor. Played some golf with him as well. I left Oskaloosa after college and Dean lived up the street from my parents. I know that my folks, Dean and Margaret socialized together and my parents always smiled when they told Dean stories, and he was respectful to them. RIP, you were a good man.

Gary Anderson

Gary Anderson - June 29, 2022 at 10:24 PM

DS

“ R.I.H Coach 🙏🙏🙏 Prayers go out to the family and thank you for allowing us to know him.

Dodi Smith '97

Dodi Smith - June 29, 2022 at 07:47 PM

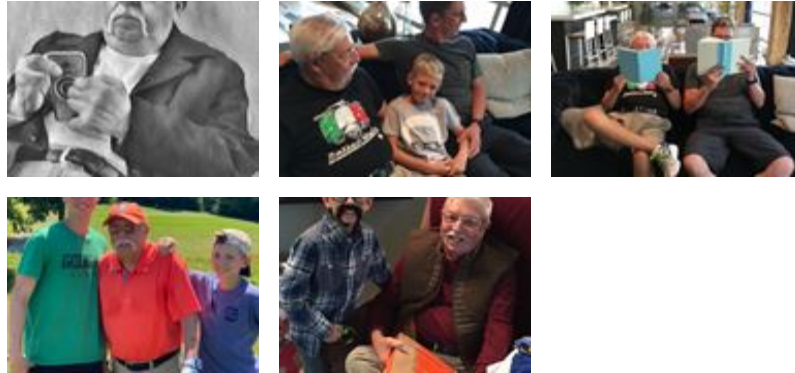
CB

“ Our condolences to Margaret and the family.

Cherol and Daryl Brown - June 29, 2022 at 06:45 PM



“ 96 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Langkamp Funeral Chapel & Crematory - June 29, 2022 at 06:32 PM

TR

“ My sincerest condolences go out to Coach Mattix's family. He was my golf coach while I attended William Penn from 1992-96. Our golf trips were always an adventure. I will never forget his colorful language and the many trips south during Spring Break. I had the chance to stop and see him a few years ago while I was back in the area for my son's high school graduation. I really enjoyed our visit. He was a great guy and will be missed. I am sure you are up above with a beer and hitting the golf ball long and straight.

Troy Richardson

Troy Richardson - June 29, 2022 at 04:50 PM

CJ

“ I truly am sorry for your loss. Dean was always part of First Christian Church during my growing up years. I know he truly enjoyed playing dominos with the guys. My dad, Bob Jones, told me how fun it was to play with all of the guys.

Prayers for you all.
Cliff Jones

cliff jones - June 29, 2022 at 04:37 PM

CB

“ I always enjoyed when we got together for the holidays. I love you and you'll always be in my heart because you were an amazing older brother. I was always proud of your accomplishments and everything you were involved in and did for the community. You helped raise 2 amazing children and were a devoted husband. Your life was full and well-lived, Rest in Peace.

Cindy Braden - June 29, 2022 at 04:29 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Dean Mattix.

June 29, 2022 at 03:49 PM

SB

“ Dean and I sat next to each other for well over a year at Davita. He always spoke about grandkids and the love he had for them was obvious. Dean will truly be missed, he was a good man.

Shane Blanchard - June 29, 2022 at 02:01 PM

DL

“ I met Dean years ago at work force when I was job hunting. He was one of those guys you instantly like, and he knew you wherever you went. I met a lot of great folks through him, since I was a home health caregiver.

Thank you Dean for that, for many I met taught me so much in learning about their lives and their hardships. Experience one doesn't lose.

RIP Dean Mattix

Debra Lowe - June 29, 2022 at 01:18 PM

JH

“ So sorry to learn of Dean's passing...Dean and I (and Lenny) started in kindergarten together at Grant School and were friends all through high school...Dean was the BEST athlete in our class...He was the best two-inning pitcher as a reliever to Carmen Sanders...His relief outings won us many games...I remember coming back for a class reunion and Dean tells Dick Patchett and me that he has taken up golf...Dick and I looked at each other and immediately thought "easy money" here...Ha! We played the next day with Dean and Dean won all the money...Dean always knew what was going on in Osky and would give me wonderful reports on all our friends and classmates whenever I called him...So sorry, Margaret, for your loss...I know the last few years have been difficult for you and your family, but Dean ALWAYS had a great attitude with a smile on his face...He was one of the GOOD GUYS! God bless and regards, Jack Hughes

Jack Hughes - June 29, 2022 at 01:11 PM

NF

Great tribute, Jack. I was with with You and Dean at Grant school through high school and with Dean on up through William Penn. Dean was a talented guy and he always amazed me with his beautiful handwriting in spite of his handicap. I remember him as being a good basketball player in high school and am not surprised that he excelled in other sports. One time when I was home Dean asked me why Bill and I didn't move back to Osky. That touched my heart and tells me he was a good citizen of Oskaloosa, You have my sympathy, Margaret. I didn't know Dean was sick and I am so sorry for your loss and the loss of a classmate of 1963.

Nancy Favor - June 29, 2022 at 07:38 PM

RS

Dean was the natural athlete of our class and excelled in whatever he decided to do. His best attribute was a personality that allowed him to relate to anyone he talked with. We spoke on the phone at 4 to 6 month intervals. I will miss that. My prayers to Margaret and family. He will be missed

Rob Scurr - June 29, 2022 at 09:23 PM

DD

“Dean's opinions could sometimes come across "crotchety" but once I got to know that was "just Dean," I got to where I enjoyed working with him at the Oskaloosa Elks. I simply cannot imagine the Oskaloosa Elks Lodge without Dean Mattix. My sympathies to Margaret and the rest of the family. Dean's absence leaves a huge hole in our community.

Debbie Doty - June 29, 2022 at 01:06 PM

EA

“I am so saddened to hear of the passing of Dean. He was such a great fun guy. I remember him in both high school and at Penn. My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Ellen Shrago

Ellen (Shrago) Anderson - June 29, 2022 at 12:43 PM