

## Dennis Westman

June 6, 1946 - June 2, 2019

Dennis “Denny” Westman was born in Detroit, Michigan on Thursday, June 6, 1946 to George Westman, Jr. and Lucille Giles Westman. Denny passed away in Tulsa, OK on Sunday, June 2, 2019 at the age of 72.

Denny graduated in 1964 from Cadillac High School in Michigan where he played football, golfed, skied, ran track, and played hockey, where he was known as a great skater and tough along the boards. He went on to attend and play football at Eastern Michigan University after faithfully serving in the United States Army in active combat during the Vietnam War.

He met his wife Kaye Roberson Westman on a blind date while on station leave from Fort Sill, OK and they married September 14, 1968 in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Their union was blessed with two daughters, 3 dogs, 2 hamsters, 2 parakeets, and a flying squirrel (he requested we not forget anyone).

He retired after 38 years of service as an underwriter for MetLife after transferring from offices in Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and New Jersey where he accumulated more Snoopy swag, rubber bands, paper clips, and rubber stamps than you can count over the course of his career. He loved using his “Approved” stamp the most!

He lived by the moto “One day at a time” and was often heard telling everyone

“life is good.” He was known for saying “Holy Catoot” when he was surprised or excited. When anyone, even the nurses at the hospital, asked if there was anything else they could get him, he would always reply “the winning lotto numbers.” One of his biggest regrets was not having those numbers.

Denny was a kid at heart and he loved holidays especially Christmas. He believed there was never an age or a size to stop sitting on Santa’s lap for a photo op, which many of you are familiar with his annual Christmas card. He strived to make Santa’s Nice List and even aspired to look like him by growing his beard.

He enjoyed life and loved so many things that there is not enough time or paper to list them all. Some of his favorites were golfing, riding his Harley, hunting of any kind, cold beer, watching all sports, the Hallmark Channel at Christmas time, listening to Christian music on the radio, going to estate sales, traveling to visit friends and family, shopping on Canal Street in NYC, eating good barbecue and White Castle, playing sports, coaching youth soccer and initiating a youth hockey program in Tulsa, people watching (especially every year at the Tulsa State Fair), and most importantly caring for his family.

Denny proclaimed after retirement to be a professional grandpa to Shelbie Neel, Rylan Berry, grand dog Gizmo, and grand kitty Calico. He described his duties of chauffeuring them anywhere they wanted to go, spoiling them with whatever they wanted, and teaching them the important stuff in life. He declared they loved it!

Denny was a member of the Elks Lodge #2673 and the American Legion Post No 308 and will forever be known for playing one of his favorite songs “Soda Cracker” as he called it (aka Chubby Checker’s Hooka Tooka) on the jukebox when he arrived. He loved playing for the money pots, partaking in all the

events, and looked forward to his weekly check-ins to see if he was lucky.

To his family he was known to be extremely generous and never missed a chance to go in for a hug and a wedgie, earning the title King of the Wedgie. He is survived by his wife Kaye Westman, daughters Kayce Westman and DeeDee (Delana) Westman-Berry; son-in-law Jason Berry; grandchildren Shelbie Neel and Rylan Berry; half-sisters Vicki Baker and Debbie Domsic and husband Rick Domsic.

Dennis was preceded in death by his grandmother Tyra Margaret Westman, his parents, sister Sandy Stone, and all the animals listed above.

In honor of Denny, the family requests you dress in your favorite golf shirt, sports team or anything patriotic.

A Military Honor Service and inurnment will be held June 13, 2019 at 10:00 at Fort Gibson National Cemetery in Fort Gibson, OK

A Celebration of Life Ceremony will follow the service at 11:30 and be held at the Broken Arrow Elks Lodge located at 10266 S 241st East Ave, Broken Arrow, Ok 74014.

Memorial donations can be made to the American Cancer Association <https://donate3.cancer.org> , the ALS organization <http://www.alsa.org/donate/> , or to your favorite watering hole, where he would expect you to have a drink in his memory and share your favorite story of the audacious Denny Westman.

# Cemetery Details

## Fort Gibson National Cemetery

1423 Cemetery Rd.  
Fort Gibson, OK 74434  
(918) 478-2334

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

JUN 13. 10:00 AM (CT)

Fort Gibson National Cemetery  
1423 Cemetery Rd.  
Fort Gibson, OK 74434  
(918) 478-2334

## Memorial Service

JUN 13. 11:30 AM (CT)

Broken Arrow Elks Lodge  
10266 S. 241st E. Ave.  
Broken Arrow, OK 74014

# Tribute Wall

SH

“ I am just learning off this now. I worked with Denny in NJ (he lived in PA). Denny was a father figure to me in my 20s. If anyone sees this, I would like to get in touch with Dee Dee.

Stacey Heritage - November 01, 2024 at 09:57 PM



“ Dennis Westman

October 23, 2023 at 01:21 AM

RW

“ Rick & Janetta Welker purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Dennis Westman.



Rick & Janetta Welker - June 11, 2019 at 07:21 PM

LN

“ I worked with Denny 1988 - 1991 when he was an Underwriter in Tulsa and I was in Sales. He had a great sense of humor and positive outlook. He was a joy to work with. We stayed in touch periodically over the years. Condolences to his family. What a great person he was! A wonderful example of positive outlook on life.

Lynn Nann - June 09, 2019 at 04:23 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dennis Westman.*



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June 07, 2019 at 07:39 AM



“ *I was fortunate to play many sports with Denny. I worked with him for nearly two decades as well. He took me to the ER one night after our hockey practice to get stitches. We ran in several 5k races together. Played soccer and softball together as well. So many adventures together and I will cherish his friendship for the rest of my life. God bless you Kaye, Kaycee and Dee during this difficult time.*

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**Rick Welker** - June 06, 2019 at 10:14 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dennis Westman.*



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June 06, 2019 at 10:13 PM

LG

“ I remember Denny as a good neighbor, great father and a very fun-loving nice guy. We had the same love of Christmas and a good natured competition on decorating. My children grew up across the street from the Westmans and the kids had some great times together. You and your family are in our hearts and our memories. Love Larry and Carolyn Gerber, Matt and Rebecca.

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**Larry Gerber** - June 06, 2019 at 03:10 PM

RR

“ Denny was always quick to help anyone who was in need of a hand, even when he didn't even know them. He and my sister raised two wonderful daughters and He set the bar extremely high when it came to raising his girls. He loved to kid around and seemed to know what to say pick you up when you needed it. His smile was reassuring and made you feel like everything was going to be ok. I will always remember your smile and the way you cared for those you came in contact with. Roy Roberson

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**Roy Roberson** - June 06, 2019 at 12:08 PM

BB

“ I knew Denny from the Elks Lodge. He was the first elk that helped me with my golf game. He always wanted my wife and I to take a trip with him to New York. No matter what day or his mood, he always had a smile. Miss you brother.

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**Brett Burton** - June 06, 2019 at 11:41 AM

 Dana  
Blissit-  
Boyle

“ *What a great person. He loved talking about his family. I liked working with Denny. Use to run into him at Applebarrel and eat breakfast with me.*

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**Dana Blissit-Boyle** - June 05, 2019 at 09:21 PM

DD

“ *May the Lord comfort the family with peace and his loving embrace. My brother had such a love of family and lived his life to the fullest. My visits/dinners with him on my way to and from Texas I am grateful for we always caught up on family and memories. Also I looked forward to his Christmas pictures they always brought a smile. God Bless and with love, Debbie and Rick*

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**Debbie and Rick Domsic** - June 05, 2019 at 09:17 AM

CH

“ *To the west an family...I am so sad for your loss Denny was a great guy! He would help anyone in need he will be missed. My prayers are sent to you & the whole family. God Bless all..... Charlene Lechluder Hall*

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**charlene (Lechluder) Hall** - June 04, 2019 at 09:03 PM

BC

“ *Worked with Denny many years. Wonderful, kind gentleman*

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**Beverly Poston Caywood** - June 04, 2019 at 08:16 PM

MW

“ Denny and I grew up in Cadillac, MI. We became friends through our mutual involvement in junior high and high school sports. As I recall Denny played in the backfield some but mostly as tight-end on the football team, a difficult and demanding position, and often without all of the recognition that players in other positions get. A true sportsman, he played all the school sports including, football, basketball, and track; he was a great hurdler . But I think he excelled most in hockey; a club sport offered in town. Living close by the skating rink offered Denny the chance to develop his wonderful skating technique.

What a great guy he was to have in our community  
Mike Waterman

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**mike waterman** - June 04, 2019 at 05:00 PM

HH

“ It is our honor and privilege to serve the Westman family and to provide this permanent tribute website in memory of Dennis Westman.



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**Hayhurst Funeral Home** - June 03, 2019 at 01:19 PM