



Dennis Lee Jaenicke

February 24, 1954 - December 4, 2020

Dennis Lee Jaenicke, 66, of Kankakee passed away, December 4, 2020 at his home. He was born February 24, 1954 in Kankakee to Darwin and JoAnn (Blackmore) Jaenicke. He graduated from Westview High School in 1972 and then from Ringling School of Art, Sarasota, FL in 1975.

Dennis started working as a summer helper in 1972 for the Kankakee Township Road District. He continued working summers at the Township until he took a fulltime position as a Foreman in 1975. He worked for the Township until 2009. After leaving the Township, Dennis went to work for Country Chevrolet in Herscher, IL from 2009 until he retired in 2018.

Dennis loved life and enjoyed golfing and bicycling. Music, art and automobiles were also an important part of his life. Dennis lived life to the fullest, enjoying time with his family and friends... Always living his life by the Mantra of "Fire it up"!

Surviving are his two sisters; Barbara (James) Angel of Winter Park, FL and Linda (Eric) Boness of Kankakee, IL, a sister-in-law, Valerie Jaenicke of Kankakee, two nieces, Amanda Angel (Jesse) Pagan of Orlando, FL, Emi Angel of Orlando, FL and a nephew, J.B. (Kathryn) Angel of Orlando, FL along with one great nephew, Jameson and a great niece, Eleanor. Also surviving is an Aunt, Ellen (Wayne) Wood of North Bend, NE, an uncle, Alvin (Jackie) Jaenicke of Lompoc, CA along with many cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, James Jaenicke and an uncle, Gordon Jaenicke.

A visitation will be 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Saturday, December 12, 2020 at Schreffler Funeral Home, Kankakee Chapel. Due to the recent Covid 19 restrictions guests will be ushered in small groups. Per CDC guidelines, masks and social distancing are required. Memorials may be made to Uplifted Care Hospice of Kankakee Valley in memory of his late father, Darwin Jaenicke. A private memorial service will take place at a later date. Friends and family are welcomed to leave at 12:30 p.m. in procession to Mound Grove Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Mound Grove Gardens of Memory

1000 N Greenwood
Kankakee, IL 60901

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 12. 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2421
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Dennis Lee Jaenicke*

February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM



“ *I was a first year student at Ringling School of Art in 1972. Dennis's room was next to mine in the dorm. He became my most highly valued friend. He had a maturity and wisdom beyond his years. Such a talented artist. A wonderful old soul. God bless you Dennis. David S. Johnson , Loudon, Tenn.*

David Johnson - January 25, 2023 at 11:12 AM



“ *Dennis came to Sarasota in 1972 to attend Ringling Art School. He met up with my brother & 5 other guys. They were fast friends & a unique group each boasting a unique flair. I recall Dennis' humor & can laugh now recalling it. Dennis & some of the others periodically visited Sarasota after finishing school & always visited me. That friendship resulted in my brother marrying Dennis' sister blending our families. Thank you Dennis. I have fond memories of you. I am sorry you left this earth too soon. May you Rest In Peace.*

Alise E. Angel - December 27, 2020 at 09:19 PM



“ *Gone yet never ever forgotten - the memories of riding behind you on your motorcycle with the wind in our hair , country roads and my arms around your waist .. you are a friend for all seasons. Rest easy and keep on riding. You are free and riding -I know it. Love, Ann*

Ann Lynch (Watson) - December 15, 2020 at 09:18 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of Dennis' passing. My thoughts and prayers go out to Dennis and his family. There are lots of good memories I have of Dennis laughing and joking around. He was quite a good guy. May he Rest in Peace.*
Jim Riley



Jim Riley - December 12, 2020 at 12:16 PM

SN

“ Steven Norman lit a candle in memory of Dennis Lee Jaenicke



Steven Norman - December 12, 2020 at 10:43 AM



“ Red Roses and White Carnations (Silk Cemetery Flowers) was purchased for the family of Dennis Lee Jaenicke.



December 11, 2020 at 08:48 PM



“ Thoughts & Prayers was purchased for the family of Dennis Lee Jaenicke.



December 11, 2020 at 05:11 PM

RN

“ Extending heartfelt condolences to Barb, Linda and the Jaenicke family...know that we have many great memories of Dennis that we will always treasure.
Kathy and Rich North

Rich North - December 11, 2020 at 03:10 PM

CR

“ Candy Ray lit a candle in memory of Dennis Lee Jaenicke



Candy ray - December 11, 2020 at 03:07 PM

TL

“ I have been saluting you at Luxbar this week with espresso martinis and filet sliders all of which I know you liked. Be in peace, Dennis.
My sincerest condolences to you family.

Tina Laws - December 11, 2020 at 01:06 PM

SH

“ Sue Clark Hurley lit a candle in memory of Dennis Lee Jaenicke



sue clark hurley - December 10, 2020 at 11:22 PM

JS

“ You're definitely going to be missed! I love you Dennis ❤️



Janie Smith - December 10, 2020 at 11:18 AM

NG

“ Nancy Girard lit a candle in memory of Dennis Lee Jaenicke



Nancy Girard - December 10, 2020 at 07:43 AM

NG

Rest In Peace, dear friend.

Nancy Girard - December 10, 2020 at 07:45 AM

HJ

“ Hugh Janda lit a candle in memory of Dennis Lee Jaenicke



Hugh Janda - December 09, 2020 at 06:08 PM

HJ

“ Nothing but Great memories of Dennis and the Jaenicke Family. The Jaenicke's gave us a Kankakee Dynasty with their Root Beer Stand. Dennis, Jimmer and Darwin had fantastic cars at their family dealership on Court street back in the 70's. Whenever I visited K3, I would always run into Dennis. Always cordial, funny and a great story was sure to be shared. May his impact that he left on all of us and the memories stay alive forever. Rest easy in God's armor Dennis.

Hugh Janda - December 09, 2020 at 06:08 PM

JE

“ Julie Enright lit a candle in memory of Dennis Lee Jaenicke



Julie Enright - December 09, 2020 at 05:26 PM

KB

“ Karen Flesner Bobalik lit a candle in memory of Dennis Lee Jaenicke



Karen Flesner Bobalik - December 08, 2020 at 07:40 PM

DN

“ Dennis is one of the reasons that I have fond memories of my high school years. He was fun, nice, artistic and giving. I enjoyed seeing him on my visits to Kankakee and I feel blessed to have known him. He was truly one of a kind. My sincere condolences to his family and friends.

Debbie Hoey Nekus
Ridgewood, NJ

Debbie Nekus - December 08, 2020 at 08:18 AM

KR

“ Dennis was a great guy and always had a smile to share. RIP.
Duane and Kathy Roy

Kathy Roy - December 07, 2020 at 09:31 PM

SH

“ So many fun times with Dennis during our high school years. It's been quite a while since we have been together but he will surely be missed.

Sue Hurley
Carmel, Indiana

Sue Hurley - December 07, 2020 at 09:30 PM

MG

“ Have known Dennis since 3rd grade at Taft. In addition to many great childhood memories have fond memories at West Junior and Westview.

He enjoyed life and lived it to the fullest. I always looked forward to seeing him when I was in Kankakee.

My sincere condolences to Barb and Linda during this difficult time.

Mark Golowski
Peoria, IL.



Mark Golowski - December 07, 2020 at 09:00 PM

PZ

“ I have known Dennis since grade school at Taft. Even then, Dennis excelled in art and could easily draw or sketch most anything. He was a very talented individual in many ways along with being a childhood friend of mine. His sudden passing was a real shock to me as I'm sure it was to countless others as well. May he rest in peace. My sincere condolences to Barb and Linda and the rest of his family.

Paul Ziemer - December 07, 2020 at 05:39 PM

TD

“ Had lots of good times with Dennis over the years and thought we had time for a few more. He was intelligent, funny and an extremely talented artist. His memory is truly a blessing and he will be missed by many. Condolences to the family, particularly Barbara & Linda who I know from way back when. May he Rest In Peace.

Tom Dandelles - December 07, 2020 at 03:38 PM

TM

“ *Tom Mallaney lit a candle in memory of Dennis Lee Jaenicke*



Tom Mallaney - December 07, 2020 at 02:20 PM

DS

“ *My sympathy to Dennis' family. We graduated from Westview together and I have fond memories of him.*

Dianne Star - December 07, 2020 at 12:24 PM

DS

“ *I graduated with Dennis so have known him for a long time. I don't recall ever seeing him without a smile on his face. His love of life is legendary! My sympathies to you all - you've experienced a lot of loss in a short time. May God bless your sweet memories!*

Dorcilla Ashcraft Schoolman - December 07, 2020 at 11:36 AM