



Cecil "Dennis" Burke

July 20, 1951 - May 30, 2026

Cecil Dennis Burke arrived at his heavenly home on Saturday, May 30, 2026, after a long and courageous battle with Multiple Myeloma.

Dennis was born in McKinney, Texas on July 20, 1951. He passed away at his home in Bullard, Texas.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Otis and Beatrice Burke. He is survived by his wife of almost 55 years, Jeannie Burke; son, Cody Burke and wife Monisha of Statham, GA; son, Kelly Burke of Riesel; brothers, Scotty Burke of Brock; and Ronny Burke and wife Alma of Crowley; aunt, Orpha Miller of Josephine; sisters-in-law Susie Estill of Arlington; Lori Spence of Crowley; and Linda Spence of Red Oak. He is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews; cousins, and an endless number of friends. He is also survived by his best little buddy, Bodie.

He graduated from Everman High School in 1969. Following graduation, he served in the Air Force Reserves until 1975. He attended Tarleton State University.

An avid fisherman, he participated in many local tournaments and was a member of the Crowley Bass Club. Through that connection he went to work for Fin & Feather Sport Sales in Fort Worth in the mid 1980's that began a

career selling boats for over 40 years. In 1987, he was named one of the top ten salesmen in the nation for Bass Pro Shops and Tracker Marine. He also worked for Fun & Sun, Plano Marine, and Nautical Mile Marine, where he worked until July of last year.

He enjoyed fishing, going to concerts, traveling, eating shrimp as often as he could, going to Ranger games, and spending time with his family. He really enjoyed his work selling boats, meeting new people, and “keeping East Texas fishing” as he would say. He was a proud Aggie Dad and enjoyed going to games and march ins. He was also a proud military Dad as Kelly served in the U.S. Navy,

The family wishes to thank the many doctors and nurses who have cared for him these last years. We especially want to thank Dr. Alan Eli, Dr. Francis Ssali, and Dr. David Smith of Christus for their care. We also thank Dr. Jingdong Su at Texas Oncology for guiding us through this journey and for the wonderful staff of nurses and caregivers there. Finally, the family would like to thank the staff of Hospice of East Texas for their loving care during the last two weeks of his life.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you consider a donation to Health Well Foundation (www.healthwellfoundation.org) who provided grants for him to receive the very expensive medicine he needed or Hospice of East Texas (www.hospiceofeasttexas.org).

Cemetery Details

Rose Hill Cemetery

2400 S. Donnybrook
Tyler, TX 75702

Previous Events

Service

JUN 10. 2:00 PM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home
7525 Old Jacksonville Hwy
Tyler, TX 75703
(903) 581-2008

Tribute Wall



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Cecil "Dennis" Burke



Stewart Family Funeral Home - June 08 at 03:50 PM

JS

“ Just found out yesterday as I stopped in at Nautical Mile that me & my wife's favorite Skeeter salesman had passed. Mr. Dennis was a good man and enjoyed experiencing the buy THANKS TO MR. DENNIS. He will be missed.

Jonney Smoldas - June 12 at 09:20 AM

JB

Thank you for your note. He enjoyed selling boats and helping people find just what they were looking for. Jeannie Burke

Jeannie Burke - June 15 at 08:51 AM

DH

“ I had the honor and privilege to have known Dennis for many years through me working at Skeeter Boats. Such an honest and humble man! He always had that big smile on his face and was a joy to be around. He always exemplified tremendous integrity and kindness. He most certainly will be missed. The world is a lesser place without him. Godspeed Dennis Burke!

Donny Hancock - June 11 at 11:39 AM

JB

Thank you for your note. He certainly enjoyed the phone call with you not too long ago. Blessings to you and Nan. Jeannie Burke

Jeannie Burke - June 15 at 08:51 AM



“ 70 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - June 08 at 03:23 PM

LO

“ Lori purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Cecil "Dennis" Burke.



Lori - June 08 at 09:14 AM

LO

“ Lori planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cecil "Dennis" Burke.

Lori - June 08 at 09:14 AM

JH

“ Jim H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Cecil "Dennis" Burke.

Jim H. - June 07 at 06:42 PM

MD

“ Mike Dupre and Connor Dupre purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Cecil "Dennis" Burke.



Mike Dupre and Connor Dupre - June 07 at 10:48 AM

LJ

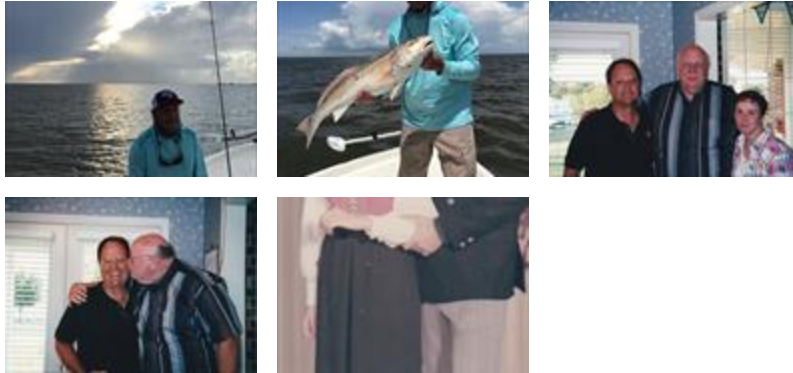
“ Love, Scott and Jeri purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Cecil "Dennis" Burke.



Love, Scott and Jeri - June 06 at 02:37 PM

JB

“ 21 files added to the album Dennis



Jeannie Burke - June 06 at 10:18 AM

MS

“ Mike and Cindy Spence purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Cecil "Dennis" Burke.



Mike and Cindy Spence - June 05 at 06:36 PM

JB

“ 7 files added to the album Dennis



Jeannie Burke - June 05 at 08:12 AM

JB

“ 43 files added to the album Dennis



Jeannie Burke - June 03 at 08:50 AM



“ Sunny Memories was purchased for the family of Cecil "Dennis" Burke.



June 02 at 05:04 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Cecil "Dennis" Burke.

June 02 at 05:04 PM

BM

“*Dave and I send our sincere condolences to Jeannie, Cody, Kelly, and the whole Burke family.*

I am heartbroken that I will not be able to attend Dennis' celebration of life service. I send much love and support from afar.

When I think of Dennis, I remember a good man, husband, father, and friend. It was great fun sharing the halls of Everman High School with Dennis. EHS Class of '69 has lost a great human. Dennis was a leader, football hero, and a loyal friend.

It has been such a blessing to stay in touch through the many decades after high school. It has only strengthened my admiration and respect for Dennis.

The world was a better place with Dennis in it. See you on the other side, my friend.

Bridget Ward Muller

Bridget Ward Muller - June 02 at 04:49 PM