



Arch "Dean" D. Bostley

September 29, 1941 - February 7, 2026

Major Arch "Dean" Bostley, known affectionately as Dean, took the hand of Jesus on February 7, 2026, at the age of 84 at his home in Grove, Oklahoma. Born on September 29, 1941, in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Dean was a man whose tough exterior belied a gentle and loving spirit. A proud Vietnam Veteran, Dean initially entered the Air Force and later transferred to the Army during the Vietnam War, serving as a combat helicopter pilot. His military career was marked by a profound dedication to service - retiring as Major in 1985 after a distinguished tenure, during which he also obtained several degrees - an Associate in Science in Agriculture-Business and a Bachelor's of Science. Following his retirement from military service, Dean continued to succeed as he owned and operated True Value Hardware in Eagle River, Alaska and became a plumber and electrician has a side business in construction. His love for the outdoors was evident as he enjoyed hunting and fishing in the vast Alaskan wilderness. Dean also shared his aviation knowledge as a flight instructor, nurturing the next generation of pilots. After retiring and moving to Grove, Oklahoma, Dean showcased his versatility by taking up horticulture, cooking unique meals - his specialty spaghetti, building computers and boating. Dean was always eager to learn and master new skills. He was also well versed in politics and always instilled the importance of voting. He would always celebrate "Vote Day" as a holiday and take his family out for dinner.

Known lovingly as "Mean Dean" to his family and friends, his distinguished presence on this side of Heaven will be deeply missed. Dean's legacy is carried on by his loved ones who remember him not only for his strength and tough demeanor, but for the warmth and wisdom he shared. His life reflects a tapestry of dedication, service, and a continuous pursuit of knowledge, leaving an indelible mark on all who knew him. Dean is preceded in death by his parents, Ezra and Helen Bostley. Left to cherish his memory and celebrate his life are: Diane Wenrich of Grove, OK, his loving companion; Brenda Denny of Peters Creek, AK, and Heather Orzalli of Palmer, AK, his two daughters; Barry Orzalli, his son-in-law; Robert Wenrich of Pittsburg, PA and Joseph Wenrich of Chicago, IL, his step-sons; Bryce Orzalli (Vicki), Dillon Orzalli (McKenzie), Gabrielle Hisaw (Kyle) and Jordan Reich (Braedon), his grandchildren; Paxson, Weston, Barrett, Boone, and "Baby Girl" in April this year, his great-grandchildren; Harry Bostley (Dolores) of Hilton, NY, his brother; and Altha Bostley of Peters Creek, AK, his former spouse.

Viewing for Dean will be 5-7pm Thursday, February 12, 2026, and funeral services will be at 2pm Friday, February 13, 2026 - both at Nichols-Stephens Funeral Service. There will be another service for those that could not attend locally when he is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. The date, time and information will be provided in the coming days.

In lieu of donating flowers, Dean had a deep love for dogs and took in and cared for many various stray animals, therefore, he would appreciate a donation to your local no-kill animal shelter.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **12.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Nichols-Stephens Funeral and Cremation Service
10201 U.S. Highway 59
Grove, OK 74344
(918) 786-6761
nicholsfunerals@yahoo.com

Funeral Service

FEB **13.** 2:00 PM (CT)

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