

Billie Joe Dean

January 5, 1926 - August 20, 2023

Memorial services for Billie Joe Dean, 97, of Gilmer, will be held at, 2:30 pm, Sunday, August 27, 2023, in the Chapel of McWhorter Funeral Home with Brother Charles Johnson and Eddie Dean officiating.

Bill was born January 5, 1926, in Upshur County, Texas, to Jerry and Maggie Dean, and passed from this life on August 20, 2023, in Tyler, Texas surrounded by his family.

Bill grew up in the Simpsonville area until he joined the Navy in 1942 at the age of 16 and was assigned to the Sea Bees which were Naval Construction Battalions that built seaports, warehouses, landing strips for B-29 bombers, and basically anything that needed to be built. He served until 1946 at which time he came back to Upshur County and married Virginia Bowden, on April 28, 1947, and they were married 76 years until her death on May 4, 2023. He spent the rest of his life living in Gilmer raising a family and working. During the 1950's he played on a baseball team made up of players from surrounding communities. He was known for his pitching and was voted "Most Valuable Player" during one of the seasons. Bill worked at Dean Lumber Company for many years, and also owned and operated heavy equipment. He was a good father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend to many. He was witty and had a great sense of humor. He was also known for his skills to win at checkers and playing dominos, especially 42. Bill could stir up an outstanding pot of chili. He was a lifelong member of Gilmer Church of Christ.

Those left to cherish his memory are his children, Billy Ray Dean (Brenda) of

Tyler; daughter, Ginger Cargal of Gilmer; grandchildren, Michael Dean Gage (Brandie) of Gilmer; Rebekah Brown of Overland Park, Kansas, Eric Dean of Longview, Luke Dean (Katie) of Whitehouse, Liz Couch (Randy) of Kilgore, Sarah Smith (Russell) of Canton, and Wesley Cargal (Amber) of Gilmer; great-grandchildren, Dutch Dean Gage, Caleb Brown, Hannah Brown, Abbie Brown, Mahri Dean, Paisley Dean, Charlotte Dean, Jex Dean, Norah Dean, Elliott Dean, Lauren Couch, Brooke Couch, Riley Smith, Reagan Smith, and Desiree Pierce; and great-great-grandchild, Bohdi Allen Pierce.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Jerry and Maggie Dean; his wife, Virginia Bowden Dean; son, Terry Joe Dean; son-in-law, James Cargal; grandson-in-law, Barry Brown; siblings, Ella Mae Harris, Gerald Dean, John Edward Dean, Everett Dean, Winnie Faye Kennedy, Rose Thacker, Margie Mangum, and Jerrienne Thweatt.

Honorary pallbearers will be Michael Dean Gage, James Wesley Cargal, Luke Douglas Dean, William Eric Dean, Randy Allen Couch, and Russell David Smith.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to Camp Deer Run, 1227 CR 4590 Winnsboro, TX 75494.

Previous Events

Service

AUG 27. 2:30 PM (CT)

McWhorter Funeral Home
1074 St. Hwy 300
Gilmer, TX 75645
(903) 734-7070
info@mcwhorterfh.com
<https://www.mcwhorterfh.com>

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Bill Dean Funeral Service*



McWhorter Funeral Home - August 28, 2023 at 10:50 AM



“ *Andy and I are so sad to hear of Bill's passing. He was one of the good ones. And a great walking partner! You all are in our thoughts and prayers*



liz Richardson - August 27, 2023 at 02:16 PM



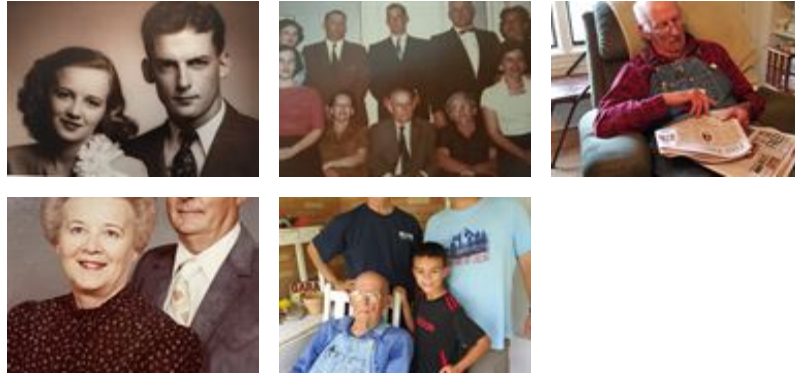
“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Billie Joe Dean.*



August 25, 2023 at 05:37 PM



“ 214 files added to the album LifeTributes



McWhorter Funeral Home - August 25, 2023 at 02:05 PM

DL

Love all the family pictures ❤️

Deborah Loyd - August 26, 2023 at 07:50 PM

DL

Kenneth Stewart and I want you to know that your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

Deborah Loyd - August 26, 2023 at 07:52 PM

RW

“ *So sorry for your loss! I remember many Sundays we'd see Mr. and Mrs. Dean at Dairy Queen after church for lunch, and we'd always speak to each other and make a joke about eating Sunday lunch at Dairy Queen so often.*

Robin Woodson - August 25, 2023 at 09:28 AM

CP

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. My parents loved Bill and Virginia as well as I. I have so many good memories of them while living in Gilmer. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Carol Ann Carroll Pate*

Carol Ann Carroll Pate - August 24, 2023 at 03:04 PM



Breaking down in front of their house went to the door to use phone always would honk if I seen them out in the yard still look at the house Everytime I go by have always been my friends will miss him and her both the y were always great people.. Julia Johnston

Julia Johnston - August 27, 2023 at 12:58 PM

SB

“ *Sending thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.
Terry and Sandra Owens Bibb*

Sandra Owens Bibb - August 23, 2023 at 05:23 PM

WB

“ *May God through Jesus be with each of you during this Season of Life; granting to each what only He knows is needed and what only He has the Power to grant. In Christian Love , Willie Pearl and Bubba (thankful recipients of many labors of love by your Dear Loved One)...*

Willie Pearl Brown - August 23, 2023 at 06:51 AM

MH

“ *My heart is sad to hear about Bill Dean passing away. Virginia was my dear sweet cousin and I send my love to all this family. God bless you dear sweet cousins. Mable Hill*

Mable Hill - August 22, 2023 at 07:04 PM