



Dean Bergman

August 4, 1949 - March 15, 2023

Age 73, of Braidwood, IL passed away Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at Ascension St. Joseph Medical Center in Joliet, IL. Born August 4, 1949 in Morris, IL to the late Waldo Bergman and Lillian (nee Scaman) Burnik. Dean was raised and educated in Braidwood, graduating from Reed-Custer High School with the class of 1969. In his youth, he enjoyed motor cross, stock car racing, and cycling in marathons. He retired from Caterpillar, Inc. in 2000 after thirty years of employment. While working full time with Caterpillar he also owned and operated Bergman's Karate, Bergman's Bait shop, and Firewood beginning from the early 1980's until 2004. Dean was a Master of Karate, most recently earning his 8th degree black belt. He taught Karate for over fifty years throughout many locations, including Braidwood, Wilmington, Channahon, and Minooka areas, even teaching a class at the Reed-Custer High School PE Department. One of the earliest members of the Braidwood Recreational Club, lifetime member of the Sho-go-tae Academy, and was an avid donator to Unicef. Dean enjoyed hunting, fishing, and had a longtime hobby of flying and racing pigeons, but mostly making people smile. He always had a smile on his face and was the biggest people person one could meet. He always kept himself busy, whether it is was working, teaching, or being just that social butterfly at the restaurants and bars. Surviving are his wife of sixteen years, Rebecca (nee Lair) Bergman of Braidwood, whom he married October 31, 2006 in Townsend, TN; son, Joey Bergman of Braceville, IL; two step-sons, Jason Ohl of Braceville and Matthew Ohl of Braidwood;

three grandchildren, Cameron, Angelina, and Annie Bergman; sister, Diane (Roger Ranieri) Bergman of Phoenix, AZ; brother, Donald (JoAnne) McMillan of Gardner, IL; numerous nieces and nephews; two foster children, Ayden and Everett Lair; and four legged companions, Nya and Logan. Preceding him in death were his parents; and beloved daughter, Angelina Marie Bergman (Braidwood's Olympian), whom predeceased him August 17, 1993. Visitation for Dean will be at the R.W. Patterson Funeral Home & Crematory, Braidwood, Saturday, March 25, 2023 from 12:00 p.m. until the time of funeral services at 6:00 p.m. Cremation rites will be accorded following services. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to any lung association of the donor's choice would be appreciated. For more information and to visit his online guestbook, please log on to www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com or find us on Facebook. ***Dean's funeral service will be live streamed at 6:00 p.m. <https://vimeo.com/event/3212439> *****

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **25**. 12:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home
401 East Main St.
Braidwood, IL 60408
(815) 458-2336
info@rwpattersonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rwpattersonfuneralhomes.com>

Service

MAR **25**. 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM (CT)

R.W. Patterson Funeral Home
401 East Main St.
Braidwood, IL 60408
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Tribute Wall



“ 115 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



R W Patterson Funeral Homes, Ltd. - March 24, 2023 at 03:14 PM

MK

“ Although it wasn't often that I'd run into you when I came home to visit, you could always make me laugh. Rest in Peace, Dean.

Marsha Klimes - March 24, 2023 at 08:58 AM

DA

“ Dave Karla Amoruso lit a candle in memory of Dean Bergman



Dave and Karla Amoruso - March 23, 2023 at 02:56 PM

HC

“ Braidwood is going to seem empty without seeing Dean out and about. Rest In Peace Dean

Harvey Carey - March 22, 2023 at 05:45 PM

WB

“ Dean was a great roll model for me when I was a kid growing up. He was my first and only karate instructor, sensei, Master. He was a great example of the words, toughness, dedication, motivation and many other encouragement words. I'm sorry and sad he's not in this world anymore but I know he is with Angie now kicking away together the next.



Wayne Bacigalupo - March 22, 2023 at 01:47 PM

SR

“ My condolences to his family, friends and students. He leaves behind a great legacy. “A Sensei plants seeds that grow and carry on their knowledge”



stacey rodgers - March 22, 2023 at 10:13 AM

DE

“ I knew of Dean, but didn't know him until he came into the Museum before we opened to the public. The former depot was moved and the Braidwood Historical Society were given permission to use the building. He came in to see what changes were made, since he had rented the building for a long time. Oh, the stories he told us! He had a great and interesting life due to his business. He found that I was not the “new kid on the block”, as he assumed. He knew my sister for years, and knew of me. Over the last 15 years, It was great to get to know him. I loved the way he would show his talent and kick one of his legs very high. How proud he was of his many students who learned from him.
Rest In Peace, Dean.

Dee - March 21, 2023 at 06:25 PM

Sandra
Barnett
Comer

“ Sandra Barnett Comer lit a candle in memory of Dean Bergman



Sandra Barnett Comer - March 21, 2023 at 02:36 AM

SS

“ Gone too soon... Please accept my heartfelt condolences to his family and friends. A great man overall.



sandra smith - March 20, 2023 at 09:15 PM

DB

“ Dean always came in the Whistlestop where I work. Always had a smile on his face and a good story. He was also our firewood guy. Always gave us great service. We will miss you Dean. Sincerely,
Deb and Dave Baumgartner

Deb and Dave Baumgartner - March 20, 2023 at 03:11 PM

DB

“ Dean was one of the first people I met when I moved to Shadow Lakes in 2015. He was my firewood guy. A great guy, funny and a warm smile. I will miss you. David Baumgartner

David Baumgartner - March 20, 2023 at 02:06 PM

FP

“ My deepest sympathies to family.

Fran Palmer - March 19, 2023 at 08:49 AM

KW

“ kevin whelchel lit a candle in memory of Dean Bergman



kevin scott whelchel - March 18, 2023 at 08:52 PM

TZ

“ I took karate classes from him many moons ago. He was such a nice guy.
My condolences to his family and friends.
Teresa Zenke

Teresa Zenke - March 18, 2023 at 08:20 PM

DB

“ *Always had each other's back. You are missed.* ❤️



Diane Bergman - March 18, 2023 at 06:04 PM



“ *Delia Tenn Fisk lit a candle in memory of
Dean Bergman*



Delia Tenn Fisk - March 18, 2023 at 05:55 PM

LG

“ *Linda Gualando lit a candle in memory of
Dean Bergman*



Linda Gualando - March 18, 2023 at 04:19 PM