



Dean Whiteman

October 24, 1931 - July 29, 2009

Dean Whiteman, 77, of Ft. Collins, passed away on July 29, 2009, at Poudre Valley Hospital of a massive stroke. Dean was born in Topeka, Kansas, the son of Fred and Myrtle Whiteman, on October 24, 1931. Dean worked on the family Grade A Dairy near Topeka until he graduated from Seaman Rural High where he served as president of Hi-Y, was twice president of FFA, lettered in football, basketball and track and was selected to attend Boys State in Emporia, Kansas. Following graduation, he was employed by the Kansas State Grain Inspection Department and was soon certified as a USDA licensed grain inspector, a position he held for several years prior to accepting a position as a Grain Plant Superintendent in Lincoln, Nebraska. He held this position until retiring from the grain business in 1964, at which time he relocated to Ft. Collins, CO, where he opened the first of seven King's Food Host family dining restaurants. By 1974, Dean had three King's Restaurants in Colorado, two in Wyoming and two in Montana. During his time in Ft. Collins, Dean was active in the Ft. Collins Chamber of Commerce, serving as President and serving on the Chamber's executive committee. He also co-chaired the original Downtown Redevelopment Board and served nine years as a board member on the Ft. Collins/Loveland Sanitation District.

Following the sale of his restaurants, Dean became a member of the E.E Mitchell Development group, serving as Vice President of Property Management and Commercial Leasing. Simultaneously, he opened Lady's & Gentleman's Fine Shoes in the Foothills Fashion Mall. In 1990, Dean survived a massive stroke and during his three-year rehabilitation he wrote and copy righted the book "Winning Over Stroke", which he donated to the National Stroke Association for their usage with profits going to stroke research. Dean also provided commercial leasing services for Everitt Enterprises prior to his retirement in 1990 due to health issues.

Dean and his family loved the outdoor opportunities the Colorado mountains offered. Backpacking, camping, hunting, snowmobiling and snow and water skiing kept the family busy. Dean became a multi-licensed pilot to expedite travel between his business properties. He loved recreational mountain flying and was quite proud of having landed in every Colorado mountain airport at one time or another. He was most proud of his children and the fine adults they have all become, and of his two grandchildren whom he adored.

Dean's most gratifying hobby was "doing good deeds for good people."

He leaves behind his beloved wife, Sharon; three sons, Gery Whiteman Sue, Ron Whiteman Terri, and Scott Whiteman Colleen; one daughter, Barbara Whiteman Fulton Darren; two grandchildren, Collin and Emma Fulton; his first wife, Clara Whiteman; sister-in-law, Sheryl Schlegel; brother-in-law, Harry Schlegel Theresa, and several nieces and nephews. Services will be at St. John's Lutheran Church in Ft. Collins on Wednesday at 11 a.m. Rev. Brian Bestian will officiate at the service. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to St. John's Lutheran Church or Poudre Valley Hospital Foundation- Stroke Treatment in care of Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive, Ft. Collins, CO 80524.

Comments



“ I wanted to thank all of you who took the time to sign into this guestbook with your memories of my Dad. There are many who do not survive their first stroke, let alone get back up on their feet to keep on moving through the ones to come. He did not complain about the hand he was dealt and always had a smile on his face and a quick quip to go with it. One of the things all of us had instilled in us as kids was the work ethic of both of our parents. I have heard from more than one that we are his legacy, a representation of his work here on Earth. I want to thank you for your kind words. His last years presented some pretty tough challenges for him and now he is free from those burdens. I think the longer he is gone the more I am going to miss him and I know that Sharon misses him terribly. Thanks again for sharing your times with Dean- they are glimpse's into windows we did not see but are happy to hear.

Ron Whiteman - October 26, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Hi Sharon and family,

I was reminiscing with my husband about Dean Whiteman. I "Googled" his name and was sorry to see he struggled for so many years.

Dean made a huge impact on my life at the Longmont Kings Food Host. I worked there for 2 years in high school when it opened & loved it. I knew Sharon too. Dean was an amazing teacher. I have used many skills in my travel sales career. I'm still making Blanches cream pies too. I have such fond memories of my King's days, Dean, Sharon, Ralph, etc.

I hope you receive this after so many years.

Kathy Wood Pillmore

Longmont, CO

kathy Wood Pillmore - January 22, 2017 at 06:27 PM



“ Dean was a kind, sweet gentleman and will be greatly missed.

Barbara Leibensperger - August 10, 2009 at 12:00 AM



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Ray & Melanie Chamberlain - August 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Sharon: We were so sad to see that Dean had passed away. Both of us always remember Dean with a smile on our faces thinking of all of the wonderful stories he would share. We send our deepest sympathy to you and the other members of the family. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Ray & Melanie Chamberlain - August 06, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Sharon and Family, I am so sorry to hear of Deans passing. He was an exceptional person and did so many wonderful things for people. He gave me my first job 36 years ago at King's Food Host on College Ave and I have never forgotten him. I always admired his way of doing business and I have tried to reflect that in my life. Although I did not see him very often, when we did run into each other he would always speak and was very genuine in wanting to know what was happening in my life. I feel very fortunate to of known Dean and had the opportunity to work with him and he is someone I will never forget. My thoughts and prayers are with you all during these difficult times. God Bless

Mike Ramsey - August 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Sharon, We are so sorry of your loss! Daan was a great friend; neighbor. I only wish we had gotten together more for a visit or two. The service was beautiful; I wish that Pat could have been there with me today. Unfortunately she is back in MA. with her daughter Kim who is sick with cancer and is going through some tough treatments. She asked that I tell you that she is thinking of you and sends her love and condolences. If there is anything we can do for you, please call! Love, Bob & Pat

Robert & Patricia George - August 05, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ They don't make men like Dean Whiteman anymore, do they? He always gave 110% & expected the same from others. His strength of character, his sense of fairness & respect for others always impressed me & influenced my life. I am thankful I had the opportunity to know him & call him "friend." My prayers are with you all as you say goodbye to this remarkable person.

Melanie Sherinski - August 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Sharon, Barb and the rest of Dean's wonderful family, I was so saddened when my dad told me of Dean's passing. I really treasured my years of working at the shoe store and becoming part of your extended family. I was just thinking of Barb the other day when I unpacked some Zelany books. When Shelley offered to introduce me to her boss, I had no idea how much it would impact my life. I think I fell in love with both Dean and Sharon and soon as I met you. I sometimes wonder if Dean ever regretted turning the two of us loose when the shoe reps stopped by the store! I still have some of the shoes I bought; they are still beautiful. I learned how to work positively with all kinds of people from both Dean and Sharon and it has impacted my entire business life. Dean was a fabulous example for so many of us to follow and I'm so happy he was my friend. You all are in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Sandi

Sandi Connell Heine - August 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ My heart goes out to Sharon, and Deans family. I will truly miss, my "friend"!! I only knew Dean for a few years, and was always greeted with a smile, easy disposition, and most of all kind words. I will always remember my last conversation with this incredible man, for it was joyful and vibrant. He gave so much to me, and i am truly blessed and honored to have known this incredible man. You are in my thoughts and prayers. You will never be far from me Dean!! I miss you!!!

FREDRICK CASTANEDA - August 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Sharon & Family, We are so sad to lose such a great man in Dean. He meant so much to both of us. He was one of the first people we met when we moved to Ft. Collins in 1987 and he's made such a difference in our lives. I know that he touched many other lives in positive ways as well. He was a business mentor as we grew our restaurant company, he advised me on some of the crazy real estate ideas I had and he and you became a good friends to us. Dean was a role model for me in so many ways. It's difficult to imagine life without him in it. I will try to carry his spirit, his business acumen and his good humor with me all the days of my life. May God shower you with His grace during this difficult time. Love, Rayno & Patty Seaser

Rayno & Patty Seaser - August 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Oh my! It is always so startling to see the obituary of someone I know - not closely, but for a very long time. And what an obituary! It seems that Dean did just about everything that CAN be done! I don't think I EVER saw him without that broad and warm smile. Sharon, I am saddened for you and Dean's family and for the loss of such a special man. You have my genuine caring and support in your grief process. Sincerely, Nancy McKelvey Fort Collins, CO. Aug. 4, 2009

Nancy McKelvey - August 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Sharon and family, We send our deepest condolences to all of you. We knew Dean well and respected his accumen, good business sense and good sense of humor. He will be missed but we both are better for having known him. You will be in our thoughts and prayers Wednesday. Chuck and Marcia

Chuck & Marcia Mabry - August 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Sharon, I am so sorry to hear of Dean's passing. He was such a funny and wonderful man. I am priviledged to have known him. I will never forget the stories he would tell me when you came into my office. I remember the time he told me how to make the "cheese frenchy" He always made me smile. I send my prayers to you and your family.

Rhonda Castaneda, Bon Voyage Travel - August 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Sharon, We were sorry to see in the newspaper that Dean has passed away. We so enjoyed knowing you and Dean and I am sure you will miss him dearly. We are glad we had the opportunity to know each of you. Our thoughts are with you during this sad time. We are leaving on vacation, and regret we will not be able to attend on wednesday.

Chris and Dick Gould - August 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Sharon, we will all miss Dean, he was a great guy and a real gentleman....he will love you always.....wish we could be there with you. God Bless.

Bill Wynne - August 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Gery and Family: I was so sorry to hear about your Dad. Although I did not know him personally, Gery, you were one of my favorite people in high school; your Dad must have been special to have raised such a great son. Please accept my condolences and take care. Sincerely, Pam Swerer

Pam Swerer - August 03, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Barb, Sharon and family: I was overwhelmed to read all of the things that Dean had done in his lifetime. . . Wow! I feel so privileged to have known and spent time what little it was with Dean. He will be greatly missed. I know God will hold you all close at the difficult time. You all are in our prayers and thoughts. Kimberly and Don Campbell

Kimberly and Don Campbell - August 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Dean was always so nice and helpful during Barb's scrapbook retreats. He would always open the door for me with a big smile. He will be missed.

Kristi Herd - August 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Sharon, My deepest condolences for your loss go out to you and to the family. Dean was a very special man and I am proud to say I knew him. He will be missed in this community. I will be attending the memorial. If there is anything I can do to help please do not hesitate to call. Ernie

Ernie Chavez - August 02, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Barb, Sharon: It was a beautiful thing to read Dean's obituary. I'm very proud to be able to say that I met Dean. He'll be missed by all. Blessings for peace to you and all of Dean's family and friends.

Celeste, Russ, Mallory, Jake Faust - August 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I remember Dean allowing me to sit in his office and watch TV at the original Kings Food Host on College Ave, while my mom Dona worked as the Hostess for him.

John L. Nye - August 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ To the family of Dean Whiteman, Jim and I would like to express our deepest sympathy in your great loss. May you always remember all of the good times you all had together. God be with you all in this trying time. Love to you all. Dona & Jim Nye

Jim and Dona Nye - August 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I always enjoyed talking with Dean. He was a nice man and he will be missed.

Jenny Lupfer - August 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ Quite an accomplished businessman, doing so many "good deeds" for others. He taught his daughter Barb well! :-

Barb TOB, Rick and Amanda Swetman - August 01, 2009 at 12:00 AM