



L. Dean (Diz) Duncan

August 15, 1927 - February 13, 2019

Dean lived a fine and meaningful life, born in a small town of Southern Illinois. As a small boy, Dean developed a passion for basketball. Never without his basketball in hand, at home or school earned Dean the nickname “Diz.” In 1945, Dean enlisted in the Navy to help his country win the war; instead, Dean was put on the Navy Basketball Team to play for his country. After the Navy, Dean was granted a full basketball scholarship to Centenary College in Louisiana, where earned a bachelor degree in Social Studies. Dean also attended CU Boulder where he used his GI bill to earn his Master’s Degree and Doctorate in Education.

In 1956 Dean began his career in education at Fort Collins High School where he met his wife, Marlene. Dean became Marlene’s mentor and “rock” as he helped her navigate her first school year. Dean and Marlene continued teaching together for 26 years, helping and inspiring their students before and after graduation.

Dean spent 40 years of his life teaching, coaching, and challenging himself. Dean climbed Longs Peak on his 75th birthday, earned the point guard position on the Colorado Senior Olympic Team and skied until the age of 85! Dean is preceded in death by his brothers Lute and Baldy.

Dean is survived by his wife, Marlene, 3 beloved granddaughters, 3 great-grandsons, son-in-law Paul Gibson; son, Jim; daughter Jenny, six nieces and nephews. Dean is especially grateful for the continued care and attention from his nephews, Jim (Jody) Duncan and Jeff (Tamra) Duncan, and many dear

friends.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m., on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at Fort Collins First United Methodist Church, 1005 Stover. A reception will immediately follow the service.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Pathway's Hospice in care of Bohlander Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive, Ft. Collins, CO 80524. Visit bohlenderfuneralchapel.com to send condolences.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

FEB 13. 1:00 PM (MT)

First United Methodist Church
1005 Stover St.
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Tribute Wall

RS

“ Dean and I skied together for 10 years on the Parks & Rec Wed. Ski Bus. We had so much fun. He was always helping others. Had a wonderful smile and sense of humor. After I was injured I'd see him around town: walking the bike path, at the Tue. Skier's breakfast. I was always very excited to see him because is was such a great man.

Rich Shipman

Rich Shipman - February 23, 2019 at 05:23 PM

PR

“ Dean and I worked together for several years at Rocky Mountain High School. He was a very effective classroom teacher and a positive staff member. He played high school basketball in Illinois and I played high school basketball in Indiana. We teased each other about which state had the best teams. We also played pick-up basketball games after school on many occasions. I enjoyed his company and appreciated his professionalism and his friendship!

Paul Radcliff - February 20, 2019 at 12:50 PM

JB

“ Marlene, I'm so saddened to hear of Dean's passing. No matter how many years we get, it's never enough with our loved ones. I'll keep you and your family in my prayers for peace and healing of your tender hearts in this difficult time. Take care and God bless -
Julia Scriven Barrett (Poudre High School, class of 82)

Julia Barrett - February 19, 2019 at 05:56 PM

JL

“ I have such good memories of Coach Duncan as we called him at FCHS in the late 1950s. I had him for freshman social studies and junior American History. He made class so interesting. We especially liked it when he talked about basketball on Fridays. He was definitely one of my favorite teachers. I send my prayers for comfort and strength to all the family. Janice Sidebottom Lee

Jan Lee - February 17, 2019 at 02:09 PM