



Gilbert D. Williams

August 10, 1956 - February 14, 2025

Gilbert Dean Williams or "Dean" as he was known to family and friends, of Vancouver, WA, passed away February 14, 2025, at Sunnyside Hospital in Clackamas, Oregon, of heart complications stemming from a short battle with cancer. He was 68 years old. Dean was born to James Gilbert and Fern Sasser Williams on August 10, 1956, as one member of a set of twins. Unfortunately, his twin brother James Dale passed away during infancy. He became the youngest of four siblings growing up in the small community of Beaver, Utah. He is remembered as a loving and compassionate brother with a penchant for a little bit of loveable trouble. Dean grew up helping his father in the family's "OK Tire Shop" and helping his mom in "Fern's Floral Shop" while he attended and then graduated from Beaver High School in 1974. Dean would go on to study Radio Broadcasting at Dixie State College where he enjoyed working at the local radio station. From there, Dean became an electrical engineer in the semiconductor industry for 45 years. Dean loved the natural world around him. He loved fishing, camping, cutting firewood, listening to the ocean's continuous surf, rain as it fell, and more. Recently, in his retired life, Dean learned to kayak, and it became a sport of passion. Dean was also a beekeeper. He wore bee shirts to strike up conversations about bees and help educate anyone that would listen. Because Dean grew up in a floral shop, he had an unusual love for flowers. Beekeeping helped complete the tie he had with his past and the way he saw flowers. It was his way of giving back to the world he lived in. Dean loved to travel. He

always wanted to go and see family. He had a strong connection to the ones he loved. His deep love of family was unwavering. Dean married Jaynie Clark on August 12, 1978, which was the beginning of what would be a long and happy marriage of 47 years. Dean and Jaynie began their life together in Salt Lake City, UT then moved to Portland, Oregon, Arlington TX, a short stay in Salt Lake City and then to Vancouver, WA in 1993 for the duration of his life. I'm Dean's wife, Jaynie Williams and would like to thank him for his love. We spent time together as best friends. We loved working together. A good date night was going to the hardware store and getting supplies for our next project. Dean's love for me knew no boundaries. He brought joy to me and his family. When leaving the house, he always said that he loved me and to hurry back home to him. Dean found his true calling when he had the joy of becoming a father in 1981. He would go on to have four children: Troy, Holly, Clay and Maygan. His children grew up knowing unrelenting love, something that was freely given in abundance throughout his life. Dean taught his children how to work, look out for the other guy, be kind, find joy, and follow Christ. When his oldest son, Troy, wanted to raise a pig, Dean was all in. So much so, that for the next 12 years he dedicated his time and resources to helping raise livestock in the FFA program and taking them to the Clark County Fair for market. All four children raised livestock where he taught them how to work beside him. Words that his own children use to describe him are compassionate, faithful, dedicated, integrous, and unconditionally loving. On August 15th, 2009, Dean began his life as a grandfather. He would tell anyone that would listen that this was living. He loved being a grandpa. His grandchildren are Ethan Shannon, Evan Shannon, Lily Williams, McKinley Williams, Ila Williams, Clara (CJ) Ratcliffe and William (Bandon) Ratcliffe VI. Dean could be found at his happiest in the company of his grandchildren who were never in want of his love and affection.

Dean was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. He served as Ward Clerk, Scout Master, Cub Scout leader, Sunday School teacher, home teacher and friend. He had a testimony of Jesus Christ. He

always thought it was better to follow in his footsteps than to shout it from the rafters. Dean would go about his day trying to find ways that he could be a follower of Christ by helping others and bring joy to them. Dean is survived by his wife Jaynie, sisters Ila Smith (Val) and Carol Jolley (Bruce), his children, Troy Dean Williams, Holly and Bill Ratcliffe, Clayton and Shirley Williams and Maygan and Matthew Shannon, and seven grandchildren. Family and friends will be celebrating Dean's life with a memorial service on Saturday, March 29th. The service will be held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 7101 NE 166th Ave., Vancouver, WA at 11:00am. All are welcome to come celebrate his life. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the American Heart Association, The American Cancer Society, or the Save the Bees Foundation in memory of G. Dean Williams.

Tribute Wall

DS

“Dean and I grew up together in Beaver, Utah. We were classmates and friends. I enjoyed spending time with him at our high school 50 year reunion, and regret that we did not have the opportunity to meet up the following summer. Dean had a good sense of humor and a smile for everyone. I will always cherish my memories of Dean.

David S. Smith

David S. Smith - November 19, 2025 at 12:41 AM

JB

“Dean you will be missed in our beekeeping community. May you fly with the bees

Joy Bochsler - June 11, 2025 at 12:00 AM

DD

“I will always remember and cherish all the hours spent at the barn with him.

Dale Dyché - March 25, 2025 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ I'm so sorry for you and your family's loss. By your testimony of his life, Dean was an AMAZING husband, father, grandfather, and friend to those who knew him; beautiful obituary. I met Dean just a couple of times when he came to help support you at work with hauling in boxes of supplies for your classroom and just being there for you when you needed him. Of what I was able to see from him in those short and swift times was a kind and gentle man. When the Lord calls our loved ones home, he leaves a gift of memories in exchange. May you and your family be blessed and comforted by those memories. ~HUGS, Christine

Christine Smith - March 11, 2025 at 12:00 AM

HM

“ I did not know Dean well, and therefore, cannot really share a memory, but I do remember how he and Jaynie opened up their land to the scouts to camp there on the weekends and how my son enjoyed that :-) I also really loved the things I learned about him from his obituary. I love nature and flowers and bees as well! I wish I had realized we shared some of those common interests. I am so pleased he got to be a husband, a father and a grandfather. I regret that he didn't get to enjoy those experiences for a longer time but know he will be watching over those he loves as best he can from the other side of the veil. Sending hugs to all of his family from The Mowrers.

Heather Mowrer - March 10, 2025 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ He is greatly missed as a dear friend and wonderful giving person. Bless you and yours and will see you later.

Theone Hutchman - March 10, 2025 at 12:00 AM

KI

“ When I was just a young boy, his daughter told me that their home was a safe place, a refuge where I would always be welcome as part of their family if I ever needed it. And one night, when I had nowhere else to turn, I found myself on their doorstep. They didn't hesitate, they brought me inside, sat me down in their kitchen, and listened with open hearts to what I was going through.



After hearing my struggles, her mom and dad looked at me with warmth and said, "Welcome home. Let's get you settled in and introduce you to your brothers and sisters." In that moment, they didn't just offer me shelter; they offered me belonging.

He was a kind man, a quiet pillar of strength. I remember him letting me use their family computer, encouraging me to explore my creativity in graphic design. I remember him sharing stories about his work, and though most kids might not have found them interesting, I was captivated, hanging on every word, fascinated by the details of his days.

One night, he showed me the lasers he worked on, even demonstrating how they could turn off streetlights. It was such a small moment, yet it felt like magic, a glimpse into his world that he so generously shared with me. He and his incredible wife took me in without hesitation, treating me as if I were their own.

Their kindness, their love, their quiet and unwavering support, these things have illuminated my path in life more than they will ever know. I carry their generosity with me, and I always will. I will never forget this truly wonderful man and his equally wonderful wife, who gave me not just a home, but a family when I needed it most.

Kriss Williams III - March 10, 2025 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ *Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Funeral Chapel and Crematory*

A Memorial Tree was planted for Gilbert D. Williams - February 18, 2025 at 12:00 AM