



## Dennis W. Souza

July 2, 1951 - May 5, 2022

In loving memory of Dennis Wayne Souza who ascended Thursday, 05/05/2022 at 2:25 p.m.

Dennis possessed so many skills and attributes, but people described him as: loved, favored, funniest guy ever, respected, trusted, honored, adored, loyal, caring, easy going, family man, giving, awesome, something special, and a rare beauty.

Names he went by: Dennis, Denny, Moe, The EX, Panka, Son, Husband, Father, Friend, Brother, Uncle, Grandfather, Grandson, Cousin, Dad, Bebe, Slow Moe, and so many more.

He was born gifted in strength, agility, and of mind. He could throw a ball with incredible accuracy before he even went to school. Dennis enjoyed online games, board games, all card games, gambling, and deep conversations to determine the meaning of existence. As the king of competition, he would thrive in sports (baseball, football, and golf), games, picking 4 four leaf

clovers, and pranks. Dennis was so skilled that he could make a prank backfire on the one pranking. His high school peers voted him for best smile and best eyes. He carried that through his life, smiling at everyone because his smile could bring sunshine to any rainy day. He was also an amateur comedian, using his smile and eyebrows for special effects. He had a sense of humor that was all across the board. This man could make anything and everything funny. He could knock the air out of you with his jokes, and then make you suck in air just so you can laugh some more.

Dennis was loved and accepted everywhere he went. This man had a passion for life like it was a fresh peach and he squeezed it so tight as to get every last drop. He possessed extraordinary tenacity and a love for life so strong that even in the darkest hours of the hardest times he could rise above it to find peace. No matter what happened or how hard it hit him, he would get up and go again. This man had such a way, that even in gruff emotional conflict when he sensed resolution, he would dive right in for the forward motion. When others were having a hard time, he would counsel, "This is your movie, you are the director, write it as you want it." He would also say things like, "We don't have enough time here to be stuck in frustration, anger, or hatred. It's a waste of present time. Keep moving forward."

Dennis led a beautiful and full life. He had remarkable husbandry skills. He loved his family and friends beyond words. He also loved watching his children and grandchildren flourish. He took care of so many people through sheltering, feeding, and counseling all walks of life, not just the widows and orphans. Dennis loved his people dearly, and even in painful moments he would shed a tear and still love you. He used these skills on all nature which

included family, friends, pets (dogs, cats, birds, pigs, goats), and the wildlife on his farm. He had such a style that you could not help but to love this guy. This man did everything to the best of his abilities, always giving it his all. Even after death, Dennis was a giving donor to the transplant network. He truly was a remarkable man.

Peace be upon him.

Dennis Wayne Souza Sr was born 07/02/1951 at 2:53 a.m. in Honolulu, Hawaii on the island of O'ahu. As the first-born grandchild to both the Souza and Torres lineages, he was well received by both lines and adored by the whole family. His family moved to San Bruno, California where he flourished from the age of 5 to adulthood. His first job lasted years as a paperboy in San Bruno, CA. As a teenager, he worked at the Dole Pineapple factory in Hawaii and at a Phillips 66 in Moss Beach, CA where he fixed tires, pumped gas, and washed car windows. Dennis was a letterman and graduate of Oceania High School, class of 1969, in Sharp Park, CA, and he attended the College of San Mateo in San Bruno, CA. He played baseball as an adult on the Hawaiian Islanders of San Mateo County, CA. Wanting a family of his own, he married Cheryl Kim Dodge (now Henning) in August 1972, sharing two children together. In 1982, he further extended his family with Robyn Lynn, sharing one child together. Dennis married Melody Lake in December 1988, and they have two children together. Dennis and Melody remained happily married for the rest of his life, loving a combined eight children together. He joined the United Brotherhood of Carpenters in 1972. He vested in three states, CA, MI, and MO, at 32 years vested and retired out in 2004. Upon retirement, Dennis and

Melody bought a farm and raised goats as a hobby.

Dennis passed peacefully at Girard Medical Center in Girard, KS at the age of 70 due to an arterial aneurysm. Some say it was a "good death," because the event was attended by his wife Melody and his youngest son Dennis Jr. He is sorely missed by many and will forever be in our hearts.

Dennis is preceded in death by: (son) Robert Graham III, (grandchild) Jacob Anderson, (sister) Kathy Souza, (brother-in-law) John F. Ricca, (son-in-law) Joe Anderson.

With special honor and respects,

(Father and Mother) Walter and Frances (Torres) Souza, (paternal grandparents) Delphin and Carrie (Silva Sampaio) Souza, (maternal grandparents) Henry and Alice (Rodrigues) Torres.

Love and peace to them and all that went before them.

Dennis is survived by:

(wife) Melody L. Souza of Farlington, KS

(daughter) Shiloh and Robert Brown of CA

(daughter) Karaissa Anderson of KS

(son-in-law) Alejandro M. Molina of MO

(granddaughter) Victoria Molina

(great-grand daughter) Loretta of MO

(grandchild) Joshua Molina and Chris Doster of FL

(grandson) Alejandro E. Molina of MO

(grandson) Caden and Katrina Anderson of KS

(great-grand daughter) Aubry Anderson of KS

(great-grand son) Joe Anderson of KS

(granddaughter) Shiloh Molina of KS

(grandson) Hezekiah Anderson of KS

(grandson) Joseph Anderson of KS

(daughter) Amy and Brent

4 grandchildren

(son) Dennis Souza Jr of KS

(daughter-in-law) Roxanna (Hale) and Caleb Stewart of KS

(grandson) Robert Graham IV of KS

(daughter-in-law) Angie (Marshall) and Derek Feess of KS

(grandson) Skyler Graham

(grandson) Jordon Graham

(daughter-in-law) Carina Graham and Chris Rios

(granddaughter) Kenna Snyder

(grandson) Gregory Snyder

(ex-wife) Kim (Dodge) Henning of AL

(son) Art and Robin

(grandson) Arthur and Elizabeth Souza

(granddaughter) Emily and Emilio Rios

(son) Adam Lucas Dodge-Souza of FL

(granddaughter) Domonique Dodge-Souza

one great-grandchild of MI

(granddaughter) Gracelind Dodge (Souza) of AL.

(ex) Robin Lynn of TN

(son) Darren and Nicole Blair

4 grandsons and 1 granddaughter of MI

(brother) Anthony and Dode Souza of CA

(niece) Jennifer Souza of CA

(niece) Melissa Souza of CA

(sister) Lisa Ricca of WA

(nephew) John and Monica Ricca of WA

(great-niece) Madison Ricca of WA

(niece) Michelle (Ricca) Reid of WA

(great-nephew) Collin Reid of WA

(brother) Walter Souza

(nephew) Ben Huebsch of CA.

Sending love to all his family and friends across the country. He loved you all so very much.

A celebration of life will be: 12 noon on 06/11/22

Girard American Legion Auxiliary

144 E 47 Hwy, Girard, KS 66734  
(620) 724-9285

Donations or flowers can be sent to Melody Souza, 120 W 710th Ave.,  
Farlington, KS 66734

# Tribute Wall

MD

“ *Mel Dunbar Dietiker lit a candle in memory of Dennis W. Souza*



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**Mel Dunbar Dietiker** - May 25, 2022 at 06:54 PM

BT

“ *My thoughts and Prayers go out to the Souza Families. He was a great guy and always smiling, I remember my first Thanksgiving Dinner at our home; Dennis's whole family came and first thing they all asked; Where is the Puerto Rice; potato salad. After that his uncle made the rice or Dennis's mom.My answer was I am from Ky and this is how we cook.We all had a good laugh about that meal. Melody I will be thinking of you and family ; wish I could come; for celebration of Life;*

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**Billie Jo Torres** - May 23, 2022 at 11:27 PM

BT

“ *Billie Jo Torres lit a candle in memory of Dennis W. Souza*



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**Billie Jo Torres** - May 23, 2022 at 11:15 PM

BT

*In Memory of Uncle Ray*

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**Billie Jo Torres** - May 23, 2022 at 11:16 PM

BR

“ *Barbara Reed lit a candle in memory of Dennis W. Souza*



Barbara Reed - May 23, 2022 at 06:51 PM

BR

*OUR HEARTS ARE BROKEN AND TRYING TO COME TO GRIPS HE IS NOT A PHONE CALL AWAY TO KNO DENNIS WAS A HONOR AND BLESSING N WILL BE MISSED SO SO MUCH WE ALWAYS CALL AND REFER TO DENNIS AND MELODY AS OUR IN LAWSBROTHER N SISTER MAY U REST IN PEACE DENNIS LOVE U FORE EVER*

Barbara Reed - May 23, 2022 at 06:56 PM

MD

“ *Mel Dunbar Dietiker sent a virtual gift in memory of Dennis W. Souza*



Mel Dunbar Dietiker - May 22, 2022 at 07:29 AM

BS

“ *My heart goes out to the Souza family as they lost a very special loved one. Prayers are with the family!*

Brandy Shone - May 22, 2022 at 05:54 AM



“ *When I think of Dennis, I remember his quick smile and easy laugh. He was my best friend growing up. My dad was a high school teacher/coach and the only way to get out of the house on weekends was if you were going to play a sport. Dennis would show up every Saturday and Sunday with a basketball, baseball bat and mitt and we would be off to play the entire day.*

*We also delivered newspapers together. We would hide and jump out to scare one another and we had some great water balloon fights during our delivery routes.*

*When my dad passed away my sophomore year in high school, the Souza household became my second home. The income at my mom's house was stretched thin. Mrs Souza was cooking dinner one day and she gave me a plate and told me I was to eat at the Souza's from now on. My wife's family wanted to know where I learned to eat white rice with ketchup. It was from eating at the Souzas.*

*Mr Souza helped me as well. He taught Dennis and I to box in the front yard and how to work on cars. He even tried to get us interested in raising and caring for carrier pigeons (without luck).*

*Dennis and I lost contact over the years without the availability of cell phones or the internet back then. Last year I was able to reach him on his wife's cell phone using my wife's cell phone, since neither of us had our own phones. We were both reminiscing and laughing the entire call and I was smiling as always just talking to him. Dennis, we will miss you.*

*Jim McCaughey*

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**Cathy McCaughey** - May 17, 2022 at 01:29 PM