



## Harold "Tex" Ralph Dean

January 27, 1938 - May 30, 2020

Harold "Tex" Dean

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Harold "Tex" Ralph Dean, 82, of Boone, IA passed away on Saturday May 30, 2020 at the Madrid Home in Madrid, IA. Harold was born on January 27, 1938 in Monticello, Arkansas to Harold Lee Dean and Margaret (Ralph) Dean. When Harold was three years old, he moved to Fort Worth, Texas. Harold attended R. L. Paschal High School graduating with the class of 1956. He earned his degree from Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa in 1963.

Harold was united in marriage to Cora Lee Wilson in 1960. This union was blessed with a son Jerry, and a daughter Wendy. They later divorced. Harold then married Nancy Kurle. The couple also divorced. On June 2, 1986 Harold married Nancy (Fairchild) Sunstrom in Boone, IA.

He showed aspirations for music as early as age 2. He danced and sang in a variety of talent shows with his sister Annette in his younger years. He demonstrated his musical talent by becoming a drummer in a band that he formed with his 3 closest friends in high school. His passion for playing the drums continued throughout his life. He taught band in Gilbert and Boone Schools and enjoyed playing gigs for various bands across the state of Iowa. After retiring, with the help of his wife Nancy, he continued to play gigs and enjoyed countless hours talking about music with friends and family. Harold had a love for dogs and spent much of his time with his dog Lucky in his later years.

Survivors include his daughter Wendy Fergusson, and granddaughter Katrina of Roseville, CA; three step sons: Jeff (Linda) Sunstrom, Mike Sunstrom, and Ron (Lisa) Sunstrom all of Boone, IA; step daughter Marsha (Brian) Morris of Cottage Grove, MN; sister Annette (Richard) Steinfels of Fort Worth, TX; niece Denise (Dennis) Werkmeister of Lake View, IA; 10 step grandchildren, 4 step great grandchildren and many extended family members and friends.

Harold was preceded in death by his parents; his wife Nancy C. Dean; his son Jerry Dean; and nephew Dennis McLaughlin.

A graveside service will take place at 11:45 a.m. on Friday June 5, 2020 at Linwood Park Cemetery in Boone, Iowa.

Online condolences may be left at [www.schroederfuneral.com](http://www.schroederfuneral.com)

Schroeder-Stark-Welin Funeral Home

515-432-4550

# Cemetery

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## Linwood Park Cemetery

609 Forest Avenue

Boone, IA, 50036

# Events

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**JUN** **Graveside Service** 11:45AM

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Linwood Park Cemetery

609 Forest Avenue, Boone, IA, US, 50036

# Comments

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“ You have my condolences. Mr. Dean was the band director at South Clay in Gillett Grove, northwest Iowa. He showed us film of Purdue Marching Band and helped us realize we could do that too. In 1964 I was 10 years old and so excited to be in band. I chose clarinet, playing through high school. When I went to college I joined Iowa State University marching band and had great time making friends for life. I am among 8 who have returned every year since 1981 to perform at ISU homecoming halftime. I have Mr. Dean to thank for that. A few years ago I wrote to him but I don't know if I had correct address. He was a positive influence on me and many of my friends. This is what I posted on Facebook when I shred his obit. Harold Tex” Dean was wonderful Band Director whose patience and good humor helped my school friends and learn and create great music. Mr. Dean brought marching band to South Clay School and taught us how to spell out “S” on the field with our small group. He was an amazing drummer in his own right and entertained in concerts and Variety Shows at Gillett Grove. I am so thankful for his guidance. May God rest the soul of this kind gentle man.

May you find comfort in happy memories. LaVonne (Salton) Anderson, South Clay, 1973.

**La Vonne Anderson** - December 13, 2020 at 05:13 PM

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“ I was in high school with Tex and have many good memories of his exceptional music skill -- his drum solos were the highlight of many school programs and always received standing and very sincere ovations. I was very fortunate to renew contact with him beginning about 15 years ago. He was truly an exceptional person -- always very kind and polite as well as remaining an exceptionally talented musician all his life. He will be greatly missed.  
Scott Turner

**Scott Turner** - June 30, 2020 at 12:21 AM

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“ I'm am one of Harold's old-time friends from Paschal High School in Fort Wort Worth. We were both in the school orchestra and band. Everyone in the school knew Harold because of his fabulous drum solos that we got to hear at many school assemblies. I have kept up with him and Nancy a bit since we graduated from Paschal and and more recently through our high school reunions. He was a great guy in high school and obviously continued to be all through his life. My condolences to his family and to the many friends he has shared his talent and kindness with. Sue Corder Aaron

**Sue Corder Aaron** - June 29, 2020 at 10:26 PM

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“ We were in high school with Harold and met later at our reunions..will be thinking of you.  
Ken and Carolyn Hardgrove Summers

**Ken and Carolyn summers** - June 29, 2020 at 08:57 PM

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“ I met Tex when I was a first year teacher in Boone. Tex gave so many students a wonderful start with instrumental music. He always had a smile for me. Many years later I had the joy of hearing his wonderful drum playing. My father spent many happy years performing with Tex in their jazz combo, "The Guys." It was an honor to know this fine man.

**Paula Anderson** - June 04, 2020 at 10:09 PM

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“ I am so sorry to hear of Mr. Dean's passing. He was a wonderful and caring teacher. I have some great memories of playing drums at Gilbert High.

**Laurie Oxley** - June 04, 2020 at 05:33 PM

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“ Sad to hear of Tex's passing. Tex and I were students in the Buena Vista College Band under Bill Green's direction in the 1960s. He was a great drummer, and an even better person. So kind and friendly. Tex and I played in the Karl L. King Municipal Band together, and I always enjoyed our reconnecting and 'catching up'. He will certainly be missed by all who knew him.

Jerrold Jimmerson, Conductor  
Karl L. King Municipal Band

**Jerrold Jimmerson** - June 04, 2020 at 11:09 AM

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“ Mr Dean gave me a start - he was my band director for 6 years at Gilbert. That led to a degree in Music Education at Drake University. Music continues to be a major part of my life - I play Alto and Bari sax in four different bands in the Des Moines metro area.  
He has touched so many lives!!

**Dawn Olson** - June 03, 2020 at 04:30 PM

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“ I enjoyed teaching with Tex in Boone very much. As a first year teacher, his experience was really valuable to me. Tex was also a very talented drummer, and I was fortunate to play many gigs with him. He will be missed!



**DAVE SWENSON** - June 03, 2020 at 12:34 PM

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“ Tex was my instructor in 1971 and throughout the rest of my school years was a mentor and friend. We kept in touch throughout my enlistment and afterwards. He always had the same uplifting voice and ability to give and hear the best old drum stories. It hasn't been that long, a few months maybe, since I last visited him. In typical fashion we spoke for hours. I promised to bring my old year books my next visit. I hardly play a beat today without thinking of Tex. I guess we'll have to look at the books later Tex. God's speed and good luck in your new band.

**AI Ridsen** - June 02, 2020 at 10:56 PM

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“ When I see your smile, it is the same as when we first met him at Gilbert HS. Our daughter, Tawny, began clarinet lessons and AI, began his drumming lessons at the same time. We remained connected through the years. The memories abound and unforgettable.

**kaye Ridsen** - June 03, 2020 at 10:09 PM

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“ So many good memories of Tex as my band director in Gilbert. He gave a love of music to so many students, touched more lives than he could ever imagine. Ran into him when I was a TA at Lincoln In Boone, as well as a few times when he was playing in a band somewhere. I don't think he ever forgot a student he had taught. Condolences to the family

Becky (Weigel) Coulter

**Becky (Weigel) Coulter** - June 02, 2020 at 10:54 PM

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“ Tex was a devoted elementary band teacher in Boone. He taught 6th grade band at United Community while I was teaching there. He played a drum solo on a trap set in front of the students as his last hurrah before retiring. He had a look of joy on his face as he played and as they all applauded!

**Kara Swenson** - June 02, 2020 at 09:39 PM

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“ It was an honor and a privilege to play in community band as an adult with the wonderful man who taught me to play flute way back in 1987. Mr. Dean and Nancy laughed about how I wouldn't call him "Tex". To me, he was always Mr. Dean. Every time I play my flute, I'm grateful for the mentoring of my best teacher ever. Love, Stef Harper and her parents Jean and Earl

**Stef** - June 02, 2020 at 09:31 PM



“ Tex was a fabulous educator. He was also a tremendous musician. We were fortunate to have his talents as part of the Greater Des Moines Community Band for many years. RIP Tex!  
Christa Miller, Director  
Greater Des Moines Community Band

**Christa Miller** - June 02, 2020 at 09:24 PM

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“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



**Schroeder-Stark-Welin Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - June 02, 2020 at 02:27 PM