



Lynn Blackquell Dean

DEC 22, 1923 - JUL 6, 2022



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Lynn Blackquell Dean

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Lynn Blackquell Dean, 98, passed away on Wednesday, July 6, 2022 at St. Anthony's Garden near Mandeville, Louisiana. His beloved wife, Jacqueline Miles Dean, was at his side. He is survived by a son, Douglas Dean (Susan); daughter, Cherry Dean "Carambat"; 10 grandchildren: Donna Dean Roubal; Luke Dean (Lian); Cy Dean; Troy Dean (Shannon); Alicia Dean Nettles (Shawn); Braithe Landry Nash (Joe); Dr. Miles Landry (Tara); Margot Carambat Harvey (Jamie); Brandeis Perez; Kenneth Perez; 2 honorary grandsons: Shawn Nettles, Sr. (Alicia); Gregory Rome (Camille) and 27 great-grandchildren.

His children Gary Dean, Nettie Lois Dean and Lenda Dean Landry Perez predeceased him.

Dean with his older fraternal twin, Orin Franklin Dean, Jr. was given life by Lucy Belle Blackquell on December 22, 1923 at Big Lake near Manila, Mississippi County, in eastern most Arkansas. All of his siblings predeceased him including his twin brother, Orin and his three sisters Fay Orianna Dean, Billy Joe Dean Johnson Barton, and Jimmie Dean Dannemann. He was the son of Orin Franklin Dean, Sr. and Nettie Lynn Dean.

Orin and Nettie moved the family to Shawnee, Oklahoma when Dean was just a child. The Dean twins skipped a grade in a one room school house as there were no readers for that grade and they were already able to read at the next level. His father successfully farmed until he was 10, near Shawnee, a profession that was hard work and difficult according to Dean. At that time a mishap at an oil well upriver on the American River released salt into the water being used for irrigation. The crops and soils were ruined. This was during the Great Depression. The family moved to the city of Plaquemine in Louisiana near Dean's uncle who owned Red River Barge Line. In his teen years, Dean worked on the docks of New Orleans and the barge line boats along the Intracoastal Waterway. His father taught him to be a mechanic and he learned how to be a marine diesel engineer.



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The family moved to New Orleans West End where the twins graduated from the all boys public school, Warren Easton High School, in 1940 at the age of 16.

He went to Bermuda with a United States government job, working on a dredge boat that was creating the fill for an airstrip/airport there. His first job was washing dishes. He sent all his checks home to his parents; cut other men's hair for cash; and recycled other men's clothes when they left them to return home. He had enough savings when he returned home, to buy his first piece of property, next to his parents in St. Bernard Parish, the place of his heart, that he always considered home even after Hurricane Katrina altered his life forever.

Turning 18, during World War II, Dean joined the Army Transport Corp, becoming a U.S. Merchant Marine Veteran having served aboard oceangoing merchant ships. He was honorably discharged from the United States Coast Guard as a Lieutenant (Junior Grade) on August 15, 1945.

He met the love of his life, "Jackie", in thanks to a Arkansas next door neighbor in St. Bernard in the fall of 1946. She was an Arkansas girl studying Nursing, at St. Joseph's Hospital in Hot Springs thanks to "Uncle Sam's" Army Nurse Corp program. She rode the train down to New Orleans with two other student nurses to live, study, and work in the pediatric wards of NOLA's Charity Hospital for 4 months. She went back to St. Joseph's with a ring on her finger but, Dean still had to travel to Glenwood to convince her father that he was a worthy suitor. He told anyone who would listen the best decision of his life was to marry Jackie. They were married at her parents home after she graduated from nursing school. An only granddaughter, her Grandpa Bridges, a pastor, performed the ceremony. They would have been married 75 years in September.

He worked for Snap On Tools until 1949 when he and his twin started Universal Repair Service in Violet, Louisiana. A welding job that Lynn hired on for was delayed due to rough seas. That job planted the seed for the "Elevating Boat", a self propelled work boat that would lift out of the water and above the waves that they would create in the 1950's. Today that industry which they created for the Gulf of Mexico oil fields is global and generally known as the lift boat industry. The company that they created is still active in south Louisiana.

Having almost drowned several times as he grew up, Dean was a strong believer that every child should be taught to swim. His company funded the pool and gym near Lynn Oaks School and the Gary Dean Memorial Pool which he donated to the St. Bernard Parish Schools on condition that every second grader be taught to swim. The St. Bernard Red Cross taught swimming programs at



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both pools. He was actively involved with Red Cross starting with Hurricane Emergencies such as 1965's Hurricane Betsy.

After his lift boat and offshore crane company was well established, Dean began a 26 year long career in public offices starting with the St. Bernard School Board. He was instrumental in removing the hated "packet system". He helped establish the Republican Party in St. Bernard. He was the first Parish President. He moved on to State Senator for District One for two terms and finished as Councilman at Large for the eastern district of St. Bernard Parish.

He was involved in many other philanthropic endeavors including Lynn Oaks School and a Caernarvon trade school for high school students that the school board returned to his company after the Community College began offering similar classes. He provided some trees from his property, manpower and equipment for Ellie Laurent's tree planting project along Judge Perez Drive. He was the primary supporter of the Thelma Deano Battered Women' Shelter.

A self made man, his legacy to his beloved St. Bernard area is the St. Bernard State Park and for education, the endowment of the Lynn and Jacqueline Dean Scholarship Fund administered by the St. Bernard Kiwanis Club.

The family thanks longterm caregivers Wendy, Mike, Melissa, Crystal, Lia and Cora. In his final days on the Northshore, Tammy, Theresa and Jane you were our angels here on earth!

All family, friends, employees, and general public are invited to attend the memorial service on Thursday, July 28 at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 4499 Sharp Road, Mandeville, LA 70471 at 2:00 PM with visitation from 1:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to your favorite charity or to the church where the service is being held. Please observe COVID Protocols.

The family invites you to sign the online guestbook at www.ejfieldingfh.com.



Events


Lynn Blackquell Dean

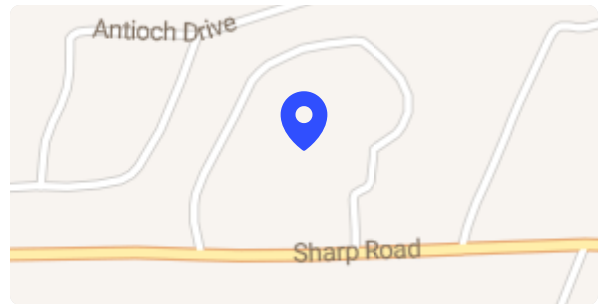
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Visitation

 **Thursday**, July 28, 2022


 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM CT


 **St. Michael's Episcopal Church**
4499 Sharp Rd., Mandeville LA 70471

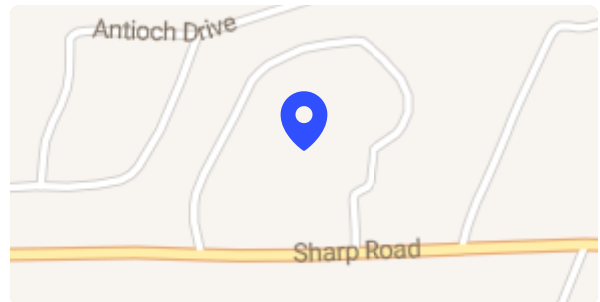


Memorial Service

 **Thursday**, July 28, 2022

 2:00 PM CT

 **St. Michael's Episcopal Church**
4499 Sharp Rd., Mandeville LA 70471





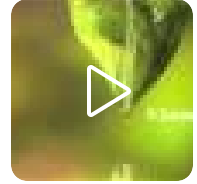
Tribute Wall

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E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services shared a **Tribute Video**.



July 24 at 12:51 PM



Scott & Jane Wolfe posted:

He made us belly laugh on many occasions. 😊 We greatly admired Lynn Dean. - Scott & Jane Wolfe

August 1 at 5:59 PM



Aaron Foreman lit a candle in honor of Lynn.



August 1 at 10:47 AM



Sandra Cranmer posted:

I did not know Mr. Dean. Reading his obituary was very interesting. I knew about him being Parish president of St. Bernard, but not all the other wonderful things. I think a biography would be interesting. I am sorry for your loss.

July 31 at 11:50 AM



Luke Dean posted:

My Grandfather was a mentor to me (Part 3): Coming back from the war he wanted to start his own mechanic shop but he knew very little about running a business so instead he decided to work for a few companies to learn as much as he could. Became a Snap-on salesman. As a new comer they gave him the worst district to manage. He generated more sales in that district than the best districts and management soon realized his potential as a salesman. They held a competition once a year country wide where the salesmen would go and compete, forget the details but there was only 1 person that beat him in that competition. They offered him a sales management position but he turned it down and by that time he knew every mechanic shop across the great city of New Orleans. He chose his position well in lower St. Bernard Parish near the Violet Canal. His shop became known across New Orleans to such a large degree that people from across the city would send their vehicles to his shop to be repaired as he was the only one who could fix them right. One of the first shops to learn and repair the new automatic transmissions that came out. The years of knowledge of engine repair, boat repair, car, truck and he built his own tow truck. When he built the business he had spent every last dime that he had saved during the war and then had to take a job with someone just to cover the bills for a month and then things took off and he never looked back. The LIFTBOAT: He was the inventor of the so called "Liftboat OR Jackup Barge" as it is known today. He called them Elevating Boats and started a company named Elevating Boats Inc. (EBI). As a mechanic shop located near the newborn offshore oil field he was often requested to go offshore and repair something for a customer. He went out for a job once charging the customer high dollar for the time and they just kept him there sitting on the dock side. He asked why they would not let him work and they said "You see those waves out there? We cannot work in the waves on a boat or barge like this" "If you could lift the boat out of the water on some legs maybe, lol" And so the idea was placed into his mind, a mind that has no limits. In between jobs he and his twin brother, my Uncle Orin (Also recently deceased), built a boat and then put some legs on it. He then tried to market it to the oil field, lol. Took him many months and a lot of money to build it. And after 6 months of trying to get someone to rent it, the only way was to pay a kickback and as a man of integrity, he refused. He gave up. Decided to sell it and then a friend called him and asked him to talk to a top level Exxon Executive. So he went to him, an old man, and showed him a few pictures of what he had built and what he was trying to do. The old man "You, you, mean you built this thing??, Grandpa, "Yes I built it, I just gave you pictures of it", a bit frustrated. "So many men come to me wanting me to invest in this and that idea, but you built this thing???" "Well you built it I will put it to work" Grandpa "I don't want to have to pay a kickback" The old man "They won't have a choice" And so it was, so Grandpa sent the boat to them and he stayed onboard to operate it and it sat there and it sat there and so a bit frustrated he wanted to know why they were not using it. There were no waves, lol. Then the waves picked up, "Let's see if this thing can do what you say it can do Lynn" and from that day forward they never looked back. Money poured in, by the time the 1985 oil crunch hit, they had built up a fleet of 60 boats all on hire. I remember those days when the boats taken off hire filled the canal. No place to park them all. What a man! And What a life he lived!

July 22 at 12:52 PM



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FS

Farhad Shad posted:

My deepest condolences to Mr. Dean's family. I admired Mr. Dean for who he was. Mr. Dean reminded me of my own father. He was self made, hard working and honest, like my own father was. Mr. Dean empathized with less fortunate and gave opportunity to anyone be it at EBI- his company or while serving in public office. As an immigrant, I had a picture in my mind of an all American person. When I met Mr. Dean, I knew he was one of them, an all American. A former employee, Farhad Shad

July 28 at 10:07 AM

RD

Rebecca Orin Dean posted:

I admire Uncle Lynn for his true public service. He sought office not for political or monetary gain, but to do what he thought was right for his constituents and as he said, "without even the appearance of impropriety." Daddy dearly loved his brother. He told me about Uncle Lynn's near drowning as a boy. I respect Uncle Lynn for his dedication to education and teaching children to swim. How many lives did he save in doing so? Uncle Lynn was very fortunate in having such a devoted wife in my dear Aunt Jackie. In loving memory, Rebecca Orin Dean

July 27 at 1:20 PM

AG

Angelina Geraci lit a candle in honor of Lynn.

In Loving Memory of Mr. Lynn Dean, Celebrating a life well lived whose memories will be cherished forever. Please accept our sincerest Condolences to Mrs. Jackie and all the family. Sincerely, The Geraci Family



July 27 at 5:27 AM



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Diana Dean Sewell sent a virtual gift in honor of Lynn.



My Godfather, Lynn B. Dean, gave me a bit of advise 60 years ago when I was 17 and rushing into marriage. Uncle Lynn told me that "anticipation is greater than realization." It was a couple of years later that I realized he was absolutely correct. Even though Lynn was my second cousin, I called him Uncle Lynn and Aunt Jackie because of the age difference. Uncle Lynn, Uncle Orin, Jr., and my Daddy, James Marvin Dean were the closest of friends and their love for each other knew no bounds. Uncle Lynn's brilliance, foresight, and compassion for his fellow man is evident in his journey through life. May Aunt Jackie, Douglas, Cherry and all the grandchildren and great -grandchildren find solace in a life so well lived. Uncle Lynn, Uncle Orin, Jr. and Daddy are talking up a storm in heaven! All three will be in my heart forever. I will try to make the ceremony tomorrow, but if I am unable, know that I am with you in spirit. Diana Dean Sewell

July 27 at 4:56 AM



Laurence Best posted:

I was deeply honored to serve as Lynn Dean's outside counsel for EBI from 1987 until I retired in 2014. He meant everything to me for his unflagging belief in my skills. His reluctance to settle cases he saw as meritless brought out the best in me as a trial lawyer. We faced far too many judges and juries together in both state and federal courts. We won most of our cases which is a credit to his persuasiveness and credibility as both a fact and expert witness. Juries loved him which made my job easier. When I started my own practice in 1991, he even offered to finance my new operations, an offer I respectfully declined. More importantly, he stood by me when I came out as gay and feared I'd lose my practice. As a state legislator, he sponsored bills for The Forum For Equality, an LGBTQ rights organization I supported.. He was a tough stubborn honorable thoroughly decent and generous man. We are all poorer for his loss. My deepest sympathies to Jackie, Doug, and the entire family. Larry Best

July 26 at 12:18 PM



Dina Joseph posted:

Earth has no sorrow Heaven ca not heal. My son attend Lynn Oaks from Pre-K til 5th grade. My son was elected as the first King which was Lynn's first parade and my son was the 1st Black King. During my son's years there Lynn Dean was a person who loved all the kids with no discrimination. I respected LD for that. And for that I say to you your life journey hear on earth has ended Rest In Peace with your creator.

July 26 at 3:37 AM



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Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Dean family.



July 24 at 1:22 AM



Melissa Collins posted:

Rest In Peace Mr. Dean. I will miss you and your beautiful smile. I'm so lucky to have known you. God bless the Dean family. Melissa

July 22 at 12:52 PM



Media

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E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services shared a **Tribute Video**.

July 24 at 12:51 PM

TRIBUTE VIDEO

A Journey of Life

SCAN TO WATCH

The video thumbnail features a close-up of a vibrant green leaf with a prominent vein. A white play button icon is centered over the leaf. In the bottom right corner, there is a QR code with the text 'SCAN TO WATCH' below it. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Lynn by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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