

Dean Patrick O'Dea

Dean and his twin brother, Dennis Paul, were born on July 30, 1936, in Philip, sons of John and Edna (Bennett) O'Dea. He was one of two sets of identical twins to a family of fifteen children. He attended the Empire and Fairplay rural schools and his mother later home schooled the kids for a time. He then attended Philip High School.

After high school he worked as a farmhand for a neighbor, where he met Sally Sundstrom in 1955. She was a schoolteacher that taught a number of Dean's siblings. They were married in 1956 and were blessed with five children. The couple first lived at Lead for three years and then moved to Whitewood. Dean worked in the Homestake Mine for ten years. During his tenth year at Homestake he was appointed Marshal for the City of Whitewood, which developed into his next job. He worked in any capacity that was needed including city maintenance man, fire chief, police chief, garbage man, and he took care of the parks and cemetery. In 1978 the family moved to the Vale farm and he began work at American Colloid. In 1982, he then went to work for Warf Mining Company until his retirement in 2000. He enjoyed his time on the farm until he was no longer able, then he moved to Spearfish and lived at Serenity Corner for the past three years where he was safe and well cared for.

Dean Patrick O'Dea, 78, Spearfish, died Monday, September 15, 2014, at Rapid City Regional Hospital.

Dean is survived by his sons, Randy (Betty) O'Dea, Gillette, WY, Marty (Dale) O'Dea, Whitewood, SD, Daniel (Lois) O'Dea, Vale, SD, Matthew (Koreen) O'Dea, Vale, SD; daughter, LaVera O'Dea-Ford, Vale, SD; brothers, Jack (Charlotte) O'Dea, Midland, Gene O'Dea, Hot Springs, Jim (Vonnie) O'Dea, Howes, Jerry O'Dea, Hot Springs, Leo O'Dea, Hot Springs, and Richard O'Dea, Hot Springs; sisters, Maurine Hagler, Meridian, ID, Phyllis (Marvin) Coleman, Quinn, Lillian (Eddie) DeKnikker, Gettysburg, Lorraine Smith, Emmett, ID, Mary Bauer, Rapid City, and Rosella (Tom) O'Bryan, Bagley, MN; five grandsons, four granddaughters, ten great-grandsons, and nine great-granddaughters.

He is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Sally; one grandson, Jesse; one great-grandson, Tate, twin brother, Dennis; and his sister, Bonna Hagler.

A memorial has been established.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

*The family invites you to join them for fellowship and refreshments
in the church hall following the committal service.
We thank you for your presence and condolences.*

In Memory Of



Dean Patrick O'Dea

1936 ~ 2014



*God saw he was getting tired
and a cure was not to be
So He put His arms around him
And whispered "come to Me."
With tearful eyes we watched him suffer
And saw him fade away
Although we loved him dearly
We could not make him stay.
A golden heart stopped beating
Hardworking hands to rest
God broke our hearts to prove to us
He takes the very best.*

In Loving Memory Of

Dean Patrick O'Dea

Born

July 30, 1936
Philip, South Dakota

Died

September 15, 2014
Rapid City, South Dakota

Funeral Service

Saturday, September 20, 2014 at 1:30 p.m.
Immanuel Lutheran Church
Whitewood, South Dakota

Clergy

Pastor David Baer

Accompanist

Joanne Baer

Soloist

Chris Kaitfors

Special Musical Selections

"The Old Rugged Cross"
"Amazing Grace"

Pallbearers

Jason Ford ~ Dewey O'Dea ~ Joshua O'Dea
Floyd Wilson ~ Tyser Wilson ~ Matthew O'Dea

Honorary Pallbearers

US Navy Aviation Mechanic Archie O'Dea
All Great-Grandchildren

Interment

Whitewood Cemetery
Whitewood, South Dakota