



Dana Andrew Teel

January 6, 1957 - November 19, 2024

Dana Andrew Teel, son of the late Bobby Eugene Teel and Alice Anne (Bretz) Teel, was born January 6, 1957, in Great Lakes, Illinois.

In 1975, Dana entered the United States Navy and served his country faithfully until his retirement in 1998. He had attained the rank of ET1 and earned several awards and commendations; some of which include Navy Achievement Medal, Navy "E" Ribbon, Fourth Good Conduct Award; National Defense Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (3).

Dana was united in marriage to Vicki Renae Bonnichsen on September 21, 1984, in Olds, Iowa. They shared over 40 years of marriage together and many wonderful memories.

Dana loved his family dearly and took great pride in providing for them. In his spare time, he enjoyed reading sci-fiction, gardening, traveling and spending time with his family.

Dana passed Tuesday, November 19, 2024, in his home in St. Robert, Missouri having attained the age of 67 years. He will be sadly missed, but fondly remembered by all those that knew and loved him.

Dana leaves to cherish his memory, his wife: Vicki R. Teel of the home; two children: Debra Edwards of St. Robert, MO and Daniel Bonnichsen (Misty) of Burlington, IA; two grandchildren: Michele Edwards and Aries Bonnichsen; one brother: Dennis Teel (Jan) of Wapello, IA; one sister: Debra Garcia (Israel) of Burlington, IA; one niece: Jennifer Luna of Manchester, IA; other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents, Dana was preceded in death by his brother: Steven Teel.

Even though he is gone from our sight, Dana's commitment to family and country will live on in our hearts forever.

Graveside services with military honors was held at 11:30 a.m. Monday, December 2, 2024 in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery of Waynesville, Missouri with Chaplain (MAJ) Michael Rumschik officiating. Military honors were provided by the United States Navy. Services were under the care and direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Dana Teel and may be left at Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert.

Cemetery Details

Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Fort Leonard Wood

25350 Hwy H
Waynesville, MO 65583

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 2. 10:00 AM - 11:15 AM.

Memorial Chapels And Crematory Of Waynesville / St. Robert

Graveside Service

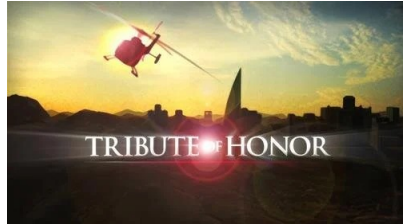
DEC 2. 11:30 AM.

Missouri Veterans Cemetery Of Waynesville

Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Dana Andrew Teel*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - December 02, 2024 at 06:21 PM

“While stationed at Peral Harbor Hawaii my housemate Brian introduced me to Dana and his friends Al and Ron. Dana and Al lived two doors down from Brian and me where we all became dear friends and we did everything together. This was 1980, a time before the internet, without smart phones or smart TVs. We only had each other (smart friends) to stay entertained.

Dana and Al had a small TV and we decided early on that the only thing that was worth watching was *Star Trek (TOS)* and *M*A*S*H*. This left our group with a lot of time to explore the island of Oahu and Oahu is not a large island. After many beach days and exploring all the easy to reach designations Dana, being bored, always needed a new challenge. He would always come up with some of the craziest outdoor activities. We passed Koko Head Crater on our many motorcycle trips around the island, it stuck in Dana's mind that we just had to climb it.

We weren't experienced climbers but that wasn't going to stop us. It was a beautiful, clear day as we approached the base of Koko Head where there were a series of steeply slopping rock slabs that bridged a shallow valley. Only one of these bridges was still intact, the rest had collapsed, which gave us reason to believe the last one wasn't safe. Dana wasn't going to climb down into the depression and then need hike up the other side again, so over the last stone bridge he went as we followed close behind. From there it was a more vertical climb to the lowest part of the Koko Head Crater rim. Once we stood on top of the lowermost rim edge, the steepest part of climb behind us, we made a left turn and viewed the summit in the distance. Seeing this, Dana increased our pace as we scrambled up the incline of the slopping rim toward its highest point anticipating the views in ahead. This section of the ascent was narrow and fell away sharply on each side. With the exception of a few obstacles to go over or around, the ridge path was fairly easy to negotiate, but your footfalls still needed to be precise else you would find yourself at the bottom of the Crater. As we reached the top there was a large elevated metal grate, hexagonal in shape and anchored into the rocky mountaintop with steel I-beams. Best guess, it was an old WWII radar station platform. Dana was one of

the first to climb up on the platform. We followed, dodging the open rusted out holes in the grate and gathered around for our reward. The views of Hanauma Bay and Kawaikui Beach Park below and Diamond Head Crater off in the distance were spectacular. Behind us lay Sandy Beach and to our left you could see the island of Molokai. Directly below were the remains of the old pillbox that housed the crew and electronic equipment need to run the radar installation. On the leading slope of Koko Head, we could see the remnants of a cog railway used to bring building materials and supplies up to the military site. After getting our fill of the views, Dana and the group climbed down into bunker thinking we could find something of interest left behind. This was around the time Indiana Jones Raider of the Lost Ark was originally released and we all hoped for the best. Unfortunately, the space below was unremarkable, nothing more than an old office space with hanging lights ajar and some tables strewn about. Despite our disappointment with the lack of any interesting discoveries, we made a point of climbing Koko Head every chance we could. Dana and the group were always inviting new people to joint our climbs. In the end, we were able to scale Koko Head wearing only sandals for foot ware and in times of only 20 minutes.

I knew Dana was on to his next challenge when I walked into Al and Dana's apartment and saw Dana with a machete in hand. He planned to cut through the thick vegetation off the path to base Sacred Falls. He was convinced he could blaze a trail and finally climb up behind the waterfalls and see what was there. I will never forget all the great times I had with Dana.



Tom Wise - December 01, 2024 at 04:40 PM

DT

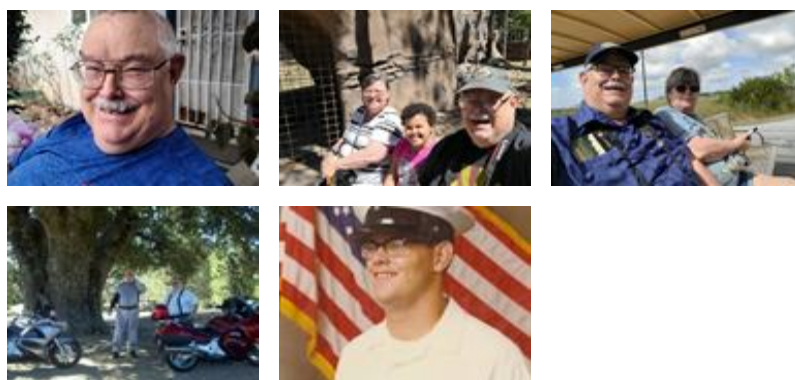
“ *Deborah Tregaskis lit a candle in memory of Dana Teel*



Deborah Tregaskis - December 01, 2024 at 03:30 PM



“ *79 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - November 30, 2024 at 12:50 PM

EH

“ *Dear Vicki, Debra, and Daniel, I am so sorry for your loss. My husband Don Teel was Dana's uncle. Don passed just a little over a year ago. I remember meeting both of you--probably at "Peyton Place" and/or at a family reunion--but you were out in CA most of the last 40 years and I didn't get to know you very well. I'm in SC for the winter now, but this makes me realize that I need to reach out to the rest of the family when I return. I haven't seen Dennis or Debbie in years either. Life is short. I wish I could be at the service, but know that my thoughts and prayers are with you. with love, Emily Hauge*

Emily Hauge - November 28, 2024 at 10:09 AM



Dear Vicki, Debra, and Daniel, this is coming from Terry and Connie Teel, we are sorry to hear of Dana's passing. We remember all the family reunions we attended. Miss those days. Try to enjoy Christmas with your memories and your families by your side. All our ❤️ Terry & Connie & family.

Terry Teel - December 01, 2024 at 06:38 PM

AM

“ We met in the fall of 1975. We were in the same Advanced Electronics ET A school class. We hit it off pretty much right away and shared many of the same interests. Mostly music, motorcycles, science fiction, and of course electronics. We both brought our motorcycles to base, Dana had a Honda 250 Scrambler, and I had a Honda 250 Elsinore. We rode and explored Great Lakes, and northern Illinois when the weather allowed. We both got transferred to San Diego CA, to ET C schools. Dana got there few days before me, he had driven. The day after I flew in, we started exploring the area in his old Ford Maverick. I don't remember if it was the radio or a tape, but Chicago's Saturday in the Park was playing, and it was Saturday and were in Balboa Park, and it was the 3rd of July. After C School we both went to our ships. Dana's ship, the USS Callahan, was a few piers down from mine.

When both ships were in port, we were often together. Riding, playing tennis, listening to music, and chasing women. Not very successfully. At some point Dana upgraded his bike to a Honda CB400F and I to a Yamaha XS650. Through ups and downs, and between WestPac deployments, we stayed close. After my first deployment Dana talked me into standing in line all the way around the block to see a movie. I thought the idea was silly, no movie was worth that wait. I had been out the country and had no clue what I was about to see. But Dana was right, Star Wars was worth standing in line for. After my second deployment I had no place to stay, I had taken leave and flown back early, my ship was still at sea. Dana had an apartment in El Cajon and let my stay with him until my ship got back, and/or I got my own place. We spent a lot of time riding motorcycles in the Coyote Mountains.

After San Diego we both got stationed at Pearl Harbor. I got there before Dana and secured an apartment for us to share. Pearl required everyone to move off base within a short period of time. Dana upgraded to a Honda CB750F and I got a Yamaha 750 Seca. We rode a lot. Oahu Island wasn't very big, you could go all the way around in a day's ride, yet somehow I put 24 thousand miles on my bike in 18 months, Dana had to have done about the same. When we weren't riding or working, we snorkeled and played D&D.

Sometimes on weekends we would play through the night and then go to the beach at sun up. At the end of our time in Hawaii, I went back to Michigan and Dana went back to Iowa.

Dana ended up re-enlisting and went back to San Diego, upgraded his bike again to a Honda ST1300 and lived and rode out west until not that long ago. Dana continued to play adventure games on computers, and often invited me to play online. I played occasionally and we spoke regularly. Dana was my best friend for much of my life.

Dana, you will be missed

Goodbye old friend

Your friend forever, Al

Alvin Mullen - November 23, 2024 at 01:04 PM