



Dale Crosier Drennen

April 21, 1947 - May 21, 2015

SOUTH CHARLESTON – Dale Crosier Drennen went home to be with the Lord, Thursday, May 21, 2015, after an extended hospital stay. Devoted and loving spouse, father and grandfather, Mr. Drennen was born April 21, 1947.

He is preceded in death by his wife of 46 years; Reba Karen Drennen; by his parents, Mr. Charles Elbert Drennen and Catherine Crosier Drennen; and by his brother, Calvin Andrew Drennen. He was a 1965 graduate of South Charleston High School.

He worked as a Mechanical Draftsman and Engineer at Kanawha Manufacturing Company for 35 years in Charleston, WV, at Special Metals for 3 years in Huntington, WV, and most recently at Jefferds Corporation for 5 years in St. Albans, WV.

He is survived by his Daughter, Lisa Shaffer and husband Tim of Hurricane, WV; Son, Matthew Drennen of Centreville, VA; sister, Fonda Lockhart and husband Bill of South Charleston, WV; and four grandchildren, Lauren , Meghan, Kristen and Reagan Shaffer all of Hurricane, WV.

A funeral service for Dale will be held at Chapman funeral home at 7:00p.m. on Wednesday, May 27, 2015. Family will receive visitors from 5:00p.m. to 7:00p.m. prior to the service. Site of interment will be at Cunningham

Memorial Park.

Anyone wishing to leave an online condolence or memory may do so at: www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com

Chapman Funeral Home, 3941 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane WV is honored to handle Mr. Drennen's arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Cunningham Memorial Park

815 Cunningham Lane
Saint Albans, WV 25177

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 27. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Chapman Funeral Home Hurricane
3941 Teays Valley Road
Hurricane, WV 25526
(304) 757-7531
info@chapmanfuneralhomes.com
<https://www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com>

Funeral Service

MAY 27. 7:00 PM (ET)

Chapman Funeral Home Hurricane
3941 Teays Valley Road
Hurricane, WV 25526
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Tribute Wall



“ Dale Crosier Drennen

October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ I've known Dale for well over fifty years . In jr.high and high school his skill at wood working and lathe turning was amazing . He took photos for the school paper and the yearbook . He sang in Church and in the chorus at school . He had a great bass voice ! We had many shared interests ,but it was cars and mechanical devices that brought us together . His 53 chevy had a failing automatic transmission .I had a rusty parts car with a manual shift .With minimal help Dale did the change over and installed a floor shifter. He worked his way through school ,married Karen ,got a good job .He and Karen bought a house an started a family. We didn't see much of one another for several years .After he built the house in the village ,we took full advantage of the big garage .We did some moonlight auto for folks knew .We fixed up and sold several cars over the years .We worked , talked and drank a beer or three . We played a lot of old time gospel music .Sometimes we argued ,loudly and with passion , but never to the point of anger . Never ! He called a month or two after his brother passed away . The loss was still haunting him . Karen wasn't doing well either .I tried to be uplifting and supportive ,but at times even kind words have a hollow ring .I am glad Al Lynch and I visited Dale at St. Mary's . I think Dale enjoyed our company . When we left we said see you later Dale ,not goodbye .I'm not saying goodbye now ,just See you later dale Eddie Cantley Griffithsville ,WV

Edward Cantley - May 27, 2015 at 12:01 PM



“ 68 files added to the album Life Tributes



Chapman Funeral Homes - May 26, 2015 at 12:06 PM

RR

“ A really great guy! My Best to the Family. Richie Robb

Richie Robb - May 26, 2015 at 08:48 AM

AL

“ I knew Dale from South Charleston High School. We worked on alot of cars together. I am thankful Ed Cantley and I got to visit Dale recently in the hospital. We hoped for many more visits, but it wasn't meant to be. Rest in peace old friend.

Al Lynch
Ripley, WV



Al Lynch - May 26, 2015 at 07:08 AM

“ I remember Dale laughing.

Sometimes with derision at the unexplainable moves of what he considered idiot drivers. Sometimes at ridiculous things politicians expected us to believe and accept.

Some other times at poorly designed roadways or intersections or products.

He was a true engineer.

I remember him laughing as he retold something one of his grand daughters had said or done. First Lauren and Meghan before they got all grown up, and lastly Kristen and then Reagan. They were his primary sources of joy, and his spirit wanted more of their antics even as his body was demanding relief from chasing balls or keeping their bikes from falling over as they learned to ride. The youngest one at any given time was always his favorite, because she needed him most, and her joys and appreciation were more simply and honestly expressed. Sometimes they were expressed with hugs; the gold standard for grandparents everywhere.

I remember him speaking of Lisa and Tim and the girls, with all the rises and falls of daily life, and how pleased he was with their progress and his involvement in that progress.

I recall him telling of Matthew meeting him from Virginia on his trips to Zenith, and how Dale enjoyed the simple bonding of a man and his son that so many never manage to achieve. I felt I already knew Matthew, although we hadn't met until his mother's funeral viewing.

I remember Dale finding Joy at sitting around our kitchen table as he took some time off occasionally for himself and we drank a few beers and ate far too much cheese and crackers or chips and salsa. We will always cherish those evenings with him.

He was a unique man with lots of opinions and we had numerous discussions about various topics - none uninteresting. Even the

many visits I made to the hospital were interesting, but it was very difficult for me to watch him show improvements and then regress again. I would try to stay strong and encouraging for my friend when visiting at St Mary's but then I'd end up crying in their chapel as I begged God to help him and heal him. His end of life fight on this earth has greatly impacted me. He will be greatly missed!

I remember him regretting that Calvin was gone, and their walks and talks would happen no more in this world. We talked daily as Dale was driving to and from work, for maybe twelve or fifteen minutes each call.

I remember over the eleven years I knew him, each of his and Karen's medical ups and downs, and his continued concern about such things as he constantly analyzed possible solutions and further problems. He feared that Karen would some day have an extended stay in a nursing home as her mother had done, and he hurt for her when he talked of those things.

As the years roll by, if God blesses me with them, as I remember Dale Drennen, I will have many things about him to remember and dwell on. My sincere efforts will be to remember him laughing in joy and amusement, and my desire is to laugh with him often throughout eternity in that land where we'll never grow old.

Until then, my friend, I'll remember you.

Terry Williams

Terry Williams - May 25, 2015 at 04:26 PM

DP

“ *Dave Painter lit a candle in memory of Dale Crosier Drennen*



Dave painter - May 25, 2015 at 12:53 PM

MM

“ *Dale and I became friends around 1954. I was five and he was six. We spent the next 12 years going from one adventure to the next. Dale had the heart for adventure. As a child he was a real dare devil. I remember him walking on 10 foot stilts, climbing telephone poles and the highest trees in the neighborhood. When I was 15 I bought my first motorcycle and that's all it took for Dale. He was onboard. He bought the Honda 305 Scrambler which from my understanding he kept till this day. We would ride the back hills and power trails around Spring Hill and South Charleston for hours on end. We accepted each wreck or breakdown as part of the experience....I never worried because Dale was such a great mechanic. He could always get us out of the mess with a pair of pliers and" some wire. In those days we gave each other handles. He called me "Mike the Bike and I called him "Dale Harley Junior." I have to admit we weren't always choir boys and got into our share of mischief, but it was all part of the learning experience. Growing up with Dale as my friend was a blessing and are times that I will always cherish.....we were a mix of Mayberry and the movie Wild Ones...and we enjoyed life. Thank you Dale for being my friend and enriching my life.*

*Michael Miller (Mike the Bike)
Retired USN
Spartanburg, SC*

Michael Miller - May 25, 2015 at 09:57 AM

AL

“ I knew Dale from South Charleston high school. We shared lots of time together working on our cars. I was glad to get to visit Dale last Monday, with Eddie Cantley. Dale recognized me after many, many years. We had a good visit. I am certainly glad we went and shared a memory or two with Dale. Rest in peace, old friend.

Al Lynch
Ripley, WV

Al Lynch - May 25, 2015 at 09:43 AM

DG

“ I first met Dale when I went to work at Kanawha Mfg. in 1988. Because of our mutual love of motorcycles and trail riding, we became friends. He was probably the best friend that I had at the company. We talked a lot. He laughed at my jokes and was concerned with my problems. He also shared his problems with me. After I left KMC, we remained in contact. Occasionally, I would order motorcycle parts for him from a wholesale company that I had been dealing with for years. Once, and I regret only once, we went trail riding together and shared a beer or two. We sent each other emails, right up until he got sick. He would call me on the phone, once in a while. I am going to miss him.

David Groff, Scott Depot, WV

David Groff - May 23, 2015 at 07:25 AM