



Dennis Parry

March 11, 1943 - December 27, 2023

Col. Parry, Dennis (RET.), 80, Topeka, passed away December 27, 2023.

Dennis was born March 11, 1943, to Floyd and Virginia Parry in Topeka, Kansas.

He graduated from Highland Park High School in 1962. Dennis married Pamela Susan Grover on April 24, 1964. He joined the United States Army in 1965, then transferred to the Kansas National Guard in 1966. Dennis was commissioned on June 23, 1968, and served as a helicopter pilot, platoon commander, maintenance and flight operations platoon commander, commander of Topeka's 137th Transportation Company, Troop Command of Wichita, commander of the 1st Battalion, 108th Aviation Regiment, operations officer, commander of the Army Aviation Support Facility at Forbes, instructor in the Bell UH – 1, and guard acceptance test pilot for CH-54s. He was promoted to Chief of Staff before retiring in 2003. He was an integral part of the Museum of The Kansas National Guard.

Dennis was preceded in death by his parents; his wife Pam; and brother, John Parry.

He is survived by his daughter, Gina (Ed Henney); brothers Carl Parry (Marsha), and Eric Parry (Tracie); grandchildren, Bradley Griffith, Lindsey

Jackson (Jason) and Blake Kutzke (Megan); great-grandchildren, Jordan, Jayden, Wesley, Grover, Ellis, Jack, and Sawyer; and many nieces and nephews.

Family will greet friends from 5 – 7 p.m., Wednesday, January 3, 2024, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka, Kansas, 66614. Funeral service will be Thursday, January 4 at 1 p.m. at the funeral home. Burial will follow in Mission Center Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Museum of The Kansas National Guard and Starbase, sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Mission Center Cemetery

29th and Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 3. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Funeral Service

JAN 4. 1:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
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info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Tribute Wall

RA

“ Dennis hired me full-time as a Skycrane mechanic in 1974. It led to a long career and a long friendship with him. We flew many missions together and he was a fine pilot and a wonderful person to serve with. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family. God's speed, Col Parry! RIP

Robert Anno - January 03, 2024 at 06:41 PM

JA

“ Dennis and I were good friends dating back to the 1980's. I always appreciated his professionalism and humor. When he offered me an AGR job with the State Flight Detachment (Det 37) flying the C-12, I was honored and jumped at the opportunity. He was a great pilot and it was always a pleasure flying with him. Both Dennis and Pam will be surely missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to Gina and the rest of the family.

Jerry Anderson

Jerry Anderson - January 03, 2024 at 01:30 PM

RC

“ Col Dennis Perry was a super gentleman and a superior officer in the Kansas Army National Guard. So sorry to hear about his passing. Hope this finds a warm spot in your hearts in this time of need.

The Cordwell's Dick and Sheryl

Richard Cordwell - January 02, 2024 at 10:05 AM

DD

“ Dennis was always one of my favorite people. His sense of humor was like none other. Working on events to support the Museum as well as being a dear friend meant a lot to me. He will be so missed but he was so loved.

Dawn Downey - December 30, 2023 at 04:14 PM

WH

“ Dennis was a year ahead of me at HPHS. In the early 1960's (1964?) I was working at Billiard Airport and Dennis was taking flying lessons. I don't recall if he was flying fixed wing or helicopters.. We had numerous conversations about high school, his military training. I remember him as a friendly, quality man. My condolences to his family & friends.

Warren Hummer - December 30, 2023 at 07:24 AM

BE

“ I was sad to hear about Dennis' passing and so soon after Pam's. When I first moved in next door, Dennis came over to offer assistance on an outdoor project. I always appreciated that. I was sorry to see his health decline recently. May he rest in peace.

Beth Evans - December 29, 2023 at 05:12 PM

BW

“ Surprised to hear this and very sorry for your loss. He was a great guy and a great leader. Enjoyed serving under him when he was BN Commander and learned much from his leadership style. Also enjoyed our friendship in the following years. He and Pam made a great couple.

BG (ret) Bob Windham - December 29, 2023 at 02:35 PM

GL

“Gina and family, it’s sad to hear about your loss. I’m sure your family is very proud of your father, as many of us who were his fellow soldiers and friends. I can still see him sitting at his desk out at the Army Support Facility interviewing this 22 year old for a job. I’m very honored to have been a friend.
Gary Lacore

Gary Lacore - December 29, 2023 at 01:31 PM

GR

When Gene Roles & family moved to Topeka so Gene could join the aviation unit, Dennis & Pam reached out to us and helped us settle in. Gene enjoyed the honest friendship & guidance Dennis offered. They flew together often.
Dennis epitomised being an
“Officer & a Gentleman.”
We will always remember he & Pam with fondness.
Fly high Dennis, you earned those special wings!

Gene & Karrie Roles - December 29, 2023 at 10:52 PM

KL

“Gina, Brad and family
I don’t even know where to begin. The memories go back to “82” the love and respect I have for COL Parry, Pam and your whole family is beyond words. My heart aches. I know the sayings “He is in a better place, he is with Pam, he isn’t in pain” are all true. It sure doesn’t make it easier for those of us here on earth. May God Bless you all. Give you Peace and understanding. I am here. You know you can call or text anytime. “Raff”

Kathleen Rafferty Love - December 29, 2023 at 01:04 PM

FR

Both Dennis and Pam were present for almost all of our families significant life events from illnesses, a wedding, family reunions and relocation from Pittsburg to Topeka to mention just a few. .

Dennis served his country, his family and his friends with both devotion and sacrifice. He fought bravely through his health issues in retirement and endured, with honor and dignity, more adversity than any one man should have to face.

He will be greatly missed but his legacy of honor, sacrifice and devotion to friends and family will be carried forward by Gina and all of the others whose lives he impacted.

Frank Ross - December 29, 2023 at 01:55 PM

RS

I served under and with col.parry in 137 heavy helicopter co. KS NG .he was an outstanding person, officer and pilot and a friend..RIP ...SIR... hoowa brother

Robert Boeger SPC4 137/108 avn .. RIP si - December 26, 2024 at 06:46 PM

RS

Spc 4 Robert Boeger

Robert Boeger SPC4 137/108 avn .. RIP si - December 26, 2024 at 06:48 PM