



Denny Burgess

July 5, 1936 - October 11, 2025

Denny Dale Burgess died Saturday, October 11, 2025, at the age of 89 in Topeka, Kansas surrounded by his family.

Denny was born on July 5, 1936, to George and Helen Burgess in rural Pottawatomie County, Kansas. He was one of five sons and is survived by his brothers, Dan, Deane, Dwight, and Dewayne Burgess.

Denny was married to Barbara MacPherson Burgess for 66 years. They have three sons. They all have lived in the Wamego and Topeka area. He is survived by his wife; sons, Jim Burgess, Tom (Vickie) Burgess, Mike (Megan) Burgess; and his five grandchildren: Drew, Braedon, McKinlea, Meredith and Miles.

Denny served in the army, where he completed basic training in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He operated heavy equipment for the US Army. He worked as a journeyman electrician and was a member of IBEW Local 226 for 69 years. Denny was a realtor and broker in Wamego, Kansas, at Burgess Real Estate. Denny also served as a school board member of USD 320 in Wamego.

Denny served in the Kansas House of Representatives from 1973 to 1982 where he represented house district 61, which included Pottawatomie and

Wabaunsee counties. He was elected Assistant Majority Leader during his last term. At the end of his public service in the legislature, Denny formed Burgess & Associates with his son Tom, where they represented a wide range of clients over the last several decades. Denny also was a rancher and horseman.

Denny went to one-room country schools until he attended and graduated from Wamego High School. He played football and ran track. In his senior year he finished second at the State Track Meet in the mile.

Baseball and softball also had a special place in Denny's heart. He played town-team baseball until he was 40 for Wamego and several other nearby towns too. He later played competitive slow-pitch softball into his eighties playing in both local leagues and senior olympics softball tournaments. He coached numerous youth teams over the years too, including coaching teams his sons played on.

Denny also loved watching his sons and grandchildren play sports and participate in activities. He and Barbara travelled all over to go to baseball, basketball, football, softball, cross country and track meets. He was especially proud of all of his grandchildren.

Denny loved the outdoors and enjoyed hunting, fishing, golfing, snow skiing, horseback riding, and working on the ranch.

Denny was a member of the First Baptist Churches in Wamego and Topeka. He also attended the Faith Community Church in Topeka.

Denny's family is hosting a celebration of Denny's life on Monday, October 27, 2025, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Brownstone, 4020 NW 25th Street, Topeka KS 66618. Please join them for refreshments at a casual event where attendees

are encouraged to bring their favorite ball cap, cowboy hat, or some other hat that has a connection to Denny. Burial will be private at Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Wamego.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Washburn University Foundation to establish a scholarship in Denny and Barbara's name for a Washburn baseball player. Please mail to: Washburn University Foundation 1700 SW College, Topeka, Ks 66621 , Memo: Denny and Barbara Burgess Memorial. You may also go online: <https://www.wualumni.org/g/given> and scroll down to the bottom of the funds and type in "Denny and Barbara Burgess Memorial", or contributions may be sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

Condolences may be sent online at www.kevinbrennanfamily.com

Cemetery Details

Pleasant Hill Cemetery

Wamego, KS

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT **27**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

The Brownstone
4020 NW 25th Street
Topeka , KS 66618

Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Denny Burgess



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - October 27, 2025 at 10:36 AM

MG

“ Patti and I send our sincere condolences and prayers to the Burgess family. Denny was a hard working man and he represented the people of his district with professional Caring attitude His legacy will live on. Mike &Patti Goehring

Mike &Patti Goehring - October 23, 2025 at 04:01 PM

BW

“ I would like to thank the family for sharing him with me. When I was new to town and Tom would take me to the house Denny and Barb always made me feel like one of the family. To this day I give him the credit for showing me how to filet a Crappie faster than most. I think Tom and I watched him clean a hundred. I also enjoyed having him as a baseball coach. So very encouraging!. I will miss the fishing this coming Spring we talked about doing but will look up and thank him should I ever catch that 17" crappie knowing he is in the best of places looking down with a smile. God bless Barb, Tom and the rest of the family. All my sympathy and thanks. Brad Weilett

Brad Weilett - October 22, 2025 at 11:22 PM

MH

“ Barbara, Jim, Tom and Mike ~ Thinking of you and sending love during this time of loss. May his memory be a blessing.
~ Marcie and Amy Hemphill

Marcie Hemphill - October 22, 2025 at 08:20 PM

MM

“ He was a great guy. I met him when I lobbied for the Sierra Club in 1985 and 86. He bought hay from me the last 20 years. Everyone will really miss him.



Malcolm Moore - October 22, 2025 at 06:33 PM

JZ

“ Denny helped me when I ran for Probate Judge of Potawatomi County in 1974. We have been good friends since. Denny was a great, honorable person. His character was sterling and you always knew where he stood on every issue. May he rest in peace. My condolences to Barbara and his children. Jim Zeller

Jim Zeller - October 22, 2025 at 09:44 AM

CL

“ We learned to know Denny as a fixture at the Capitol. A great story teller who brought Tom and Mike into our world. A fun Kansan to know. Hugs and love to your family!

Cindy Luxem - October 22, 2025 at 08:24 AM

MD

“ *Mike and Joyce Dendurent
Wamego*

Our deepest sympathy. ❤️

Mike and Joyce Dendurent - October 21, 2025 at 05:18 PM

AC

“ *Denny was such a kind and funny man. I'm grateful to have known him - we bonded over our love for horses and his friendship with my father and uncle. My heartfelt condolences to all of his family members, thinking of you Tom and Mike especially.*

Amy Campbell - October 21, 2025 at 01:42 PM

BR

Tom and Vickie, I was very sorry to hear about your Dad, Tom, sending sympathy to you and all your family. Betty Reser

Betty Reser - October 21, 2025 at 04:48 PM

DF

Deane, we are sorry about Denny's passing. Know we are thinking about you and Denny's family.

Diana & Jim Frownfelter - October 22, 2025 at 09:11 AM

PM

Ted and I both loved our visits with Denny. Our love for horses and horse racing brought us together. A very kind man with a kind family. Thoughts and prayers to everyone.

Peach and Ted Madl - October 24, 2025 at 11:54 AM

DR

Sorry to hear of his passing. Duane Raine of Pottsboro, TX

Duane Raine - October 25, 2025 at 01:00 AM

JK

Admired his common sense. He communicated with a sincere voice that let you know that you could disagree, (but if you did, you were probably wrong.) He left a lasting impression. Wish we could have that quality back in our elected officials. Joe Knopp

Joe Knopp - October 27, 2025 at 04:40 AM