



## Arthur Dean Houck

August 3, 1938 - September 1, 2015

The world became a little less interesting on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 when Arthur Dean Houck, age 77, of Glendive, Montana, passed away with family at his side. Memorial Services will be held at 11:00am on Saturday, September 5, 2015 at Zion Lutheran Church in Glendive. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Dean was born August 3, 1938 in Billings, Montana, the son of Albert and Ella (Wilhems) Houck. He was raised and educated in Billings until his family moved to Glendive. Dean completed his senior year at Dawson County High School and graduated in 1956 as Valedictorian of his class. As a young man, Dean was active in Boy Scouts, earning the rank of Eagle Scout. He also belonged to the Luther League (a youth group) who erected the first cross on Hungry Joe hill overlooking Glendive.

Following high school, Dean moved to Bozeman, Montana to further his education at Montana State University. True to his intelligent and hard-working nature, Dean earned his Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering (a highly rigorous 5-year academic program) in only 4 years, graduating as Salutatorian of his class.

After completing basic training in the Army National Guard, Dean returned to Glendive. With only a half of a truck stall from Houck Transportation at his

disposal, he started Truck Suppliers and through hard work created a thriving business. He later built a much larger building where he continued to work full-time until his passing.

Dean married the love of his life, Donna Mitchell, on December 30, 1962 in Glendive, and to this union three children were born. He was truly a family man. He adored his children and grandchildren; spending time with them brought him immense joy and pride.

Those who knew him can attest to the quality of his character. When you talked with Dean, he made you know that he was genuinely interested. Many also know him for his prankster personality. He was always trying to pull a trick on someone and would spend days – even months – to set-up a prank. His laughter was contagious.

Dean was a “Jack-of-all-trades”. He knew a lot about everything, but was never pretentious. He excelled at many things, including leather working, wood working, water skiing, jet skiing, snow skiing, snowmobiling, and fishing to name a few. He loved life and enjoyed a challenge – Dean always had a “project” in the works. He went out of his way to try everything and anything he could, like building an actual operating hover-craft, playing the accordion, learning to fly a gyro-copter, growing peanuts, doing glass blowing and learning taxidermy. Dean was especially proud to be a life-long pilot.

Dean left his mark on this world in many ways. He was a 50-year member of Masons Lodge #31, a member of both the Elks and Moose Clubs, served on the boards of First Fidelity Bank and the Dawson County Airport, and was a member of the Army National Guard for approximately 20 years. But beyond this impressive list of accomplishments, Dean also left his mark by touching the hearts of people. Dean helped so many without ever seeking acknowledgment or expecting anything in return. His benevolence was always

handled privately, often anonymously.

Dean was preceded in death by his parents, Albert and Ella, one infant brother, Robert, and daughter-in-law, Patty.

He is survived by his wife, Donna Houck of Glendive; three children, Deana (Dave) Allison of Glendive, Donald Houck of Glendive, and David (Shannon) Houck of Missoula, Montana; four grandchildren, Daniel (Carrie) Allison, Michael Houck, Rachael Houck, and Derek Allison; one great-granddaughter, Lakyn Houck; one brother, Larry (Marva) Houck of Great Falls, Montana, and numerous in-laws, nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Dean's name to the charity of one's choice. Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: [www.silhafuneralhomes.com](http://www.silhafuneralhomes.com)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

SEP 5. 11:00 AM (MT)

Zion Lutheran Church  
401 Riverview Avenue  
Glendive, MT 59330

# Tribute Wall



“ *Arthur Dean Houck*

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December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy to all of Dean's family. He will be missed by many.*

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**myrna kintz** - September 06, 2015 at 02:54 PM



“ *We are praying for you all during this difficult time. We enjoyed getting to know Dean and honored to be included in his family.*

*Steve & Cinda Scott*

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**Steve & Cinda Scott** - September 05, 2015 at 03:53 PM

AG

“ I am deeply sorry for your family's loss. I remember coming to the house with Deana and, our other friends, We were always welcome in the Houck household. There was always something being made whether it food or something else. If I needed parts or my brothers needed parts I would be sent to truck supplies Mr. Dean Houck was the one to always help me because if I did not know if the boys needed gaskets he would know yes they would. The boys would call up to truck suppliers and he would be the one to answer the phone, they would tell him to gaskets and he would say got it boys she is on the way. As someone said before he was a jack of all trades and gosh yes this name was a family man. He loved all of his kids and grandkids right along with the in-laws, Dean when you see Barbara Fulton Miller will you please give her a big, big hug from your daughter and I can tell her that we love her and miss her ever so very much. Run that parts store and whatever else you can think of to run up there. It will be great whatever it is. GOD BLESS YOU MR. HOUCK YOU WILL GREATLY BE MISSED.



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**Arlene Gieser** - September 04, 2015 at 09:35 PM

JJ

“ We were sorry to hear of your loss. May God help you through this difficult time. Our prayers go to all family members. John and Mary Jezewski

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**john jezewski** - September 04, 2015 at 08:52 PM

LG

“ *My Dad (Bill Grzanic) and Dean had many conversations at Truck Suppliers over the years. I remember Dad calling Dean the "banana man" because he ordered parts in bunches. Always had lots of items in his inventory. My condolences to the family and prayers for your loss. Laura Grzanic - Belfield, ND.*

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**Laura Grzanic** - September 04, 2015 at 11:43 AM

TH

“ *Teresa Hathaway lit a candle in memory of Arthur Dean Houck*



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**Teresa Hathaway** - September 04, 2015 at 08:25 AM

DH

“ *Dean has finally earned the ultimate pilots license I feel privileged to have been a small part of his life and to have known him. My condolences go out to the family and I hope his flight to heaven was in a P 51 Mustang. Darrell Hystad*

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**Darrell Hystad** - September 03, 2015 at 08:51 PM

LT

“ *Prayers to the Houck Family. Many fond memories of our early years at the cabin, babysitting the little ones and just spending time at the Mitchells! Linda*



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**Linda Latka Teets** - September 03, 2015 at 11:56 AM



“ *Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Arthur Dean Houck.*



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September 03, 2015 at 07:24 AM



“ *Noren And Karen Shanley lit a candle in memory of Arthur Dean Houck*



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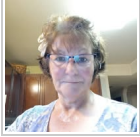
**Noren and Karen Shanley** - September 03, 2015 at 06:01 AM



“ *Jim and I send our heart-felt condolences to Dean's family! He was a great person and will be missed! RIP Dean....*

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**Carol Swanson** - September 03, 2015 at 01:33 AM



“ Dear Uncle Dean,  
I'm sorry you had to go so soon. You leave a big hole. For as long as I can remember you were my family. You taught me many things important in life. You were my first real resentment. I was 7 years old & we were home before being transferred to Ramey AFB, Puerto Rico. Donna made her usual “no big deal” meat, potatoes, veggies, bread & butter, and always some kind of desert. I hated meatloaf & you informed me that was dinner & I was going to eat it. I cried big tears, hated you, & ate the damn meatloaf. For years after, I hated you. I grew-up. I realize that you don't always get what you want; sometimes it doesn't matter what you want or like. You will always have difficult people in your life that you don't really like, but who secretly, cares for you & your well being— deeply. I grew to love Dean. I always felt like we had a special bond. I will truly miss you being a piece of my life. Love, Tana

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**Tana Buckingham** - September 02, 2015 at 11:30 PM

DB

“ To Deans family. We are so sorry for your loss. He was a very large part of this community. Hold on to all the memories. May God comfort you in your sorrow. Dennis and Cindi Byron



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**Dennis And Cindi Byron** - September 02, 2015 at 09:22 PM

MS

Dean was a good friend and he will be sorely missed by so many, my thoughts are with you Donna and your family  
Marilyn Stinnett

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**Marilyn Stinnett** - September 03, 2015 at 06:41 PM

CO

“ You are in my thoughts and prayers. God bless you!!!!  
Carol J. Overlie

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**Carol J. Overlie** - September 02, 2015 at 05:14 PM

PS

“ Condolences to the extended Houck family. Dean was indeed a Jack-of-all-trades and a man who spent his entire adult life teaching us about business. Several years ago he followed up a comment I made to him regarding what a pleasant winter we were having with no snow. He gently grabbed me by my ear and walked me around the corner to a wall filled floor to ceiling with tire chains, informing me business has to gear up and be ready for the season changes! Lesson learned Dean, lesson learned. God Speed to a good man!

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**Paul Sturlaugson** - September 02, 2015 at 03:41 PM

JS

“ Jim And Donna Stanfill lit a candle in memory of Arthur Dean Houck



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**Jim and Donna Stanfill** - September 02, 2015 at 02:45 PM