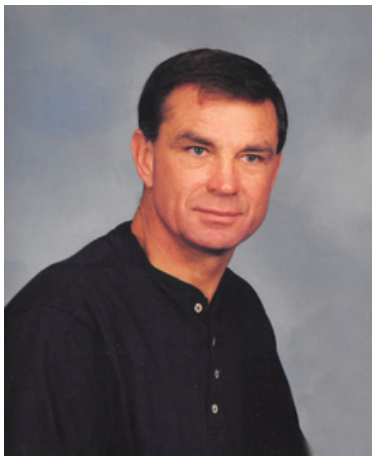


Dennis Lawrence Mangrum

November 13, 1943 ~ May 14, 2021

On May 14, 2021, Dennis Lawrence Mangrum passed away after a six-year battle with Vascular Dementia. He was born November 13, 1943 in Murray, Utah, to Lawrence E (Bud) Mangrum and Ramona Beckstead Mangrum, but somehow always managed to remain age 50. He was a proud West High Panther Class of '62 who excelled in football and wrestling, earning all-state honors in both. He continued his education at the University of Utah where he was a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity. He played football and wrestled while earning a degree in Civil Engineering. He later earned a degree in law from the U of U. He practiced patent law in California, then opened his own law practice in Thousand Oaks, California. He later moved to Utah and continued practicing law until his retirement one year ago. He was an avid reader and a gifted and prolific writer who had four novels published. As a youth he loved to paint and many of his oil paintings are hanging in his home today. He was passionate about baseball and spent countless hours coaching his sons and throwing batting practice to them. He was the volunteer pitching coach at Brighton High School for many years and had a profound effect on many young men. He loved the Red Sox, his MIT shirts and his shoes; hamburgers, M & M's, rootbeer, Frosted Flakes and Cinnamon Toast Crunch, and was even known to share some on occasion. Perhaps his greatest love was that of giving and he could often be found picking up strangers, giving them rides and of course a Book of Mormon and whatever money he had in his pocket. Christmases at the Mangrum home were his very favorite time of year. Gigantic 3-foot-high socks were the highlight for each family and he had to keep buying gifts to make sure they were all filled to the top. His heart was pure and filled with love.

Dennis was a lifelong member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and fulfilled a life-long dream when he and his wife, Liz, served a mission in Auckland, New Zealand from September 2009 to March 2011. He was the Associate Area Legal Counsel during the day, but at night he was a passionate missionary, serving alongside some amazing young missionaries in the Aeroview Ward.

Dennis married Anne Blakesley while in college and had six children who survive him: Nichole Jones (Dewey), Brooke Henze (David), Shane (Kaylene), Travis (Alli), Micah (Natalie), and Bryn Katseanes (Jeff). He later married a fellow West High Panther, Elizabeth Ence Bernard, aka "the boss," and together they have a son Creed (Sidney) who survive him. He is also survived by his step-children Lindsey Krassner (Michael), Tom Bernard (Korbi), and Casey Jennings (Stuart).

Dennis loved his twenty-six grandchildren even though he never admitted having any. Surviving him are: Summer, Lacey, Holden, Easton, Isabelle and Merit; Porter, Braeden, and Prestin; Cade, Micah, Emme and Jack; Chance, Eli and Baer; London, Mick, Ash and River; Lion; Steele and Slater; Nico and Milla; and Oscar. In addition are six great-grandchildren: Maren, Graham, Milton, Carson, Emmett and Oliver.

Three younger brothers survive Dennis: Doug (Maureen), Collin (Ann), and Kelly (Laura). He was preceded in death by his parents and his favorite cousin, Jack Mangrum.

A memorial service (he didn't want a funeral) will be held on Thursday, May 27, 2021, at Larkin Sunset Gardens. To view previously held services please visit https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/cggpNeB6dc8c27MSEFbfS-XFphtiPm9qse6BsA5GFgsBwFDwOwr5krdSainCSHRf.DV

Many thanks to the IHC Hospice Staff for their swift response and tender care of Dennis for 2 short days and for the friends (especially his hero Al Evans) and family who surrounded him with love.