



Dean Bame

June 11, 1943 - October 8, 2025

Dean Melvin Bame was born in Bellingham, WA., to Clarence and Helen Bame.

He lived on the family farm and attended Meridian Elementary, Middle, and High Schools. Dean was active in baseball, football, and track. Graduating from high school in 1961, he went on to study Physics and Mathematics at Western Washington University. In 1966, he started his teaching career at his alma mater, Meridian High School! In 1969, Dean accepted an opportunity to teach children of military families who were stationed overseas, under the Department of Defense. His first assignment was to Okinawa, Japan.

He came home during the first summer and met Judy Parker, from Seattle, who was attending W.W.U. Dean was transferred to Wurzburg, Germany in 1970. In June 1971, Dean and Judy married and moved to Wurzburg, Germany, where they both loved teaching and living in the German culture for nine years. In 1980-81 they taught in Seoul, Korea. From 1982 to 1989, they taught in Vilseck, Germany, and then moved to Clark Air Base in the Philippines for three years. Their final assignment was back in Okinawa!

Dean retired in 1994 and returned to Bellingham. "For fun," he earned his real estate license and met new friends! He also enjoyed substituting in the high schools, often saw his family, and loved boating and skiing on Lake Whatcom.

His other interests and passions were to seriously study God's Word, serving in church, and supporting evangelistic missionaries. He was a dedicated Christian.

He leaves behind his wife, Judy, of 54 years, two sisters, Donna Kuiken (Norm Perri), and Diane (Ron) Wilson, and many nieces and nephews, grand-nieces and nephews, cousins, and many friends.

If you are interested in giving a memorial gift, we encourage you to give to a charity or mission of your choice. If you would like to help support missionaries we know personally, you can write a check to the Redeemer Church Mission Fund in memory of Dean Bame.

Services will be held at 4:00 PM on Thursday, October 16th, 2025, at Redeemer Church, located at 211 Northshore Drive in Bellingham, WA.

Dean's final resting place is located at Greenacres Memorial Park in Ferndale, WA.

If you are unable to attend the funeral service, please click the link below to watch a live video

CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE LIVESTREAM (<https://vimeo.com/event/5448408>)

CLICK HERE FOR SHUTTLE AND PARKING INFORMATION (<https://cdn.f1connect.net/media/228187/Parking-Info.jpg>)

Cemetery Details

Greenacres Memorial Park

5700 Northwest Drive
Ferndale, WA 98248
(360) 384-3401

Previous Events

Funeral Service

OCT **16**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (PT)

Redeemer Church
211 Northshore Dr
Bellingham, WA 98226

Tribute Wall



“ *View Dean's Livestream here*



Moles Farewell Tributes - October 15, 2025 at 11:13 AM

BL

Dear Judy and family, I am in a shock to hear of Dean's passing. I so enjoyed my chats with Dean this past summer in Reno and all past DoDDS reunions. My time with you and Dean in the PI helped mold my love for living overseas. I know you will miss your best friend. Please know I am thinking of you during this time.

Buddy Leavitt - October 22, 2025 at 11:37 AM

PJ

“ *The Bame family was a fixture of my young life. I spent many days at the farm and had many fun experiences with Dean. He was a few years older, but was eager to crawl under the outbuildings to show me a new litter of kittens; to take me for a raucous, bumpy ride in a dilapidated old "junker" across the pasture; build a snowman. One time at our home, he and I prepared a cake for the families. We colored the icing with too many drops of green coloring (later, I learned that green food coloring was determined to be a bit toxic). The color was dark, and we survived.*

Phil stumbled upon this obituary. I am thankful for that, but regret the delay in expressing my/our condolences. Dean contributed to the lives of others in so many ways.

Judy, Donna, and Diane: I share these words from Paul's letters to Titus, thankful that we have the "hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago," and Jude, "May mercy, love, and peace be multiplied to you."

Patti Patzkowsky McConnell

PJM - November 07, 2025 at 02:34 PM

PR

“ *We will never forget Dean's sparkle, his joyfulness, his hospitality, and friendship. He opened his home and heart wide to us, shared late night conversations, cooked up amazing breakfasts, lunches and dinners, and told stories of his travels with Judy and local ministry to 'the least of these.' We will miss you, Dean!*

With much love and encouragement of a life well lived,

Jay and Kay

Prince - October 16, 2025 at 08:38 AM

MA

“ Dean was wonderful to all his DODDS friends, including me, and others who knew him – generous with his time and his help. I will miss him. Special condolences to Judy and His family

Monica Ackermann - October 15, 2025 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ My husband Dean and I bought the Bame family home on Medcalf Road, after his and his sister’s parents moved to Lynden. We truly have loved this house and the land it’s on. It is the sweetest place. I’m sad that my husband is passed but he had the best years of his life here, gardening and raising some animals and we had two daughters. A whole lot of love and happiness was here, before we bought it and ever since.
I am so sorry for your loss, Judy. My sympathies to you, Diane and Donna and to the rest of the family. Your Dean was a good man and he will be missed by everyone.

Tina Nelson - October 15, 2025 at 12:00 AM

BJ

My deepest condolences, Judy. You and your Dean were very special to me. True Christ followers. I am blessed to have known you and Dean. My sympathies for his sisters and all who loved and will miss him.

bonnie jensen - October 16, 2025 at 04:04 AM

JV

“ Dean was one of my wonderful customers at Hagen. He would come to the food court and get his coffee and probably a donut with his buddies. I always enjoyed Dean and his crew. One Christmas, he bought me a card and had all the guys sign it. He referred to Kim and I as their “babysitters” haha. He was always a bright light in my day when I got to talk to him. Thank you Dean for being you. To his family, my condolences. Thoughts and prayers to you all.

Jessie VanMersbergen - October 15, 2025 at 12:00 AM