

## Odie Dean

October 28, 2025

Charles Fred “Odie” Dean passed from this journey to the next on October 28, 2025. He

passed peacefully, in the home he built for his wife and family in Kaufman, Tx, surrounded by his family and loved ones, while songs of love, life, rodeos, and outlaws

played in the background.

Odie was born May 17, 1934 in Thackerville, Oklahoma to Emma C. Liddell Dean and

Horace Fred Dean. Odie was a proud member of the Chickasaw Nation and was often

quick to share stories of his family’s history, tales of strength and resilience, of ingenuity

and survival that is the Chickasaw, and Liddell-Dean story.

Odie’s life was the stuff of Larry McMurtry novels – legendary and heroic; steeped in the

adventures of wild westerns mixed with accounts of industrialists who shaped cities and

futures. After a youth spent rodeoing, Odie set his sights on shaping cities.

For 50 years Odie worked in commercial construction throughout the South.

His

leadership oversaw the construction of landmark buildings in the DFW metroplex,

including the Ballpark in Arlington. Odie was also an innovator in commercial construction, having developed new ways of using and pouring concrete.

Even now, 25

years after his retirement, Odie's work continues to leave an indelible mark having

shaped the Dallas skyline in ways that remain today.

Odie's creativity wasn't only for the large, and large scale. His creativity found its smaller

and intricate avenues as well. He was a lifelong carpenter, master woodworker as well

as an accomplished blacksmith. Odie knew what it was to take the hard stuff of earth

and bend it to one's will in ways that led to beauty, and art, and awe.

Yet of all of the things that Odie left behind – the buildings, skylines, houses, woodworked masterpieces and hand forged knives – it was his family and friends that

brought the most joy and of which he was most proud.

His crowning jewel was the life he had with his stunning bride of 72 years, Kay Dean.

Kay was the steady rock in his life and his safe harbor in life's storms. Their life and love

together served as a brilliant example of love, commitment, grace, and steadfastness.

Kay and Odie had three children, Charles Fred Dean Jr., Dyonne Watson, and Linda

Pinkston Harper.

Odie was proud of his grandchildren and the ways they lived into the legacy and

wisdom he instilled in them; Matthew & Lisa Watson, Luke Watson and Chelsea

Galloway, Sarah & Joel Nelson, Joseph Dean, Robert & Krista Pinkston, and

Tori &

Jordan Davis. Odie was also blessed by his 19 great grandchildren whose lives and

living will carry and continue the legacy of Odie Dean beyond imagination.

There is

family you are born into and family that you choose and two men that count as chosen

family are lifelong friend Steve Donica and chosen grandson Thomas King.

He was preceded in death by his mother and father, as well as his son

Charles Fred

Dean, Jr., his son in law, H. Wayne Watson, and his sisters, Anne Marie

Thomas and

Dorothy Caroline Stofel. He is survived by his siblings Linda Briggs as well as

Vernon

Dean and his wife Janelle.

For the last forty years, Odie and Kay lived in the College Mound community of

Kaufman, Tx. It was from this corner of rural Texas where Odie carved out a home, a

thriving workshop, and meaningful relationships with dear friends. Odie served as a

twenty-year board member of the College Mound Volunteer Fire Department, and the

host of regular, informal community 'Council Meetings'; gatherings of friends and fellow

outlaws where friendship, laughter, wisdom, and cold beer were shared without

hesitation, reservation, or judgement.

To honor this giant of a man, Odie's Celebration of Life service will be Monday,

November 3rd, 2025 at 11:00am at the College Mound United Methodist Church with a reception to follow. Beyond the service, Odie's wish is for everyone to stand tall as skyscrapers, be strong as forged steel, be welcoming as a cold beer, and as unique as every piece of art ever made by Odie Dean.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations may be made to The College Mound United Methodist Church. <https://secure.myvanco.com/YQ5P/home>

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

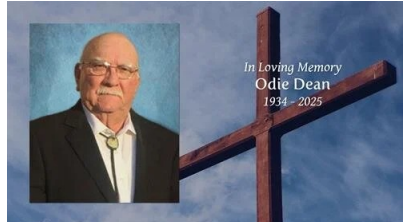
NOV 3. 11:00 AM (CT)

College Mound United Methodist Church  
14490 FM 429 South  
Terrell, TX 75161

# Tribute Wall



“ *Max Slayton Funerals and Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Odie Dean*

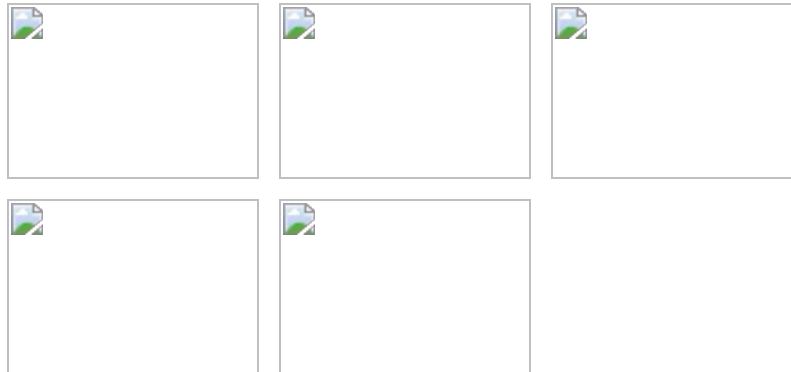


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**Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations** - November 05, 2025 at 02:30 PM



“ *241 files added to the album Memories Album*



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**Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations** - November 05, 2025 at 02:30 PM

BS

“ *Kay and Family....My deepest sympathy for the loss of Odie...what a life he led! My memories are of his wonderful family and his incredible art. Love to you all. Bonnye Sherman*

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**Bonnye Sherman** - November 03, 2025 at 12:41 PM

JW

“ *Jan Watson planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Odie Dean.*

Jan Watson - November 01, 2025 at 03:41 PM

JW

“ *Jan Watson purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Odie Dean.*



Jan Watson - November 01, 2025 at 03:41 PM

JR

“ *John R. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Odie Dean.*

John R. - November 01, 2025 at 11:06 AM

BF

“ *Bruick and Davis families purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Odie Dean.*



Bruick and Davis families - November 01, 2025 at 11:00 AM

MW

“ 55 files added to the album Odie Dean Photos



Matthew Watson - October 31, 2025 at 02:05 PM

DA

“ Dalaney purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Odie Dean.



Dalaney - October 31, 2025 at 10:02 AM

SD

“ Susan Donica planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Odie Dean.

Susan Donica - October 31, 2025 at 12:23 AM

SD

“ Susan Donica purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Odie Dean.



Susan Donica - October 31, 2025 at 12:23 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of *Odie Dean*.



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October 30, 2025 at 07:20 PM