



Weldon 'Denny' Cargin

February 13, 1942 - December 14, 2020

Weldon “Denny” Cargin, 78, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, died Monday, December 14, 2020, at Mercy Medical Center, Cedar Rapids. Private family graveside services were held at Campbell Cemetery in Bertram, Iowa. Murdoch-Linwood Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Cedar Rapids, assisted the family with arrangements.

Denny was born February 13, 1942, in Cedar Rapids, the son of Weldon and Berniece (Enats) Cargin. He graduated from Washington High School. Denny was united in marriage to the love of his life, Gloria Curry on August 28, 1959, in Iowa City, Iowa. He retired in 2014, from Alliant Energy after 57 years of dedication. Denny was a member of Antioch Christian Church.

Survivors include his loving wife of 61 years, Gloria Cargin; daughters, Tracy Techau and Tori Cargin, all of Cedar Rapids; grandchildren, Tammy (Coy) Detert and Matthew Techau; great-grandchildren, Cammy Detert and Dawsyn Techau; and loving brother, John Cargin of Cedar Rapids.

Denny was preceded in death by his parents and a lot of other people.

And now for the rest of the story...

Early last century after doing a stint in the Navy, Denny was dropped off in Florida to make his way home to Iowa. It took much longer to make the journey due to a new initiative to banish all of the elephants from the continent. It took a few years to accomplish this but it was a successful mission and there are still no wild elephants roaming free. He finally arrived home and continued on with his schooling where he met the love of his life, Gloria Curry. (Yes, he was underage when he was in the Navy and banishing elephants....don't tell anyone).

Denny and Gloria married young, sneaking off in the dead of night to Iowa City to find a guy to marry them. Much to everyone's astonishment the union remained strong for more

than 61 years and they became a model of love, laughter, and true partnership. They had a few children, worked hard and planned for the future. Along the way there were many family vacations, National Parks being the center of most trips. These trips always included travel West and North, never East. Denny didn't think anything good was happening in the East so why bother and the South wasn't even discussed....too hot. As usually happens, the children grew up and had lives of their own so the trips stopped, until around 1996 when Denny and Gloria started traveling again each summer with their two girls. And after some coaxing, many of those trips were to the South and East. Washington, D.C., Savannah, and Charleston became favorite destinations and Denny and Tori enjoyed many visits to battlegrounds and plantations. Gloria and Tracy were not as interested in that aspect but trailed along in solidarity. So much fun and laughter happened on these trips and are cherished memories for the entire family. The last few trips also included one of the great granddaughters which made the time spent even more special.

Twice a year Denny was able to slip the chains of work and escape with his buddies for snowmobile trips and backwoods fishing excursions. These trips were a highlight to his year but not a lot is known about the content of these "manly" trips. He was a lifelong bowler and made a lot of friends on the many alleys he roamed. Golf was another pastime he enjoyed. He involved his young daughters in this at an early age in the form of hunting for golf balls at Jones Park. After retirement he joined the boys at coffee each morning where they attempted to solve the world's problems and they became another cherished group of friends.

Denny cherished the extended family of in-laws, nieces and nephews he gained from Gloria's large family. A lot of time was spent with all of them at holidays, camping during the summer, card parties, and many family celebrations. He was a man of deep faith and a love of nature. This love of nature and the natural order of things was important to him in a quiet way and his family carries this with them as one of his guiding principles.

The family would like to thank the dedicated and caring team of professionals at Mercy Medical Center in Cedar Rapids. Those working on the COVID floor, in ICU and the Cardiac unit are angels on earth who have a true gift.

Memorials may be directed to Antioch Christian Church.

Comments



“ Gloria and family, on behalf of my wife and the Gilchrist family our sincere condolences. I am Aunt Mildred and Uncle Bill's oldest son. I have a number of fond memories of Dennis. The first memory is when we were kids I received his outgrown shirts and old comic books. Also remembering he and his dad went hunting on one of our rented farms. Brother Ken and I were impressed with their shotguns. After they left Ken and I went hunting with our cornstalk shotguns. Needless to say, we didn't get much. While talking with Dennis at my Mothers Funeral he commented "The good die young". The last time I saw Dennis and Gloria was at The Lighthouse Restaurant dining with another couple. I ask him if he had retired yet and he said "No". Since Dennis was older than me, I thought I do not want to retire either. And I haven't. In closing it does seem the good die young. May God Bless Weldon Dennis Cargin.

Bill and Betty Gilchrist

Bill & Betty Gilchrist - December 22, 2020 at 08:26 PM



“ Haven't seen nor heard from\about Denny for better than 60 years. But God, what memories. Lived across street from each other on Wildwood Dr. NE when young kids. Played together. What wonderful memories. Amazing appears both lived in CR all these years & never ran into each other as I recall. Flip Klinger

Phillip Klinger - December 21, 2020 at 11:08 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Your family played such a big part of my childhood and early adulthood. Many fond memories of those years, also admiring how your family faced any adversity. In my heart Denny will always be Grandpa Cargin- though we have lost contact over the years and at times miles have separated us- you have often been in my thoughts and prayers. Blessings to you during this challenging time! Christen Nolte, Hallie Nolte (daughter) and Pastor Dave and Mari Nolte

Christen Nolte - December 21, 2020 at 06:43 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers for the Cargin family. Carol and I have fond memories of Denny and Gloria at Central Park. Denny was a great slow pitch player during the 70's and if he couldn't make a game he was truly missed. A very good athlete. You will be missed my friend. Dave & Carol Rogers.

Dave Rogers - December 20, 2020 at 12:54 PM



“ I remember meeting Denny first on the ball diamond. We both played on the same church softball team in the 70s. Then I ran into him again at the bowling alley when I retired in 2015. I was surprised and saddened to read of his passing. My condolences go out to Gloria and the rest of the family.
John Van Cleve

John Van Cleve - December 20, 2020 at 09:22 AM



“ Gloria, Tracy and Tori, There are no words to express the sadness of Denny's passing. Gloria, you and Denny had the perfect marriage and there were a lot of us that envied you for that. You were very special friends years ago but still thought of often and with love! Take care and God Bless and know that he is with God and will be your special angel watching over you!

Sandy Ghere - December 18, 2020 at 11:06 AM



“ We will miss Denny at May city bowl during senior league always wearing shorts no matter how cold it was outside. Darn covid. . Rip
Ted and Virginia Hootman

ted hootman - December 18, 2020 at 08:27 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Denny's passing. I worked with him for a lot of years in Lisbon. I thought he was the smartest person ever and loved hearing his stories. Prayer to his family. Such a good guy.

Cathy Woodward - December 17, 2020 at 03:00 PM