



## Dennis R. Turner

April 11, 1943 - April 14, 2020

Dennis Ralph Turner

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Dennis Ralph Turner (Denny) passed away on April 14, 2020, after a long struggle with Alzheimer's. Even to the end, he was known for his friendliness, warm smile, whistle, kindness, and devotion to his family. Heaven gained a fully dedicated servant to the Lord and someone that touched so many lives.

He is survived by his wife, Janice Turner; daughter Michelle and spouse, Mark Nahmias; daughter Stephanie and spouse, Paul Overholt; granddaughter Lauren Overholt, all of Tulsa, Oklahoma; stepgrandsons Nathan Nahmias (Texas), Jonathan Nahmias and spouse Madelene (North Carolina), and Preston Nahmias (Colorado); sister, Linda Jacobs (Arizona); and eight nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents J. Ralph Turner and Arvilla Turner Zilm and brother J. Daren Turner.

Denny was born April 11, 1943, in Quincy, Illinois. His family moved from Quincy to Carlinville, Illinois, when Denny was a young boy; where he lived until he graduated high school. Denny attended the University of Missouri at Rolla and continued his education at the University of Missouri Columbia receiving a Master of Science in Civil Engineering in 1966. Dennis served in the US Army, being stationed in Thailand for two years during the Vietnam conflict building tactical pipelines and terminals on the Air Base in Thailand.

Dennis met his wife Janice on a blind date in Houston. They were married December 20, 1969, after just dating three months. This past December, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Denny began his career at Continental Pipe Line, Ponca City. He continued at Crest Engineering in Tulsa, Oklahoma and then Williams Pipe Line in Tulsa, Oklahoma. In 2000,

during his time at Williams, Dennis took an assignment in Lithuania. Returning to the US in 2004, Dennis was able to become the commissioning manager for Longhorn Pipeline. Dennis concluded his career at The Benham Companies, retiring in 2008. He was a Registered Professional Engineer (Oklahoma) and a member of the ASME B31.4 Standards Committee.

Denny shared his love for travel all over the world with wife Janice and friends that began through his career at Crest Engineering. He spent his free time on the golf course, in the garden, or on his prized Harley motorcycle.

The Turner's were active members at First Baptist Church Tulsa where he served as a Deacon and participated in the choir. He also volunteered at the First Baptist Caring Center Tulsa where he enjoyed ministering to the homeless. Denny was also active at the Baptist Children's Home, Owasso where he was known for his generosity and service.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Baptist Children's Home Owasso.

Although the time was short, the family would like to thank the caregivers at Heritage Point Memory Center, the nurses and physician at St. Francis Hospital, and Rose Rock Hospice for their exceptional care.

A memorial service will be held First Baptist Church of Tulsa Worship Center, 403 S. Cincinnati Ave., Tulsa, OK 74103 on Monday, June 29, 2020 at 1:00 PM.

# Events

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**JUN**   **Memorial**                      01:00PM  
**29**

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First Baptist Church of Tulsa - Worship Center  
403 S. Cincinnati Ave., Tulsa, OK, US, 74103

# Comments

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dennis R. Turner.



June 28 at 03:41 PM

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“ Jay and Elizabeth Thorpe purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Dennis R. Turner.



**Jay and Elizabeth Thorpe** - June 25 at 04:52 PM

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“ With love & warmest condolences, Nathan & Jennifer purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Dennis R. Turner.



**With love & warmest condolences, Nathan & Jennifer** - June 25 at 09:32 AM

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“ Denny was a kind a gracious man. He will be missed by all who knew him.

**Mike Trippett** - June 13 at 02:08 PM

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“ Denny was such an amazing person. He knew how to make you laugh and no matter who you were he always made you feel like family. John 14:27 ❤️

**cambrie** - April 21 at 12:21 PM



“ He loved you & thought of you as a 2nd grand daughter

**Lauren** - April 22 at 01:50 AM

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“ Denny was full of energy, enthusiasm and empathy for others. He shared Christ's love, so freely! I thank my God upon everyone remembrance of you. Phil 1:3. You will be greatly missed, dear friend.

**Donna Brooks** - April 20 at 10:18 AM

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“ Denny always had a smile for everyone. We know he is enjoying singing in heaven's choir, but he will be greatly missed on earth.

**Nancy & Joe Langley** - April 18 at 08:31 AM

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“ Great and kind man.

**Mike Trippett** - April 17 at 11:45 PM

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“ I REMEMBER ... DENNY, April 2020  
Sweet, brotherly teasing; double dating (Mom & Dad felt I was safe with Denny ??); HS Basketball games, I was a cheerleader & I cheered the loudest for his exceptional performance on the court.  
Long talks behind closed doors growing up & beyond; giving each other advice on life; College days – Denny invited me to spend some weekends at Rolla, MO – Fun with big brother!  
His sweet habit when laughing so hard often culminated by a “slap” on the knee. AND then he met Janice. Even though Denny did not need approval when he brought Janice to meet our family the first time, we were extremely happy with his choice of Janice Law. I have always wished Dad could have witnessed their marriage. He would have been pleased.  
I was always proud of Denny's dynamic personality; his many accomplishments throughout life; most of all his strong, constant relationship with our Lord Jesus. He has been blessed! He has truly blessed others!

**Linda Jacobs** - April 17 at 08:35 PM

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“ Through my years growing up, Uncle Denny always joked and had a funny personality all the while being very loving. He was goofy and laughed outloud often with a giggle that was unmatched. There never seemed to be a dull moment with him in the room and there were plenty of practical jokes always followed by his dear hugs. He made me feel so loved and when I left him, our visit gave me such a positive outlook on life. He was a true man of the Lord and you always knew that was a priority. A rare find - he will certainly be missed.

**Julie Boehler** - April 17 at 09:01 PM



“ For a number of years in the 70s & early 80s Dennis was my right arm in Children's Worship at Eastwood Baptist Church in Tulsa. With several hundred children, many of whom came to church on our church busses and who had not been to church before, Denny's faithfulness, positive attitude, and genuine interest in the kids made him a hero to them. I was forever looking for prizes for correct answers to Bible detail questions. So when Denny's work took him to Holland, he came back with a bunch of wooden shoes to reward kids' attentiveness to sometimes lesser known Bible events and character stories. I have a real funny mental picture of him coming through customs with all those wooden shoes! He was just fun to work with. That's been several decades ago and still it's not uncommon for an adult to come up to me and share how he or she gave their heart to Jesus in those children's worship services. In Heaven our Lord May point to scores of individuals who are there due in a great part to the example and testimony of Dennis Turner!

**Pastor Ruffin Snow** - April 18 at 03:28 AM



“ The Turner kids and the Fullington boys grew up together, went to the same schools, and went to the same church. Needless to say our families knew each other fairly well and enjoyed our relationship. I also had the privilege of playing on the same basketball team as Denny did although as an underclassmen at the time. He would take the time to give pointers on how best to play the game. If you will remember your high school years, to have an upper classman talk to a lower classman was a big deal!! That was the kind of guy he was. Thanks Denny for the fond memories. For me, it is not goodbye, I will see you in heaven and thank you for your kindness .

Duane Fullington - A CCHS/Mr. Carlin Hi brother.

**Duane Fullington** - April 20 at 11:48 AM



“ Mentor, friend, golf partner. Dennis was all those things to me, but more importantly he had a huge influence on my life and career. Twenty-eight years ago, Dennis hired me at Williams Pipe Line, giving me a desperately needed opportunity to come home to Tulsa after several years in a foreign land (California). For that I will be forever grateful. Five years later he hired the love of my life and wife to be. For that I will be eternally grateful! I will always cherish our times on the golf course, especially Alvamar and the KC Scrambles! Hit 'em straight in heaven DT!

**Jeff Hanslik** - April 27 at 03:07 PM



“ We go back a long ways...early 1950's. When Denny joined our class he was not shy and reticent as you might imagine. No, he took over the class..outgoing, joyous, bold, athletic, fun loving, industrious and a natural leader, right from the get go. He never seemed to work at these attributes... they just came natural, and when we re-connected in later life, I was amazed those same wonderful attributes came shining through. He would have been successful in any endeavor, and my military background tells me he would have been a General officer had he continued in the military.

We had wonderful, celebratory get-togethers in later years with Denny, his beautiful wife

Janice and families in Arizona. I was surprised to learn he had developed a deep and abiding interest in art. He was 'all in' of course...colors, design, composition, structure..he couldn't get enough. He would spend hours peppering artists with questions. Walk in to any art gallery in Phoenix or Scottsdale and they knew him! He exhausted everyone in his quest for more knowledge..that was Denny.

Feeling inadequate to find words reflecting this loss I find myself turning to those much more accomplished:

CROSSING THE BAR by Alfred Lord Tennyson

Sunset and evening star,  
And one clear call for me!  
And may there be no moaning of the bar,  
When I put out to sea.

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,  
Too full for sound and foam,  
When that which drew from out the boundless deep  
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,  
And after that the dark!  
And may there be no sadness of farewell,  
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crost the bar.

RIP my dear friend,  
Jay and Elizabeth Thorpe

**Robert Thorpe** - June 16 at 08:36 PM