



## Dennis "Denny" Edward Nelson

August 2, 1952 - January 12, 2026

Dennis "Denny" Nelson, 73, of Milford passed away on Monday, January 12, 2026, at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, SD.

Private family services will be held with burial in the Westport Cemetery in Rural Lake Park, IA. Arrangements are under the direction of the Robinson Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Online condolences may be left at [www.spiritlakefuneralhome.com](http://www.spiritlakefuneralhome.com)

Denny was born on August 2, 1952, in Davenport, IA; to Clifford and LaVerne (Beecher) Nelson. He earned his GED from Maquoketa Valley High School in Delhi, IA. He then enlisted in the US Army to serve his country during the Vietnam War. During his service, he was stationed for 18 months in Germany where he earned the Army Commendation Medal. After he was honorably discharged, he returned home and earned a Human Services degree at Woodward College. He worked the majority of his life as a healthcare professional assisting people. He also worked on various farms as a farm hand, worked in construction, and helped mentally challenged people.

In his free time, he enjoyed playing guitar and singing country music. He was very proud to have played his guitar on stage in Nashville, TN, where he met many stars. His biggest accomplishment was raising his five boys. He was especially proud of his oldest son Chad who joined him in Nashville and

became a professional fiddle player.

Left to cherish his memory are his five boys, Chad Nelson of Manchester, IA; Matthew Nelson of Spencer, IA; Shane Nelson of Lake Park, IA; Tyler Nelson of Ocheyedon, IA; and Ethan Nelson of Lake Park, IA; brothers Clifford Nelson of Des Moines, IA; and Clay Willie of Norway, IA; and his special friend Danelle Nelson of Lake Park, IA.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother John Krager and sister Gloria Clemen.

# Cemetery Details

## Westport Cemetery

2301 130th Ave.  
Lake Park, IA 51347

# Tribute Wall

MN

“ Matt Nelson lit a candle in memory of Dennis  
"Denny" Edward Nelson



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**Matt Nelson** - January 23 at 06:26 AM

JL

“ Jeri Lee lit a candle in memory of Dennis  
"Denny" Edward Nelson



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**Jeri Lee** - January 20 at 04:35 PM

JL

*I worked with Denny and Danielle at the Lake Park Nursing Home both were a joy to work with. So sorry for your loss Danielle and boys*

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**Jeri Lee** - January 20 at 04:39 PM

JW

“ John Woods lit a candle in memory of Dennis  
"Denny" Edward Nelson



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**John Woods** - January 17 at 05:52 PM

GB

“ Greg & Dee Baloun lit a candle in memory of Dennis "Denny" Edward Nelson



Greg & Dee Baloun - January 16 at 10:36 AM

RB

“ I served with Denny in the U.S. Army's 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Division, Friedberg, Germany, 1971 - 1974. I spent 2 1/2 years there and became friends with Denny in 1973 when he was stationed there for permanent duty. He always played guitar and sang the most popular country music at the time, entertaining the whole company, even those who didn't care for country music. Something about those vocals.

He inspired me to learn to play the drums and when our service time was up, Aug 1974, I flew to Iowa to meet up with him to learn & start a band. Long story short, we played music together off & on for the last 50 years. We have a lot of good and not so good service memories, too many to tell here. He was my best friend in Germany and beyond and was a damned good infantry soldier. If we got in a tough situation, you can bet Denny would be there to back you. Gonna miss you friend. Randy Brooks

Randy Brooks - January 15 at 08:15 PM

MN

“ RIP great father and a true country musician talent

Matt Nelson - January 14 at 09:42 PM

PJ

Sorry for your loss.RIP

Patty Judkins - February 16 at 12:40 PM

ME

“ *My condolences to the family. I worked with Denny in healthcare years ago. He was so good with people.* ”



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**Mary Ellen Ericson** - January 14 at 06:07 PM