



## Dennis M. Callaghan

October 18, 1944 - September 13, 2024

Created by Dennis M. Callaghan: 7/26/2019

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I was born on October 18, 1944, in Sioux City, Iowa. I was the oldest of four siblings of Maurice and Jean Callaghan. I spent the first 18 years of my life living/working/enjoying life on various farms in Woodbury County, near the town of Anthon. I attended a one room country school for 2 years, a catholic school for 4 years, and Climbing Hill School which consolidated with Merville. I graduated in 1963 from Woodbury Central.

One week after graduation I enlisted in the U.S. Army for a three-year stint, with a fellow class mate- under the "buddy system." We went to basic training in Fort Leonard Wood, MO, then on to MOS training at Fort Belvoir, VA. Upon completion of our schools, I was given orders to report to Fort Myer, VA; he was given orders for S. Korea (so much for the 'buddy System"). I spent the remainder of my military time at Fort Myer with the 1st Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard).

Towards the end of my time at Fort Myer, I was sent to MDW, adjacent to Fort McNair, Washington, DC, for temporary duty for just 6 weeks. It was there my life changed. I met the smartest, most beautiful woman, who became my best friend, and love of my life. I fell in love on our second date (or maybe before). Then one week after I was discharged from the Army, Sue Jenkins became Sue Callaghan, in Laurel, DE on June 11, 1966. She became my rock; my

reason for living; my reason to continue to try to improve myself; my everything. There was never anyone more caring and supporting of me. She is the reason that my life was so enjoyable, full, and HAPPY.

I tried my hand at some college courses at the U. of MD at college park while we lived in the D.C. metro area. Finding that a bit overwhelming at the time, I tried my hand at working in the automotive field. In 1972 we had our first child, Chris, and decided that the city was no place to raise children. We made the decision to move to the Eastern Shore. We were traveling up and down Rte. 50 so much anyway on the weekends, we just decided to help ease the traffic congestion. I worked in the automotive field as a mechanic. After listening to advice from several more experienced coworkers, I changed jobs and started with Delmarva Power. Finding out I was going to work for them was a happy day for Sue and me. Shortly thereafter, in 1975 we had our second child, Jill. I worked for Delmarva Power, starting out as a Lineman, a Distribution Controller, a System Operator and ending as a Supervisor of the Bay Region Operations Center. I retired from Delmarva Power after 30 years.

While working and living the eastern shore lifestyle, the Atlantic beaches became my getaway. Fishing trips with neighbors on weekends became a staple. With Lewes Beach being the favorite, it was there I tried my hand at sailing and thoroughly enjoyed it. Small boats at first, but like any sport or hobby I always wanted something bigger and better. In my younger years jogging became my passion. Alone, on the back roads for an hour or so each day was good therapy. My spiritual involvement began in earnest at All Saints Episcopal Church in Delmar. I have served the Church in many capacities through the years.

I truly loved every job that I ever worked. I especially loved all the people, coworkers, supervisors, that helped me along the way. To them I THANK YOU.

I began the retirement years in 2002. Sue and I decided it was time to do some traveling. But with a recent addition of our dog, Molly, we soon settled on traveling RV style. It just made life simpler and easier. Over the course of

my retirement, we were able to travel almost the entire US. We have spent at least one night in an RV in every state in the lower US. It was sort of a 'bucket list' that evolved after retirement.

Please do not waste money on flowers. If you really want to create a bit of a memory for me kindly give or do something for the local Humane Society/animal shelter.

My wish would be to have my ashes scattered among several places which hold special memories for me.

# Tribute Wall

LS

“ Sue, we are sorry for your loss. We are glad to have known such a fine person! Lynda and Ellis Smith

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**Lynda and Ellis Smith** - September 18, 2024 at 06:06 PM

CA

“ I have known Sue since college and we immediately liked Dennis. Jerry and I spent a lot of time with Sue and Dennis. We were often at Lees Beach with our children and theirs. Dennis was always a special person to us. Always fun. Later we were at Sue's father's, Bill' house, a lot as he had lived with us in DC for 20 years. We saw Sue and Dennis who lived 10 minutes from Bill and shared many dinners and adventures. Recent illness with Dennis and with us have kept us from driving from Williamsburg to Salisbury but Dennis will always be in our hearts. Love you Sue. You have been marvelous throughout Dennis's long ordeal. Our prayers are with you and your family. Love, Camille and Jerry

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**Camelia** - September 17, 2024 at 11:13 AM

BA

*Sue and family- so sorry for your loss.*

*I started my career in system operations at Delmarva Power with Dennis as my supervisor. He was awesome, always had us cracking up. Never felt like a job, it was more like going in to a building to have a great time. He always had a positive outlook on everything. I always told him he looked just like Kurt Rambis of the LA Lakers Basketball Team so that was a running joke between us for years.*

*I moved a couple hours away after he retired so I've only seen him a few times since. It's very rare to work with someone who gets along with everyone and is so well liked/respected throughout the company.*

*God bless you and your family.*

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**bart** - September 17, 2024 at 03:08 PM

KC

*My Uncle Dennis was an awesome person. Always funnny and joking around. He made the time we spent together really fun and good memories were made. I will miss him so much. Sending lots of love to Sue, Chris and his family, Jill and her family. ❤️*

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**Kristi Callaghan** - September 17, 2024 at 06:53 PM

GN

*Very sorry to hear of Dennis's passing. I worked with Dennis in several different capacities over the years at Delmarva Power and always admired his strong Mid-West work ethic and demeanor. I had not seen Dennis since his retirement but was very happy to read that he got to enjoy the things he loved in life and put that Airstream to good use. He will be missed by all the knew and worked with him.*

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**George Nelson** - September 18, 2024 at 08:51 AM

KH

*So sorry for your loss Sue and Family. Dennis and you were a special couple. God Bless you and your Family, Friends. Dennis will always be remembered for being so positive and funny!  
Kay Habig Delmar, De.*

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**Kay Habig** - September 19, 2024 at 11:11 AM

JF

*Dennis & Sue were our neighbors living across the street on Robinhood Drive. They were wonderful neighbors, may God rest his soul. The Flemings*

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**John Fleming** - September 19, 2024 at 12:08 PM