



## Dennis E. Lewis

January 5, 1952 - May 17, 2024

Dateline Jasper, Indiana

Dennis E. Lewis, age 72, of Noblesville, Indiana, formerly of Jasper, Indiana, passed away surrounded by family at 8:08 p.m. on Friday, May 17, 2024, at Sidney & Lois Eskanazi Hospital in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dennis was born in Huntingburg, Indiana, on January 5, 1952, to Kenneth and Marjorie (Michel) Lewis. He married his high school sweetheart, Cathy Cato on August 4, 1973, at St. Mary Catholic Church in Huntingburg, Indiana.

He was a 1970 graduate of Huntingburg High School. He then graduated from Oakland City College with a Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education and earned his Master's Degree in Secondary Education from Indiana University.

Dennis was a long-time teacher, coach, and athletic director, with the majority of his time spent at Jasper High School.

Dennis was a past member of St. Mary Catholic Church in Ireland, Indiana, the Indiana Interscholastic Athletic Administrator Association, and the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrator Association.

He was awarded the Indiana High School Athletic Director of the Year in 2009.

He was passionate about Jasper High School athletics, enjoyed spending time with his family and friends as he was extremely proud of his boys, and loved spending time with his grandchildren and attending all their events. He was adamant about watching college basketball wherever Michael was coaching and traveling to high school sporting events around the state with his son Brian. After retirement, he enjoyed traveling in his motorhome, especially trips to the Indy 500 and the spring race at Talladega.

Surviving is his wife of almost 51 years, Cathy Lewis, Noblesville, IN, two sons, Brian (Brooke) Lewis, Westfield, IN, and Michael (Nichole) Lewis, Yorktown, IN, four grandchildren, Isabelle and Drew Lewis, and Avery and Emma Lewis, his mother-in-law, Lillian Cato, Zionsville, IN, three sisters, Carol Jean LaGrange, Washington, IN, Linda (Lou) Seng, Jasper, IN, and Marcia (Kent) Butke, Huntingburg, IN, and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death are his parents, his father-in-law, Gene Cato, a brother-in-law, Don LaGrange.

A Mass of Christian Burial for Dennis E. Lewis will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 23, 2024, at St. Mary Catholic Church in Ireland, Indiana. There will be no burial.

A visitation will be held from 2:00-7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at the Becher-Kluesner Downtown Chapel in Jasper, Indiana, and from 9:00 a.m. until the 10:00 a.m. Mass time at the church on Thursday.

In lieu of flowers and gifts, memorial contributions may be made to the Jasper High School Athletic Department or the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) Foundation.

Online condolences may be made to [www.becherkluesner.com](http://www.becherkluesner.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAY **22**. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Becher & Kluesner Funeral Home - Downtown  
214 East 7th Street  
Jasper, IN 47546  
(812) 482-4141  
email@becherkluesner.com

## Visitation

MAY **23**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary's Catholic Church  
2829 N 500 W  
Ireland, IN

## Mass of Christian Burial

MAY **23**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary's Catholic Church  
2829 N 500 W  
Ireland, IN

# Tribute Wall

JL

“ Cathy and family we were made aware of Denny’s passing and we are so sorry! Even though our time together was short, when he coached at Frontier, we always enjoyed Denny! Craig, Adam, Dick & I extend our deepest sympathy.

Jacqueline Lehe - May 25, 2024 at 05:22 PM

NN

“ He was my favorite History teacher! He was always smiling and having fun...only great memories of Mr. Lewis! Thinking of his entire family during this difficult time.

Natalie (Jones) Neiswonger - May 24, 2024 at 06:58 PM

AK

“ I am so sorry to hear of Mr. Lewis’ passing. I got to know him first as one of my brother’s basketball coaches and then as my US history teacher. I can still remember sitting in his class reviewing for tests by going over all the questions the day before the test. He was always such a friendly person truly interested in how you were doing. The last time I saw him was when I was back home in Jasper and out taking a walk past my childhood home that Brian and his family were then living in. The two of them were working together to put up a trampoline for the grandkids. Not a surprise that he was helping his son to do something special for the grandkids. He embraced me with one of his big bear hugs and then asked all about my family and me. We shared memories from 30 years earlier when Brian would be in the stands and my mom would dote on him. To the Lewis family - may all the memories and the love of family and friends bring you comfort today and in the days ahead.

Ann (Verkamp) Kvach - May 23, 2024 at 06:33 AM

KC

“ We would like to offer our sincere condolences to the Lewis family. Denny was a great mentor and coach, but his passion for his family was obvious. I still carry lessons learned from Denny to this day. I know he will be missed, but his legacy will always remain. 🙏🙏🙏

Kevin Cartwright - May 21, 2024 at 01:04 PM

JY

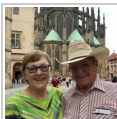
“ Denny was an assistant basketball coach with my husband Ed. We shared many memories especially the basketball sectional win in 1989. We went to the Shamrock in Ireland and partied like it was '1999' When Denny retired as athletic director at Jasper rumor had it that his son Brian was being considered for the job. I thought to myself how can that be Brian isn't old enough to be an athletic director, wasn't it just yesterday that I was changing his diaper getting him ready for road trip to a basketball game. Needless to say he had grown up to be a fine young man. When he left Jasper to follow in the footsteps of his grandfather I was saddened. Denny and Cathy moved shortly after Brian left Jasper. Anytime I would see Denny at an athletic event he would always give me a big ole hug. I would always remove my glasses so that they didn't get broken, he may have broken a couple of my ribs with those big bear hugs. I will miss Denny and those big ole bear hugs.

Judy Yarbrough - May 21, 2024 at 12:18 PM

TB

Great tribute.

Tom Beckman - May 22, 2024 at 09:43 AM



Cathy and Denny Lewis have been inseparable all these years. It is hard to think of one without the other. We're sorry Cathy for your loss. And Brian and Michael too. What a legend you have been together. God bless you all. Dave and Janet Kluemper

Janet Kluemper - May 22, 2024 at 04:43 PM

JR

“ We offer our deepest sympathies on the passing of Denny. His generous spirit enabled him to form connections that left an indelible mark on everyone he met. We cherished the moments we shared with Denny and the bond he had with my father. Although his passing has created a void, we find comfort in knowing that his legacy lives on through his generosity and kindness. Our hearts and prayers go out to the Lewis family during this difficult time.

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**Jason Roberts** - May 20, 2024 at 11:32 PM

DL

“ Our deepest sympathies. I was blessed to have coached Denny as a Senior at Huntingburg in my first year of coaching. My job was to hit him with a duffel bag filled with foam rubber to make him a better rebounder. Denny was a huge part in winning the Sectional that year. Strong and tough as a player and successful as a coach, teacher and athletic director. Blessed to have known and coached him.

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**Dr. Al Long** - May 20, 2024 at 08:24 PM

MS

“ I loved very minute with Denny as we watched our boys play basketball. Loved his wit and wisdom. Please accept my heartfelt condolences, Cathy, Michael, and Brian.

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**Mark Stevens** - May 20, 2024 at 06:58 PM

GB

“ Cathy, Jeanie, Linda, Marcia and your families. Our sympathy to all of you on the loss of Denny. May all your happy memories and times spent together help bring you peace and healing. Gary & Kris Bender

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**Gary & Kris Bender** - May 20, 2024 at 06:36 PM

DO

“ *I am heartbroken and so sad for you and your family, Cathy. I am so sorry to read Denny's obituary. I can't imagine how much you and your family will miss him. My deepest sympathy to all, I will keep you all in my thoughts and prayers.*

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**Deb Olinger** - May 20, 2024 at 05:42 PM