



**Dennis “Denny” Beck**  
**July 17, 1945 – May 26, 2026**  
**Class of 1965**

Dennis James Beck was born on July 17, 1945, to Pauline Frickel Beck and W. Byrl Beck. He attended the Nebraska School for the Deaf in Omaha, Nebraska, graduating in 1965. Following graduation, Denny began working for Osborne Construction. He later went to work at Christensen Farms, where he remained for the rest of his working years.

At about 3 years of age, Denny became seriously ill and ran a high fever. After recovering, his parents noticed he did not respond to loud noises, which led to the discovery that he was deaf. His deafness never hindered his ability to communicate with others. Denny was known for always carrying a notepad and pen in his shirt pocket so he could easily converse with people. More often than not, his “notepad” was a sale barn buyers’ card tucked into his pocket. Although a stroke about 3 years ago made writing difficult for him, he was still able to read. He read every newspaper he could get ahold of.

Denny did not have children of his own, but he dearly loved his nieces and nephews. He always asked to see pictures of the nieces and nephews. He would get so excited, he would squeal with laughter, looking at them. One of his greatest sources of joy at Good Samaritan Center was his photo e-frame. Tonya and Julie faithfully kept it updated with the latest family photos. Denny loved Nebraska sports, especially Husker volleyball. He proudly wore a pair of Husker shorts to social functions, much to the embarrassment of his family. Those famous shorts have since been retired. Juliene knew better than to call him during a ball game. He would simply say, “watching the game,” and hang up. Throughout his lifetime, Denny traveled many miles by car and plane to attend football and volleyball games.

Denny was also a regular at “The College of Knowledge” twice a day. He could often be found purchasing scratch tickets during his visits, though he never did win the big lottery. He also loved attending livestock sales and rarely missed a sale at any barn within driving distance.

Peggy Tejral retells an animated story involving Denny, a ram sheep, and an arm full of freshly gathered eggs. Even after all these years, the story continues to bring laughter. If you see Peggy, ask her to share it.

Denny passed away at Good Samaritan Center on May 26, 2026, after a long struggle with COPD. He is now at peace with his Savior.

Denny is survived by: Sisters: Nancy (Don) Hood of Atkinson, NE, and Juliene Shantha of McDonough, GA; Nieces, Nephews, Cousins, and many friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, infant brother Dean, brother Claire, 1 great niece Andrea Ann Hytrek, and 1 great nephew Nathan James Miller.

