



Jack Dean Staats

December 15, 1951 - May 19, 2026

Funeral services for Jack Staats will be 11:00 a.m. Friday, May 22, 2026, at the Salt Fork Event Center with Pastor Taylor Anderson officiating. Burial will follow in the Alva Municipal Cemetery under the direction of Marshall Funeral Home of Alva. There will be a visitation with family present from 5-7:00 p.m., Thursday, May 21, 2026 at Marshall Funeral Home.

Jackie “Jack” Dean Staats, born December 15, 1951, to Clarence Wilbur and Majel Marie (Gonser) Staats and passed away May 19, 2026. He dedicated nearly five decades of his life to shaping the future of agricultural youth, serving as a high school instructor, the State FFA Advisor, and a university educator.

Growing up on a farm and ranch between Laverne and Buffalo, Oklahoma, Staats was immersed in agriculture and FFA from an early age, serving as president of his local chapter. After studying at Panhandle State University and eventually graduating from Oklahoma State University with a degree in agricultural education, he began a classroom legacy that spanned 34 years.

He touched countless lives as an ag teacher at Freedom High School from 1973 to 1976, at Buffalo High School from 1976 to 1977, and, most notably, during his thirty-year tenure at Alva High School from 1977 to 2007.

On May 15, 1982, he was united in marriage to Delana McAnelly at Freedom, Oklahoma. To this union three children were born: Colby, Chelsea, Ciera.

In 2008, Staats transitioned to state leadership, taking on the role of program manager for agricultural education and Oklahoma State FFA Advisor at the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education. For 12 years, he guided thousands of Oklahoma blue-jacketed members, instilling the values of leadership, personal growth, and career success until his retirement from the state office in the spring of 2020.

His commitment to training the next generation of agricultural leaders didn't end with retirement. In the fall of 2020, Staats joined the faculty at Northwestern Oklahoma State University as the William Donald Campbell Family Chair in Agriculture, drawing on his extensive experience to recruit, mentor, and prepare the next generation of classroom-ready ag educators.

Throughout his storied career, Staats earned the highest respect of his peers nationwide, culminating in his induction into the Oklahoma CareerTech Hall of Fame and receiving the prestigious National FFA VIP Citation in 2021.

Jack Staats leaves behind a monumental legacy that will continue to live on through the hundreds of agricultural educators he trained, the thousands of students he inspired, and the enduring strength of the Oklahoma FFA Association.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Majel Staats.

Jack is survived by his wife, Loni Staats of Alva; his son, Colby Staats and his wife, Kentra, of Blanchard; his daughters, Chelsea Staats of Enid and Ciera Stewart and her husband, Chris, of Alva; his grandchildren, Easton and Kyler Staats, Austynn and Jaxson Puckett, Sage, Jentrey, and Tynleigh Stewart;

other relatives and many, many friends.

Memorial contribution may be made through the funeral home to Jack Staats Permanent Trust. Please make checks out to Oklahoma FFA Foundation and in the memo put Jack Staats Permanent Trust.

Cemetery Details

Alva Municipal Cemetery

Flynn Street
Alva, OK 73717

Previous Events

Visitation with Family

MAY 21. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Marshall Funeral Home of Alva
230 Flynn Street. P.O. Box 804
Alva, OK 73717
(580) 327-2311
<https://www.marshallfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Service

MAY 22. 11:00 AM (CT)

Salt Fork Event Center
27251 County Rd 460
Alva, OK 73717

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Service Video*



Marshall Funeral Homes - May 22 at 05:31 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Video Tribute*



Marshall Funeral Homes - May 22 at 05:31 PM

LC

Jack was a good man! Prayers for the family!

Lydia Campbell - May 23 at 04:11 PM

RS

“ *Renae Smith lit a candle in memory of Jack Dean Staats*



Renae Smith - May 22 at 03:26 PM

MP

“ My sincere condolences to all friends and family of Jack Staats. He was always so helpful and kind and patient with anything requested of him from me as an Oklahoma State Fair AgriBusiness employee. A great leader, gentleman, and inspiration.

Marc Pankow - May 22 at 12:32 PM

MA

“ My grandson, Carson Maloney, sharedma this with me yesterday. He said he was the man in the show ring that would visit with you and always try to make you feel comfortable and okay. What a blessing he was to the youth of Oklahoma.

Melva Armbruster - May 22 at 10:38 AM

MB

Jack was a big part of our lives while we lived in Alva, OK. He kept our boys in line when we weren't around, they have tremendous respect for him, and Mark lost a good friend. Our thoughts and prayers are with Loni, and the kids.

Mark and Janice Bienhoff - May 22 at 11:01 AM

MB

“ Mark and Janice Bienhoff purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Jack Dean Staats.



Mark and Janice Bienhoff - May 22 at 10:34 AM

MB

“ Mark and Janice Bienhoff planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jack Dean Staats.

Mark and Janice Bienhoff - May 22 at 10:34 AM

BB

“ Jack will be missed by all of the youth of okla and friends
Bill.britt1951@gmail.com

Bill Britt - May 21 at 11:35 PM



“ Large Basket Garden was purchased for the
family of Jack Dean Staats.



May 21 at 10:12 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jack Dean Staats.

May 21 at 10:12 PM

TF

“ The Riley Family purchased the Emerald Garden
Basket for the family of Jack Dean Staats.



The Riley Family - May 21 at 10:02 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for
the family of Jack Dean Staats.



May 21 at 10:01 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Jack Dean Staats.



May 21 at 05:26 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jack Dean Staats.

May 21 at 05:26 PM



“ Travis & Jody Cundiff Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Jack Dean Staats.



Travis & Jody Cundiff Family - May 21 at 04:24 PM



“ Travis & Jody Cundiff Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jack Dean Staats.

Travis & Jody Cundiff Family - May 21 at 04:24 PM

BJ

“Hi, I’m Jack Staats, spelled the same way frontwards as it is backwards.” That’s the line Mr. Staats claimed won him election to some lofty office in high school or college, as he told us new FFA recruits. He was wrong, of course. It was his grin and his genuine interest in everyone he ever met. I have never met a more charming person before or since.

In the early 80s, I spent countless hours on the road with him at livestock shows and various contests. I’d say he was like a father figure, but ornery uncle might be a better description. He was more than a teacher. He was a dedicated mentor who truly cared about his students’ futures. Decades later, my wife and I ran into him at a Meno convenience store by random chance. He recognized us right away. He was as charming and caring as ever. We’re really grateful for that fortunate final meeting.

To Loni, “the girl he robbed from the cradle” by his telling, thanks for sharing him when your babies were little. We kept him on the road! He was important to us.

Brent Jacobson - May 21 at 03:30 PM

GG

“Gregg/Donnell Glass purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Jack Dean Staats.



Gregg/Donnell Glass - May 21 at 03:19 PM

JA

“ Jennifer A. purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of Jack Dean Staats.



Jennifer A. - May 21 at 02:26 PM

JA

“ Jennifer A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jack Dean Staats.

Jennifer A. - May 21 at 02:26 PM

BS

“ Jack was bigger than life. It was amazing how he always made people feel special. He and Loni were so good to my family and especially to our oldest son Roger. For more than 40 years, when his name has come up there has been smiles and laughter. Prayers for Loni and the kiddos and grandkids. Super man and friend.

Bev Saunders - May 21 at 01:29 PM



“ Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Jack Dean Staats.



May 21 at 12:32 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Jack Dean Staats.

May 21 at 12:32 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Jack Dean Staats.



May 21 at 11:06 AM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Jack Dean Staats.



May 21 at 10:47 AM



“ *Dustin, Jamie, Tommy and Taylor Glover* purchased the *Sentimental Dreams* for the family of Jack Dean Staats.



Dustin, Jamie, Tommy and Taylor Glover - May 21 at 10:38 AM

DG

“ *Dustin, Jamie, Tommy and Taylor Glover planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Jack Dean Staats.*

Dustin, Jamie, Tommy and Taylor Glover - May 21 at 10:38 AM