



Dane "Bramage" White

January 4, 2022

USAF Major Dane "Bramage" White (66) of Murfreesboro, TN passed away suddenly at his home on January 4, 2022. He was born on October 17, 1955, in Kinder, LA to USAF Chief Master Sergeant Luvell "Lu" White and Betty (Rice) White. Dane was the second of five children and was their oldest son.

Growing up, he was inquisitive and energetic. His mother claimed he was like a "bull in a china shop." After Louisiana, Chief White was assigned to a succession of military installations in England, California, and Germany, where Dane became fluent in German. Being raised on Air Force bases, Dane quickly developed a fascination with airplanes. Once, while playing outfield in a baseball game, instead of keeping his eye on the batter, Dane was faced the other way watching airplanes take off from a nearby runway as the ball sailed right by him, oblivious in his aerial rapture.

Dane relentlessly pursued his passion for flight, earning his solo pilot license while still in high school. He went on to graduate with a BS in Aeronautical Engineering from the US Air Force Academy and was later recognized as the top student in his military flight school. This achievement earned him the right to choose which plane he would be assigned to, so he picked the, then newly released, General Dynamics F-16 Fighting Falcon. Fighter pilots must have a nickname, so his buddies created an anagram by converting "brain damage" to "Dane Bramage," which eventually became just "Bramage." He was assigned to a succession of Air Force squadrons in the US, Korea, and Germany, where he saw combat during the Bosnian War. While in Europe he met and married Cindy Stockdale, a DoDEA kindergarten teacher from Dallas, TX.

After 10 years in the Air Force, military career progression required that Dane leave the cockpit to take a senior managerial role. But Dane did not want to "fly a desk." Instead, he left active duty to become a Northwest Airlines and Michigan Air National Guard pilot. He later flew for KLM and Delta, and was repeatedly promoted to ever larger passenger aircraft, including the McDonnell Douglas DC-9, Boeing 727, Boeing 747, Boeing 757, and Boeing 767. While in the Guard, he flew the General Dynamics F-16 Fighting Falcon, Lockheed Martin C-130 Hercules, and Fairchild Republic A-10 Thunderbolt (aka

“Warthog”). He eventually retired from Delta as an international wide-body captain and from the Air National Guard as an Air Force Major.

As retirement approached, Dane decided to pursue his other passion – ice cream. As a child, the family did not have much money. When the car would pass an ice cream shop, Dane would shout out from the back seat, “ice cream, ice cream!” Not wanting to say no, but also not wanting to shell out for ice cream, his dad would say, “I don’t know,” which as a young kid Dane mistook for “eautneaux.” This exchange happened often enough that eautneaux eventually became the family lingo for ice cream. Later in life, Dane applied this name to the Cold Stone Creamery franchise he and Cindy owned and operated in Brentwood, TN.

Ever the creative thinker, Dane enjoyed dreaming up, researching, and planning new projects. He loved technology and was among the first to acquire every new gadget. Over time, he purchased three different private aircraft that he enjoyed tinkering with at his hangar in Smyrna, TN. He became quite handy, but actually completing projects was not nearly as fun as dreaming about them, so his to-do list and project supplies tended to multiply. Although punctual in professional life, his active mind could cause him to lose track of time, leading his patient wife to claim that he was often on “Dane Time.”

Despite a career that took Dane around the world, family was always important to him. He never failed to remember birthdays, graduations, or anniversaries. He was generous with his time and money, making a point to attend nearly every special occasion of his siblings, nieces, and nephews - no matter how far he had to travel to do so. He was a quick wit and loved a good joke, although his fondness for coining new words and abbreviations often left his audience baffled. He was also a big fan of surprises and particularly enjoyed appearing, unannounced, at his parent’s house when they thought he was far away – much to the befuddled astonishment of his mom and dad. His family was always glad to see him and will miss him dearly.

Dane was predeceased by his father as well as his sister, Leavon (White) Jamison of Florence, MS. He is survived by his loving wife of 31 years, Cindy (Stockdale) White; his mother, Betty (Rice) White of Alexandria, LA; his brother, Todd White and his wife Andrea of Southbury, CT; his sister, Cynthia Pinder and her husband Dennis of Logansport, LA; his sister, Laurie Thiels and Matthew Layssard of Boyce, LA; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Dane was one of those rare, charismatic people who are larger than life. His energy, curiosity, and tenacity helped him achieve all his dreams and made him beloved by his

friends and family. His presence will be sorely missed by those who had the pleasure to bask in his radiant personality. A memorial service to celebrate his life will be held at 2 pm on January 12 at Jennings & Ayers Funeral Home in Murfreesboro, TN. His body will be interred with full military honors at the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. Donations may be made in his honor to the Nashville Rescue Mission.

Cemetery

Events

**U.S. Air Force Academy JAN
12**

Colorado Springs, CO,

Memorial Service

02:00PM

Jennings and Ayers Funeral Home

820 South Church Street, Murfreesboro, TN, US, 37130

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



Jennings and Ayers Funeral Home and Cremation - January 12 at 12:31 PM



“ Cindy:
I am so sorry for your loss of Dane. Please know that you and your extended family are in our thoughts and prayers.
Col Don Neal, USAFA, 1980

Don Neal - January 18 at 02:21 PM



“ It was an honor and pleasure to have known Dane since we met and were assigned to the same Basic Training squadron at USAFA as Doolies in 1976 and moved into 2nd Squadron after completion. We had a great group of men and women in the Class of 1980 and Dane stood out as a leader and mentor to us as 18 and 19 year olds starting our Air Force careers. He was a true gentleman and hard worker and loved being around people. He will be missed at our reunions but we will pay tribute to him at the next one in 2025! Thanks to those who posted pictures, I really enjoyed seeing them. My sincere condolences to his wife and family.

Ray Lista - January 18 at 01:31 PM



“ I was able to attend the service via livestream. A lovely tribute to Dane. May Cindy and Dane's family find comfort in those memories.

Cathy Elbaum

Cathy Elbaum - January 13 at 10:07 AM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Patti Trudo - January 12 at 03:51 PM



“ 7 files added to the album Memories Album



T.E. Osowski - January 12 at 02:09 PM



“ Cindy, Prayers of peace and comfort are with you. Cousin Mark & Barb

Mark Stockdale - January 12 at 08:57 AM



“ Ted & Sue Osowski purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dane "Bramage" White.



Ted & Sue Osowski - January 11 at 09:00 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



James Marler - January 11 at 06:47 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Jim Ross - January 11 at 03:27 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Rich Harris - January 11 at 09:48 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dane "Bramage" White.



January 11 at 09:40 AM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Dane "Bramage" White.



January 10 at 03:03 PM



“ Dane was a great friend, a great fighter pilot, and a great airline pilot. I was lucky to have known him, and he will be missed by all who did.

Daryll Keeling - January 10 at 12:52 PM



“ USAFA Class of 1980 purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dane "Bramage" White.



USAFA Class of 1980 - January 10 at 11:50 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dane "Bramage" White.



January 10 at 10:25 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dane "Bramage" White.



January 10 at 07:57 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dane "Bramage" White.



January 10 at 07:48 AM



“ I was stunned and so very sorry to hear of Dane's passing. I worked at the Nashville airport for many years and had many, many occasions to interact with Dane. I always considered him as a gentleman, a top notch professional in his work but more than that I considered him a friend. Never did I hear anything negative from him but instead he always maintained his positive attitude that made you want to be around him. He will certainly be missed by all.

My sincerest condolences to Cindy and to his family.

Danny Grantham - January 09 at 04:36 PM



“ I flew with Dane many times based out of Memphis on the DC-9 with Northwest Airlines after I got recalled from furlough in 2008. Since we were both Air Force guys, we always had a blast on our three day trips. Later on, after the Delta merger I would run into Dane flying on his jump seat. We shared a common love of seaplanes and general aviation. I'll never forget you Dane. You were one of the best. An officer and gentleman, and American patriot. Rest In Peace my friend.

Brice ROBINSON - January 08 at 10:25 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Dane White.



January 08 at 04:56 PM



“ Iroquois Pipeline Operating Company purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dane "Bramage" White.



Iroquois Pipeline Operating Company - January 07 at 01:42 PM