



Frank M. Dineen

August 15, 1925 - June 16, 2022

Frank M. Dineen, 96 of Kearney passed away Thursday, June 16, 2022 at Brookestone Gardens in Kearney. Funeral Services will be held 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 22, 2022 at St. James Catholic Church in Kearney with Father Charles Torpey and Father Art Faesser presiding. Interment will follow at Kearney Cemetery with military honors provided by American Legion Post #52, VFW Post #759 in conjunction with the U.S. Navy Funeral Honors Team. Visitation will be Tuesday, June 21, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the church followed by a 7:00 p.m. Vigil/Prayer service.

Memorials are suggested to St. James Catholic Church, Kearney American Legion, or CHI Good Samaritan Hospital Foundation. Condolences may be shared online at www.osrfh.com. Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremation Services.

Frank was born August 15, 1925 in Omaha, Nebraska to Frank M Dineen Sr. and Esther C. (Wilson) Dineen. He grew up in Omaha and graduated from Creighton Prep High School in 1944. Frank was united in marriage to Bernadine Grace Flaherty on September 5, 1951 in Omaha. He joined the Navy as a Seaman June 20, 1944 for World War II. He was honorable discharged from the US Navy on May 29, 1946. He served in the Asiatic Pacific receiving the Victory Medal and Purple Heart, while fighting in the Battle of Okinawa. Frank attended Creighton University from 1946-1947

majoring in pre law before joining the Nebraska Safety Patrol in October 17, 1949, which later became the Nebraska State Patrol. He retired from the State Patrol January 3, 1979 after winning the election for Buffalo County Sheriff. He was sheriff from 1979 to 1991. He continued to work for the Buffalo County Sheriff's Department doing prisoner transport and court security until 1999 in which he retired completely after 50 years in law enforcement. He continued to work as a security officer for Kearney State Bank from 2000 to 2013.

Frank was a member of the St. James Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, American Legion, Kearney Elk's, Kearney Shriners – Clown unit as the Keystone Cop, Golden Kiwanis, Kearney Volunteer Fire Department and a Good Samaritan Hospital Volunteer.

He enjoyed model airplanes and wood working. He was known for his dedication to the community, Catholic beliefs, stories and joke telling. He was an advocate and mentor for young adults seeking careers in law enforcement. Frank volunteered for many organizations in the community. He always had a smile and was a friend to everyone. He was known for saying when people would ask him how he was; he would respond with..."Practically Perfect."

Left to cherish his memory are his daughters, Katy Oelkers of Kearney, Peggy Davidson of Omaha; grandchildren, Brandon Ernst of Omaha, Keely (partner, Scott) Ernst of Omaha, McKenna (fiance', Nick Ferderer) Oelkers of Bellambi, New South Wales Australia, Michael Davidson of Nashville, TN, Brigette (Nick) Morgan of Lincoln; great grandson, Theodore Francis Morgan.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Bernadine Grace Flaherty Dineen; son, Patrick Michael Dineen; sister, Martha Dineen Boardman.

Cemetery Details

Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I
Kearney, NE 68847
(308) 233-3244

Previous Events

Visitation

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

St. James Catholic Church
3801 Avenue A
Kearney, NE 68847

Vigil / Prayer Service

JUN 21. 7:00 PM (CT)

St. James Catholic Church
3801 Avenue A
Kearney, NE 68847

Funeral Mass

JUN 22. 10:30 AM (CT)

St. James Catholic Church
3801 Avenue A
Kearney, NE 68847

Tribute Wall



“ *Frank M. Dineen*

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ *It's hard to believe Frank is gone, Every night I call him and share cop stories, Irish music, and Frank Sinatra's song (My Way) I became a police officer all because of this Nebraska Highway Patrol office. that took the time to straighten a bad kid. I do believe there would be no McGruff the NAational Crime Dog today, or I would have never been decorated by Judge Webster Director of the FBI in Washington DC as a Police Officer of the United States. on 22, 1982, had it not been for Sheriff Frank Dineen. If you are reading this memory card you know words can't begin to express our loss. But, I know the doors of heaven will open for that wonderful family man great Lawman, and my dear friend.*

God Bless you frank,

*Sgt. Winston /Mcgruff/ Cavendish
34125 Tupelo Lane
Slidell, Louisiana 70460
phone # (985) 641-9055
mcgruffcavendish@gmail.com*

Winston Cavendish - June 21, 2022 at 11:26 PM

LG

*Frank Dineen saved my life.
My mom mentioned to Frank Dineen that I was working in Holdrege,
driving at 5 a.m. and finishing my last too-many-classes semester.
Every day, he'd wave to me as we passed on the road.
One morning I didn't wave back.
He turned around with lights and horn ... I kept going ... siren didn't
wake me but he started yelling into Mike and that did. Just before
dead-end turn. Thanks again Frank. Linda*

Linda Janssen Gjere - June 30, 2022 at 03:44 PM

DS

*“ We were so sad to hear of Frank's passing. He was a longtime
member of our Kiwanis Club, and always had something funny or
special to share. We will miss Frank's fun spirit. Prayers of peace
and comfort for the family. Golden K Kiwanis Club*

Deanna Schwartz - June 20, 2022 at 09:11 PM

ML

“ Great American and Law Enforcer. Will be missed but left a legacy.

M. Luth - June 20, 2022 at 07:22 PM



*“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for
the family of Frank M. Dineen.*



June 20, 2022 at 07:14 PM

DI

“ Dan "Wegian" Stein, Urbandale, IA purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Frank M. Dineen.



Dan "Wegian" Stein, Urbandale, IA - June 20, 2022 at 03:44 PM

JB

“ John Boardman purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Frank M. Dineen.



John Boardman - June 20, 2022 at 02:47 PM

TA

“ Dineen family,

Got to know Frank from going to coffee @ Barista's. He always had a smile and a joke. Wishing you all comfort and peace!

Gene & Tammey Frick, Kearney



Tammey - June 20, 2022 at 02:41 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Frank M. Dineen.



June 20, 2022 at 08:46 AM

FM

“ Sheriff Dineen will be missed. I remember walking up to Avenue C from 202 East 31st at a time when kindergartners could still cross streets alone. Bernie was in the kitchen in her nursing uniform and the Sheriff’s “proowler” was parked outside. Bernie nursed my oldest brother to health when he was in Good Samaritan hospital with meningitis. We owe his life to her care. I talked to Frank last summer when he sent condolences for my mother, Claire McCormick’s death. He was gracious and sharp as a tack. The McCormick brothers’ thoughts are with Peggy and Katie.

Francis McCormick - June 19, 2022 at 01:26 PM

TT

“ Frank, You were one of the best. The world needs more like you.

Toby Tollefsen - June 18, 2022 at 12:47 PM

DF

“ It is with profound sadness and regret that I learned of the passing of Frank. He was considered a legend by many of us in the law enforcement community. His passing leaves a void for many of us. My condolences to his family and many friends.

With sadness and respect,

Darrell Fisher

Darrell Fisher - June 18, 2022 at 12:09 PM

KL

“ So sorry for your loss. He never knew a stranger and always had a or memory to share.
Prayers and thoughts for all of you. Kathy Larson



Kathy Larson - June 18, 2022 at 11:40 AM

RM

“ Another loss of one of the "Great Nebraska State Patrol Officers". I never worked with Frank but did attend many training sessions with him. Prayers for all the family.
Retired Sgt. Morris McKillip #254

Ret. Sgt. Morris McKillip - June 18, 2022 at 10:42 AM

LE

“ law enforcement. Randy & Sue Ernst purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Frank M. Dineen.



law enforcement. Randy & Sue Ernst - June 18, 2022 at 10:14 AM

MS

“ Thoughts and prayers to Katy and family in the loss of your Dad.

Mary Ann Spracklen - June 18, 2022 at 01:32 AM

DL

“ It truly is an end of an era with Frank's passing. He was one of the good guys & I will miss him a lot. Especially his sense of humor & laugh. He had a long, well lived life; which is what we all wish for. A toast to you Frank (with peach Royal of course!)

Debby Lozano - June 17, 2022 at 02:54 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Frank M. Dineen.



June 17, 2022 at 11:16 AM

TK

“ A Passing Of The Old Order, There In Kearney - I Remember Frank, As A Kid, Growing Up There In Kearney And Admired His Presence. My Dad, Rex J. Kelly, And Frank Dineen Were Friends; i Went To St. James School With The Girls: Katy Was My Age And Her Sister - i Think Her Name Was Peggy - Was My Sister's Age. Frank Was One Of Those Guys That Seemed Easy To Respect - It's Gettin To Be About The Last Of That WWII Generation; Something i Think About When i Look At Our American Flag. If i Had My Way About It, When Somebody Like Frank Dineen Died, I'd Have That Flag All The Way Up To The Top Of The Pole - They've Lowered The American Flag So Much And For So Many Different Things It Kinda Seems To Have Cheaped The Whole Thing - It Woulda Been Down All The Way Through WWII, The Way They're Doin It Now. i Think The Last Time i Talked To Frank Dineen Was At Jack Langford's Funeral, At St. James. Thomas E. Kelly. June 16th, 2022. RIP.

Thomas E. Kelly - June 17, 2022 at 12:09 AM

TS

“ We lived across the street from Frank, Bernie, Katie, Peggy and Pat on Ave. C in the late '50's early '60's. Frank was the first “policeman” I ever knew. He always had a smile and told a great story. Our deepest sympathy and all of the family is in my thoughts and prayers. Terri Schutte (Messbarger)

Terri Schutte - June 16, 2022 at 11:51 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Frank M. Dineen.



June 16, 2022 at 11:47 PM