



## Dean Alan Umathum

August 27, 1984 - March 26, 2025

DEAN ALAN UMATHUM August 27, 1984 ~ March 26, 2025

Born in Vancouver, WA, Dean Alan Umathum, aged 40, passed away on March 26, 2025. After graduating from Heritage High School in 2003, Dean enlisted in the U.S. Army. As a Communications Specialist, he served two combat tours to Iraq with the 101st Airborne Division (Screaming Eagles!). Dean's dedication and commitment earned him a promotion to an E4 Specialist, in addition to two Commendation Medals and two Army Achievement Medals for his actions in combat. His peers found him trustworthy and fun, with a strong spirit.

Upon returning to Vancouver, he joined the reserves while earning his Accounting degree from Washington State University. He went on to work for the V.A. and then as a Contracting Officer for the Federal Highway Administration. Dean had a knack for knowing how things worked. His co-workers appreciated his passion and intelligent perceptions while being helpful and kind.

Dean's friends and family knew him to enjoy the outdoors, sports (Go Titans!), and playful competition. We will miss his contagious laugh, a smile that could light up the room, and unmatched wit.

The greatest joy of Dean's life was his 10-year-old son, Ryan. Dean shared his love of camping and fishing with him and enjoyed their time together playing board games and basketball. He valued teaching Ryan how to mow the lawn, barbecue, and use tools while building a workbench together. Ryan

was Dean's best buddy.

Dean is so loved.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Barbara Kelly, and is survived by his son, Ryan, dad, Marc (Jenny), and sister, Jill.

A graveside service will be held on Friday, April 25, 2025, at 1 p.m. at Evergreen Memorial Gardens, Vancouver, WA.

# Tribute Wall

BH

“ *Dean was not only a great friend, I'd consider him a brother. Been friends since we met in 6th grade! We caught up as often as we could.. so devastated of the news and can't believe my brother is no longer here! Love you Bro!! Always will be with me! Tell j dog I said what up!*  
*Brad Hedges*

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**Brad Hedges** - April 10, 2025 at 12:00 AM

MT

“ *To Dean's Family,*

*I was deeply saddened to learn of Dean's passing. Having worked alongside him at FHWA for many years, I always valued his contributions to the team. Dean brought intelligence, wit, and clarity to every project he touched. His straightforward approach and insightful guidance made him an invaluable colleague and friend.*

*I will truly miss his candor and wisdom in our workplace. Dean had a special way of cutting through complexities with precision that can never be replaced.*

*Please know that Dean made a lasting impact in our office. My heartfelt condolences to you during this difficult time.*

*With sincere sympathy,*

*Michael Traffalis*

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**Michael Traffalis** - April 03, 2025 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ *My Dude Dean,  
Army's best commo guy..period.*

*He had the most unique way about him...he was up for what ever,  
but if he didn't want to go or do it. He was quick to say nope, in his  
own way.*

*Dean will forever be missed..*

*To solid battle buddy, rest in peace*

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**Benjamin** - April 01, 2025 at 12:00 AM

AU

“ *We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Evergreen Memorial Gardens  
Cemetery, Funeral Chapel and Crematory*

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**A Memorial Tree was planted for Dean A. Umatham** - March 28, 2025 at 12:00 AM