



JD Daniel

May 5, 1936 - November 24, 2023

Mark Twain said “Find a job you enjoy doing and you will never work a day in your life. By that definition, J. DeMoye “JD” Daniel never worked a day in his life.

Born in Bivins, Cass County, Texas on May 5, 1936, JD passed from this life on November 24, 2023. Two children, Jay DeMoye Daniel and Susan Lynn Daniel, predeceased him, as did his parents, J.K. and Lucille Parker Daniel.

Children Dale DeMoye Daniel and wife Rebecca, Cindy Daniel Furr and husband Mike, Tim Daniel, and Sherry Daniel survive their father.

Grandchildren Virginia Robertson, Dale DeMoye Daniel Jr., Cristin & Heath Crofford, Doug & Kodi Burdette, Mandy Daniel, Holly Daniel, Lensi Daniel, Kayle Nichols, Maddie Dayberry, and 15 great-grandchildren round out the family that called him PawPaw.

Gwen Daniel Goodpasture and her husband, Tommy, along with niece Shanie and nephew Eddie loved him as their favorite brother and uncle.

JD started work at age 9, throwing daily newspapers for the Odessa American, going door-to-door collecting payments from the 350 homes on his route every Saturday morning. He partnered with his father at age 14, owning and managing rental properties. At age 18, he enlisted in the Army National Guard, then transferred to the United States Air Force. At discharge, he was employed by Delta Airlines where he finished #1 in his training class.

Simultaneous to his job at Delta, he was an active partner in a 350-acre Angus cattle operation. Their ranch earned honors from the Texas & Southwest Cattle Raisers Association as well as awards for soil and water conservation.

JD was a pilot's pilot and took to aircraft with a passion that was unrivaled. He began flying and then private instructing while in the Air Force, holding a variety of ratings in his aviation career. At his retirement from Delta Airlines, after 32 years, he had held every pilot's position within the company. He continued his career for an additional 25 years for BCM Corporation, piloting their Boeing 737 all around the world. When asked when he thought he might hang up his wings, he pointed out "I'm the only pilot that knows where to get a good cheeseburger in Kazakhstan."

In addition to his paying gigs, JD owned and piloted several private aircraft, including a World War II era Boeing Stearman and his beloved Vietnam-era Beechcraft T-34 Mentor. His aircraft collection took him to air shows all over the country, performing aerobatics and combat maneuvers with a troupe of colorful characters, even performing in the world-famous Oshkosh, Wisconsin EAA AirVenture.

There were many awards, trophies, and accolades but the most prestigious was the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award recognizing over 50 years of aircraft safety.

But wait! There's more. JD was an avid outdoorsman – bird hunting, walking, running, biking, and competing in skeet shooting, boxing, baseball, and tennis. His favorite destination, the Hawaiian island O'ahu, afforded breathtaking views while he hiked the trails to the top of Diamond Head.

JD's beloved family and countless friends and colleagues take comfort that missing him will be replaced by knowing he lived his best life to the fullest and without regret – bucket lists were checked off and diems were carped! Fly high

JetDog!

***Dates and Times for Service are Pending and will be Posted at a later date.

Previous Events

Interment

DEC 8. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

DFW National Cemetery
2000 Mountain Creek Pkwy,
Dallas, TX 75211

Tribute Wall

GC

“ I met JD when I was still a DC-6 & 7 Flight Engineer and he was in Initial training with Delta, probably 1964 or 65. A few years later, JD took my wife Nancy for a ride in his T-34 which she loved and never forgot. Godspeed JD, we shall meet again as brothers of Christ and sons of God when His Kingdom is finally established for all eternity on the new earth. JD once told me that he was about to parachute out of a P-51 and had one leg out of the cockpit when the engine relit and he managed to get back in and land!

George F. Dubick, D L Capt.(ret) - August 22, 2025 at 10:53 AM



“ You don't know me. But I met J.D. back in 2020 at Addison Airport when I worked there, when he flew BCM Corporation's 737 out of Addison. Me being a very big avgeek, a student pilot, and a person with a major love for classic airplanes, he happily let me climb aboard before a flight he was getting ready to take, and let me take pictures of the beautiful airplane he and his first officer Billy flew. I got to sit up front in the cockpit with him, and talk about the airplane, it's systems, and his career as a pilot. Unfortunately I left my job at the end of 2020, and never got to see him again. I wanted with great thanks to tell him how much it meant as an aspiring pilot how much it meant to climb aboard his airplane, one that I had been admiring for years from the airport fence. He made my dream come true, and I will forever be grateful for the experience of getting to meet him, and share my passion of flying with him, and hear his amazing stories. Thank you Mr. Daniel for the great memories. Blue skies and tail winds!

-Alexandre Trahan.

Alexandre Trahan - December 17, 2023 at 01:28 AM



To his family, I am so very sorry for your loss. His memory lives on in the skies with those he flew, and he will always have a place in the hearts of those he touched.

Alexandre Trahan - December 17, 2023 at 01:30 AM



Thank you for sharing your story. I'm so proud of Dad and love memories. Losing him has leveled me but he would say "keep peddling." his daughter Sherry

Sherry Daniel - February 21, 2024 at 03:49 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of JD Daniel.*



December 07, 2023 at 10:28 AM



“ *Dawn and David Brown planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of JD Daniel.*

Dawn and David Brown - December 06, 2023 at 06:00 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of JD Daniel.*



December 06, 2023 at 06:00 PM

BF

“ Bell Murray Aerospace Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of JD Daniel.

Bell Murray Aerospace Family - December 06, 2023 at 12:56 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of JD Daniel.



December 06, 2023 at 12:56 PM

RB

“ JD left a great impression on me. I was fortunate enough to work with him over the last few years helping him out with the 737. I never got tired of the stories he would tell me about his past. I spent hours with him on the phone and every time i learned something new about him that was fascinating. RIP My Friend you will never be forgotten.

Richard Brown - December 01, 2023 at 11:28 AM



Sherry Daniel

Thank you for sharing. I'm his daughter and his stories never got old. In fact, he never got old. I miss him more than words can tell but what a great person to know through the years. Take care, Sherry his daughter

Sherry Daniel - February 21, 2024 at 03:51 PM



“ Love, Rhonda planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of JD Daniel.

Love, Rhonda - November 30, 2023 at 10:31 PM



“ Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of JD Daniel.



November 30, 2023 at 10:31 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Hawkins Aviation - November 30, 2023 at 12:20 PM



“ I’m very sorry to hear about the passing of JD. I’m the person who has had the honor of buying his T-34A, N9JD from JD. In the true JD fashion I was interviewed, tested and given a check ride prior to him even considering selling the plane to me. Of course I had no idea at the time that was what he was doing. It wasn’t until later I realized he chose me not the other way around. True to his character, he squared me up without me even noticing. From my first conversation to my last conversation with JD he always had me laughing and smiling. We would sometimes talk for an hour or more and I’d listen like a little boy to his stories. JD, I truly enjoyed every moment and with a heavy heart I’m already missing you. I’m so very sorry we didn’t get you one more day with N9JD...it was in the plans for sure my friend. JD, please know you live on in my thoughts and you fly with me and my son as we play in blue sky that you loved so much. The true sport of kings!

Andrew Apsey



Hawkins Aviation - November 30, 2023 at 11:59 AM



Thank you for sharing your story and the pictures. I can finally read through these without breaking down. It is so hard to lose him. He was the biggest blessing of my life. Enjoy the plane.-his daughter Sherry

Sherry Lynn Daniel - April 03, 2024 at 04:33 PM

RJ

“ *Retired International Captain Rollin A. Jackson, Jr. (DFW/ATL based)*

Rollin A Jackson, Jr - November 28, 2023 at 12:16 PM

CC

“ *I flew with J.D. when I was a first officer at Delta. Many fond memories of a fun and professional captain. Condolences to friends and family.*
Charlie Chauvin

Charles Edgar Chauvin - November 27, 2023 at 10:42 PM



Sherry Daniel

Mr. Chauvin, Thank you so much for the kind words. Dad had 6 kids and I'm #5. I've tried to deal with the grief but it is intense. He was more than words can describe but I'm going to try to write his stories. It's been a very hard goodbye. Bless you, his daughter Sherry

Sherry Daniel - February 26, 2025 at 02:14 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Distinctive Life Cremation and Funeral Services - November 27, 2023 at 05:53 PM