



Anthony "Tony" George Denyer

January 20, 1940 - May 16, 2024

Anthony (Tony) Denyer was born 20 January 1940 at home in Christchurch (Dorset county), England to Harold George & Emily Rose (née Wheeler) Denyer. His earliest memories were of wartime rationing and the country's defense preparations. Tony was an avid cyclist during his early years, riding from one end of the country to the other, and was a lifetime Bournemouth football club supporter. Graduating high school at age 16, he was accepted for a 5-year Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering apprenticeship at De Havilland Aircraft. He then joined the structural analysis group at British Aircraft Corp. Boeing recruited him in 1965 to work in the new field of metal fatigue, facilitating his immigration to America and paying moving costs to Seattle, Washington. Initially he had planned to work just a few years there and return to England. However, in 1968 he spent an impactful 2.5 months camping and driving his white '65 Ford Mustang across the United States with the love of his life, Dawn Denyer. They started out from Seattle and eventually reached New York where they boarded the S.S. Europa back to England. Within just three weeks of arriving in England, they were married and had made the decision to begin a new life together in America permanently.

By 1971 he was living in Torrance and later Rancho Palos Verdes, California, working for Rockwell North American Aircraft (later part of Boeing). He would present papers at a number of national and international conferences, from the FAA and NASA to NATO. During that same time he, with Dawn, lovingly

raised two sons, Mark (born 1973) and Stuart (born 1976) – coaching their soccer teams, teaching them golf and skiing, supporting them at church, helping with their school work, and giving them an appreciation for travel and the world around them.

Tony retired as a Technical Fellow of Boeing at age 59 and moved to Corvallis, Oregon where he and Dawn designed their ideal home on five acres, looking out on the beautiful Oregon countryside and its abundant wildlife. In 2019, twenty years after retirement, Boeing asked Tony to return to working part-time, given that he was among the very few persons who understood the structural analytical programs (some of the earliest computer software) that he had written decades previously to track metal fatigue. He mentored generations of engineers for both Boeing and the U.S. Air Force, and continued working up until just a week before succumbing to an unexpected bout with viral meningitis.

Throughout his life, Tony was known as a caring and patient person to everyone he met. He is survived by Dawn, his beloved wife of over 55 years, sister Naomi (Terry) Stanbridge, sons Mark (Natasha) and Stuart (Taylor) Denyer and granddaughter Evelyn Denyer.

Tribute Wall

“ Tony Denyer - the Great Mentor of my Lifetime.

The Technical Fellow-

My first encounter of Tony Denyer was from some engineering reporters that he originated and produced on the subject of Aircraft Structural Integrity Program (ASIP) and Crack Growth Analysis Methodology. Being the pioneer of this new technical field, his contributions to the USAF community was second to none. His expertise and experience were immeasurable as compared to others in the field. Fast forward to 2019, when I learned Tony was available for advising and consulting, I jumped on the opportunity as an Associate Tech Fellow to ask Tony to join the engineering team to mentor engineers on ASIP and aircraft tracking after 20 years in retirement. For the past five years, Tony served and performed beyond the calling, not only guided the team on Individual Aircraft Tracking (IAT), but on Force Structural Maintenance Program (FSMP). His contributions is beyond words can describe. For that, on behalf of the engineering team, I say Thank You. Your teaching and mentorship will never be forgotten.

The Gentleman -

A year ago in April 2023, myself and two other engineers were having an uncommon opportunity to discuss technical matters in Tony's personal residence due to business travel for him becoming difficult at his age. In that unusual case, Tony lets us to learn more about his family, especially his lovely wife, Dawn. In that meeting, we developed a closer relationship with the family, including Victoria, their companion dog. The way how Tony respects Dawn's decision in every big or small moment around the house has earned my attention. He is not just a Tech Fellow, but a real gentleman for all of us to learn. I enjoyed so much how he treated us and shared with us some of his personal life stories. As a person, I am humbled and honored to meet and develop friendships with Tony's family- Dawn, Mark, Stuart and Evelyn. Thank you so much for all of you to let me (us) know more about Tony. I sincerely and forever appreciate the opportunity to be part of Tony's life.

-Bob Lee

BOB LEE - May 26, 2024 at 11:36 AM

DD

Thank you, Bob, for making it possible for Tony to continue to be part of the Boeing family...it was the joy of his life, right up to the end. All good wishes to you all. Dawn

Dawn Denyer - June 09, 2024 at 09:23 PM

BL

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



BOB LEE - May 25, 2024 at 10:58 PM

DD

That is an absolute beautiful poem, especially to me, who has enjoyed the chatter of Tony's friends and the joy that it gave him.

Dawn Denyer - June 09, 2024 at 02:53 PM

DD

Oh, that is beautiful! Thank you so much. Dawn

Dawn Denyer - June 09, 2024 at 09:24 PM

RB

“ We had some great weekends camping in the west country mainly Devon and Cornwall. Tony was very good company and I shared his tent. He then left England for the States. He was working in Seattle for an aircraft company. Shortly afterwards Dawn went over and they soon got married and settled down in Seattle. We used to visit them every four years and Tony was an expert of doing interesting things and touring the west coast National Parks.
Happy Days - I shall miss you Tony - Richard

Richard Banford - May 25, 2024 at 05:18 AM

DD

So many good times together, Richard.

Dawn Denyer - June 09, 2024 at 09:17 PM

SB

“ *The first time I met Tony was on Topsy Leaker's football coach travelling to an away game unfortunately I can't remember which one - it was over 60 years ago. We became firm friends and he soon met Dawn my best friend from school. We formed the camping group and had many happy weekends along the south coast of England with up to 25 people at any one time. Once while Dawn and I were out for a cycle ride we unexpectedly met up with Tony who was about to return home after an Arrow Cycling Club so he joined us together one of his friends. It was the fastest ride Dawn and I had ever ridden!! Tony afterwards told us that he and his friend had carefully ridden slowly so as we could keep up with them. In the next few years we camped, walked, and shared many social times together and of course Tony and I continued following Bournemouth and Boscombe Football Club as they were known in those days -now AFC Bournemouth. I was a great loss when he went to America but later Dawn went to Canada and they saw each other every weekend Tony from Seattle and Dawn in Vancouver. After they married we still spent many happy holidays together either in the States or in England. I shall miss you Tony with all my heart*

Sally Banford - May 24, 2024 at 01:43 PM

DD

Thank you, Sally - that is a great summary of our lives and activities.

Dawn Denyer - June 16, 2024 at 01:21 AM