



David E. Brune

February 4, 1961 - July 5, 2025

David E. Brune, 64, passed away on Saturday, July 5, 2025, surrounded by the warmth and love of his closest family, friends and loyal Boston Terrier, Kimba. His passing followed a brief but courageous battle with mesothelioma.

Dave was born on February 4, 1961, in Dayton, Ohio to Jack and Sharilyn Brune. He graduated from Ottawa Hills High School in 1979 and earned a degree from Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City, Michigan where he studied aviation and obtained his multi-engine commercial pilot license. Flying planes during his time in Traverse City would fuel his lifelong interest in vehicles and operating equipment of all kinds: planes, cars and boats.

During high school Dave completed the top rank of Eagle Scout from Ottawa Hills Troop 27.

As one of the youngest in the troop's history to become an Eagle, he quickly became a senior patrol leader who mentored young men through the scouting program. One of his proudest accomplishments was completing the grueling two-week, 100+-mile trek at the Philmont Scout Ranch.

After college, Dave joined his father's manufacturing firm and successfully led its operations for many years. Dave and Jack together developed BP Industrial in Sylvania, Ohio, a respected corporation serving the plastics and tool and die industries. Daves' passion for customer service, authenticity and

dedication to problem solving earned him deep respect and lifelong friendship among his customers and vendors.

He was a man whose hands were never still...gifted with the brain of an engineer, he was always thinking and working through new ideas. Dave never stopped learning and really thrived working on challenging projects. He built out incredible vehicles that ranged from a flawless dune buggy to an ahead-of-its time alternative fuel VW Vanagon for camping. He constructed remote-controlled boats and planes and even restored broken toys for kids he knew would love them.

Dave lived for many years at his beautiful country property in the perfect log home. He poured his heart into transforming it into a welcoming haven for friends and family. Nestled in the woods of Holland, Ohio, the BT Ranch became a gathering place where old friends from near and far reunited to share laughter, memories and lasting bonds of friendship.

Dave is survived by his loving sister, Rachael Brune of San Francisco, and his cherished life partner, Barbara Stichter of Holland, Ohio. He also leaves behind his loyal Boston Terrier, Kimba who brought him constant joy and companionship.

Dave will be remembered for his quick wit, generosity and steadfast loyalty. His lifelong friendships and deep love for family and community will endure as a testament to the remarkable man he was. A celebration of Dave's life will be held at a later date.

Tribute Wall

SO

“ Dave was like a big brother to me. I was constantly amazed with his mechanical ingenuity and the fact he could build anything. The late 90's were full of long weekends at the Ranch, memories I will cherish forever.

Shane O'Neill - August 04, 2025 at 05:51 PM

MA

“ Hard to find the words but Dave was one of the kindest, gifted and welcoming friend. Myung and I cherished all the good times we shared through the years. Here's to you Dave 🍻

Myung Armstrong - July 13, 2025 at 01:33 PM

ML

“ I was a customer of BP and met Dave's father and then years later my business grew and in 2004 -2011 I was Dave's neighbor. We became friends and my auto restoration and fiberglass busines was a perfect fit for his never ending creativity and engineering and designs. We worked together on several different projects. Im so sorry for this loss of such a wonderful man. My prayers are with you all.

Mike LaHote

Mike LaHote - July 12, 2025 at 08:38 PM

MH

“ Gone too soon, I met Dave over twenty years ago when I opened a business in the complex he operated out of. We became great friends, his wittiness and humor was infectious. He will be sadly missed. RIP buddy.

Mark Heindel - July 12, 2025 at 11:06 AM

MB

“ He was the best friend I ever had he was like a brother to me for over 45 years ! We met at NMC in Travesse City , Michigan and remained friends ever since ! It would take days to tell all the great story’s about my experiences fun with Dave ! I am very saddened to have lost him and o will never forget him !

Mike Burley - July 11, 2025 at 11:10 AM



“ So sad to hear this news! Dave was a legend, and had a heart of gold. His wit will forever be missed. I will always cherish the fun times at The Ranch, and the community Dave brought together! He truly had a passion for creating things!! Sending many thoughts and prayers to his close friends, Kimba, Barb and Rachel. May his memory always shine.

Julia Smirnov - July 11, 2025 at 10:06 AM

CS

“ It is with deep sadness and sympathy that I share my condolences with you and all of David's loved ones. I pray that Dave's legacy will live on in our hearts and memories forever and that God will comfort you with His love and peace. David always had a knack for making people feel right at home no matter where he was, but especially at the BT Ranch. I loved how he would make his friends feel special reminding them of old memories that they had shared or taunting them with little nuggets that he had remembered about them. Dave was so kind, funny, witty, and brilliant and seemed to always have a project going. We shared many fond memories most often with many friends at the BT Ranch, at Ventura's, and out and about over the last few decades. I was blessed to have had Dave in my life. He will be dearly missed. Love, prayers, and hugs, Cathy Smith



Cathy Smith - July 11, 2025 at 09:05 AM

DA

“ My condolences to Rachael, Barbara and the family. Rest In Peace my old friend. Dave Mehelas

Dave - July 11, 2025 at 07:38 AM

BN

“ *What a beautiful tribute Dave 
Bob and I were honored to know you and sharing a wonderful visit
with you when you were in Florida before you went back home. You
fought an amazing fight now RIP. You will be missed *

Bob & Shirley Newsom - July 10, 2025 at 10:19 PM