



David O. Meisenzahl "The Milkman"

July 4, 1941 - August 23, 2025

David "Dave" O. Meisenzahl, 84, of Gates, passed away peacefully on August 23, 2025, after a life well-lived and filled with love, laughter, and unforgettable memories. Born on July 4, 1941, Dave was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend to many.

Dave is forever known by nearly everyone as "Dave the Milkman" due to his 44-year career with the family business, Meisenzahl Dairy. He began working at the dairy at a young age and, despite not finishing school beyond the 7th grade, his work ethic and dedication were unmatched. He only missed two days of work in his entire career—both due to inclement weather. His reputation for reliability and service was unparalleled, and he continued to work until he was forced into retirement in 1999 due to health reasons.

A devoted family man, Dave married his high school sweetheart, Nora, in 1962. Together, they shared 46 wonderful years of marriage before Nora's passing. They were the proud parents of three children, and their legacy now includes nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Dave was the heart of the family, known for his constant presence and commitment to keeping everyone connected. He was the family's first call for news and weather updates, earning him the affectionate nickname "News Reporter Dave" and "Weatherman Dave".

In his free time, Dave was known for his love of fishing, a passion that took him to many special places near water, including Chautauqua Lake, The Thousand Islands, and Sodus Bay. He also had a deep love for animals,

treating them as his own children. Southern Comfort whiskey and sports, especially basketball, were among his favorite pastimes. As a passionate fan of March Madness, Dave was always the one to know every team's stats and scores. His favorite TV shows included Family Feud, Wheel of Fortune, and The Price is Right, where he'd often eagerly guess along with the contestants. Dave found comfort in gardening and even worked at the Garden Factory, where he was the go-to guy for opening the shop early and turning the coffee on. Known for his green thumb, Dave had an uncanny ability to bring even the most struggling plants back to life—a skill that will remain one of his lasting legacies.

Despite his many surgeries over the years, Dave's resilience and ability to find humor in any situation remained unwavering. His family often recalls his distaste for hospital visits and the reminder from the Amazon Alexa to take his meds. But, as always, Dave faced these challenges with a grin and a wink. Dave's greatest achievement was being "ole reliable": the guy you could always count on for a ride, a shared meal at Panera or Bill Gray's, or simply a friendly chat over a Frosty. His warmth and care will be remembered by everyone who knew him.

Dave's spirit will live on in the countless memories he leaves behind, and the many people whose lives he touched with his kindness, humor, and love. Family and friends may call Wednesday, August 27th from 4-7pm. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Operation Freedom Ride.

Cemetery Details

St. Pius Cemetery

295 Chestnut Ridge Road
Rochester, NY 14624

Previous Events

Calling Hours

AUG 27. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Leo M Bean and Sons Funeral Home
2771 Chili Avenue
Rochester, NY 14624
(585) 426-7830
beanfuneralhome@rochester.rr.com
<http://www.beanandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

SJ

“ Our sincere condolences to Dave's family. Dave was our milkman for many years while our three sons were growing up in the 1970s and 1980s. Deliveries were twice a week for milk, eggs, butter and at holiday time egg nog. When the boys became teenagers, we especially appreciated the delivery of 6 gallons of milk a week. Dave was so friendly and cheerful. He even took a garter snake out of our milk box once for me...don't know how it got in there unless the boys thought it was a good place to put it. He was missed when deliveries stopped but glad to hear he had many years of life left. RIP Dave.

Sincerely, Sue & Don Josephson, Chili, NY

Sue & Don Josephson - August 29, 2025 at 12:06 PM

RC

“ Robert C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David O. Meisenzahl "The Milkman".

Robert C. - August 28, 2025 at 05:50 PM

TL

“ Rest in Peace Dave!!!! You were such a great person!!!!

tom lakas - August 28, 2025 at 04:50 PM

DP

“ Remembering the fun we had as kids growing up. Tell George McCorry we miss the hell out of him.....Don Piotrowski

Donald Piotrowski - August 27, 2025 at 03:41 PM

YF

“ Your O'Neill-Rodak Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of David O. Meisenzahl "The Milkman".



Your O'Neill-Rodak Family - August 27, 2025 at 09:10 AM

MM

“ Mary, Jimmy and family, so very sorry to hear about your Dad! He will now be in Heaven with your beautiful Mom. Love, Peace and Prayers! Mar nit sure if you know but we have moved to NC so I will not be able to give you a hug today. Thinking of u all !❤️

Michelle Michaud - August 27, 2025 at 05:57 AM

WK

“ With all our love, the Krueger's purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of David O. Meisenzahl "The Milkman".



With all our love, the Krueger's - August 26, 2025 at 01:27 PM

CB

“ Paul, Eileen, Dave, Colleen, Amy and family, I am so sorry to hear about your father, Poppy. He was a good man always telling stories and jokes. Bill and I remember him coming down the street all the time towards your home and waving and honking his truck horn and stopping for a quick conversation he will be missed. Unfortunately, I will be out of town Wednesday, but I will keep all of you in my thoughts and prayers. Cindy Bishop.💙

Cindy Bishop - August 26, 2025 at 11:46 AM

EM

Thank you so much for the kind words about my father-in-law. He will be greatly missed. 🙏

Eileen Meisenzahl - August 27, 2025 at 10:09 AM

PM

“ Paul and Annette Miller purchased the Fairest of All for the family of David O. Meisenzahl "The Milkman".



Paul and Annette Miller - August 26, 2025 at 09:33 AM

H&

“ Halli &. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of David O. Meisenzahl "The Milkman".

Halli &. - August 26, 2025 at 08:42 AM

PL

“ Pat and Jamie Linz purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of David O. Meisenzahl "The Milkman".



Pat and Jamie Linz - August 26, 2025 at 07:35 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of David O. Meisenzahl "The Milkman".

August 25, 2025 at 09:36 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of David O. Meisenzahl "The Milkman".



August 25, 2025 at 09:36 PM

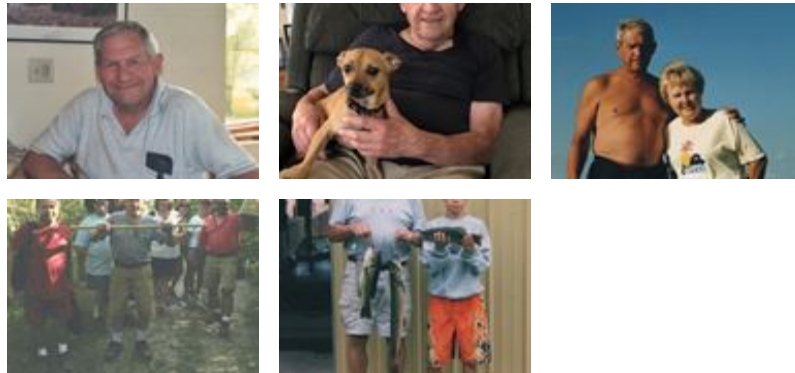


“ My heart broke today when I saw the post on FB. Mr. & Mrs. Meisenzahl were always so kind and caring of my parents. In later years, Mr. Meisenzahl watched out for Mom, would call to let me know when he hadn't seen any movement in the house, concerned about her well-being. I will be forever grateful for his help and kindness. He was a wonderful man, so quick with a smile! Many hugs and prayers.

Deborah Battaglia - August 25, 2025 at 06:38 PM



“ 66 files added to the album Life Tributes



Leo M. Bean and Sons Funeral Home - August 25, 2025 at 01:07 PM



Such a lovely man, sorry for your loss...the Letourneau family

Elaine Letourneau - August 25, 2025 at 04:39 PM

SG

Condolences for your loss. I didnt know your dad but his obituary brought back fond memories of Ray the milkman when I was a child growing up in Gates. He was the same kind of guy as your dad.

Sue Schultz Geisler - August 27, 2025 at 07:55 AM

JM

Way way back in the 50s-60s, he was our milkman on Warwick Ave! We remember his kindness and one of my brothers hitchin a ride on his truck. God;s Peace and Comfort on your loss. DeYager family

Jean DeYager- Mueller - September 04, 2025 at 03:37 PM

RM

Dave, I was out-of-town when I heard of this. My prayers are with you and your Family.

Rick Meisenzahl - April 19 at 05:25 PM