

In Memoriam

Dennis Leon Arfmann

February 12, 1951–October 21, 2025



Dennis Leon Arfmann, age 74, of Boulder, passed on October 21, 2025, at his residence. He was born on February 12, 1951, in Neola, Iowa, a son of the late Leon and Vonda Arfmann.


Dennis practiced law for over 30 years in Colorado. His true passion during his career was his work in environmental law. He worked to spread this passion by serving as senior policy

adviser for the Center for a New Energy Economy at Colorado State University and serving on several nonprofits, including Bridge House, the Earth Day Network, the Denver Regional Air Quality Commission, and the American Lung Association of Colorado. During his time as a partner at Hogan Lovells, he co-chaired the firm's Global Climate Change and Clean Energy Group. Dennis was also heavily involved in politics and greatly enjoyed a good debate.

Over his life, Dennis had many different passionate pursuits—tennis, the law, running, poetry, pickleball—but for him, the heart of

living was the friendships he formed wherever he went. This is a skill he learned from his parents. In Neola, where he was born, he was the most popular player on the Volunteer Fire Department Little League Team. In Ralston, Nebraska, where he attended high school, he formed lifelong friendships with his classmates and neighbors—the 80th Street Crew. In Scottsbluff, Nebraska, where he first practiced law, he was a founding member of the Platte River Yacht Club. And later in life, in Boulder, the Paisanos Book Club was a deep source of companionship, joy, and laughter.

Dennis was preceded in death by his younger brother Rick. He is survived by his wife Julie; children Sara and Ben; brother Bill; nephew Josh; niece Adriana; and cousins Bonnie, Heather, Mike, Doug, Marty, Greg, and Matt.

Contributions in his name may be directed to the Tisch Brain Tumor Center or the Panhandle Humane Society. 

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