Dennis Glenn McKay was born the son of Glenn and Mona Wynmore McKay on June 7, 1946 in Gibson. He was a 1965 graduate of the Tri-County High School. Denny later enlisted in the U.S. Army and served two years in Vietnam.

On March 1, 1974 Denny was united in marriage to Jonnine Jones. Over the years he had worked as a farm hand as well as a Park Ranger at Lake Iowa. In 1989 Denny became the owner/operator of Denny McKay and Associates. Over time he earned the respect of his community as an outstanding carpenter as well as an honest business owner. He was a member of the American Legion and the What Cheer Christian Church.

Dennis is survived by his wife, Jonnine McKay; his mother, Mona Pinne of Oskaloosa; two sons: Derrick (Marcy) McKay of Lacy and Jason (Lisa) McKay of What Cheer and three sisters.