



# Donald George Jesse Jr.

AUG 14, 1954 - JAN 23, 2025



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## **Donald George Jesse Jr.**

AUG 14, 1954 - JAN 23, 2025

**D**onald (Don) G. Jesse, Jr., 70, of Lewes, DE passed away peacefully on January 23, 2025. Don was born on August 14, 1954 in Chateauroux, France, the son of the late Donald George Jesse, Sr., and Margaret (Forshaw) Jesse. Don and Margaret raised their son, Don, in Dover, DE along with his three siblings Sheryl, Sandy and Brian.

Don was a lover of all things nautical and an avid lifetime fisherman. In the early 1970's, Don opened his first business in Dewey Beach, DE, Don's Reels and Wheels selling bait and tackle to the local fishermen. He would later open Don's Bait and Tackle where he would start his journey of becoming an artist and craftsman, making and selling award winning custom fishing rods. Don was a highly skilled master carpenter for over 45 years building custom homes, doing finish carpentry, and making furniture. In 2017 he built the home of his dreams for he and his wife, Lolita Lopez in Lewes, DE. In retirement, Don pursued his love of restoring and selling nautical antiques. In his spare time, Don earned his scuba diving certification and spent countless hours immersing himself in the vibrant depths of the Caribbean Sea. He loved sharing captivating tales of his underwater adventures with all who would listen.

Don married the love of his life, Lolita Lopez on September 14, 1997. They shared a remarkable love story having reunited for the second time after 12 years apart happily married for 28 years. Don will be missed by his many lifetime friends who share stories of their adventures together.

Don was preceded in death by his parents Don Sr., and Margaret Jesse; his sister Sheryl.

Don is survived by his only child: Justin Jesse (Lisa) and grandchildren, Bethany, Dylan, and Josh; his sister Sandy Jesse; his brother Brian Jesse.

A viewing will be held on Wednesday, January 29, 2025, between 5:00 - 7:00 PM, at Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium Atkins-Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE 19958.



## Obituary

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A visitation will begin at 10:00 AM on Thursday, January 30, 2025 at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 200 2nd St., Lewes, DE, followed by Celebration of life at 11:00 AM. Interment will follow at St. Peter's Cemetery, 660 Pilottown Road, in Lewes, DE.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Lolita Lopez-Jesse Fund for Westside Family Healthcare or the Lewes Historical Society. Mail checks to Westside Family Healthcare at 300 Water Street, Wilmington DE 19801 ([www.westsidehealth.org/lopezjessefund](http://www.westsidehealth.org/lopezjessefund)) or Lewes Historical Society at 110 Shipcarpenter Street, Lewes, DE 19958.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.

FLORIST NOTE - Please deliver flowers to the Lewes Funeral Home on Wednesday January 30 2025 by 1:00 PM.



# Events

**Donald George Jesse Jr.**

AUG 14, 1954 - JAN 23, 2025

## Visitation

**Wednesday**, January 29, 2025

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET

**Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-  
Atkins-Lodge Chapel**

16961 Kings Highway, Lewes DE 19958



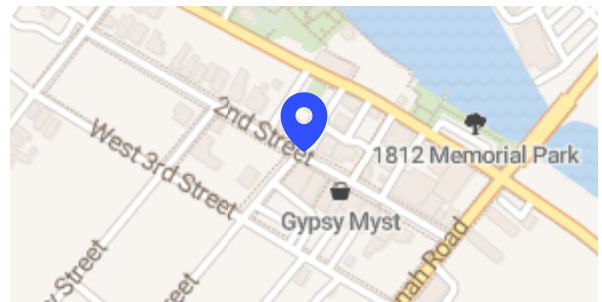
## Visitation

**Thursday**, January 30, 2025

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET

**St. Peters Episcopal Church**

2nd & Market Streets, Lewes DE



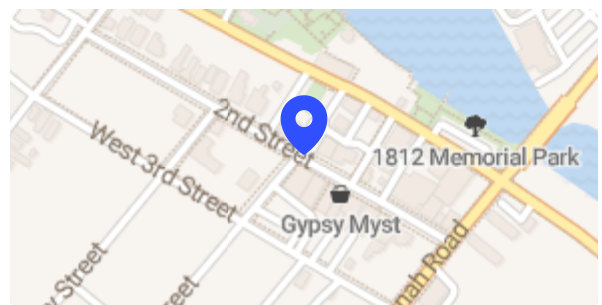
## Celebration of life

**Thursday**, January 30, 2025

11:00 AM ET

**St. Peters Episcopal Church**

2nd & Market Streets, Lewes DE



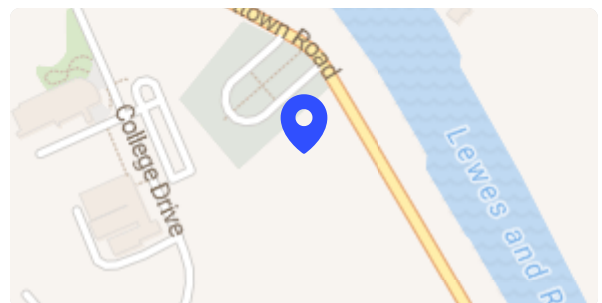
## Graveside Service

**Thursday**, January 30, 2025

12:15 PM ET

**St. Peter's Cemetery**

660 Pilottown Road, Lewes DE 19958





## Tribute Wall

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WS

**William S.** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Donald.



February 3 at 10:41 AM

BK

**Bob And Kathy** posted:

Lolita, our deepest condolences and so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Bob and Kathy

February 1 at 12:28 PM

JM

**Jeannie Mack** posted:

Lolita we are so sorry for your loss, praying for you at this very sad time. We loved Don and will continue to remember you in our Prayers.

January 30 at 4:20 AM

BW

**Bill Williams** sent a Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum to the Jesse family.



January 29 at 11:01 AM

BW

**Bill Williams** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Donald.



January 29 at 11:01 AM

HH

**Haverford Hawks 12U** posted:

To the Jesse Family - The Haverford Hawks 12u Family would like to send our deepest condolences. In lieu of flowers, we made a donation to Westside Family Healthcare and the Lolita Lopez-Jesse Endowment Fund.

January 29 at 5:53 AM



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GM

**Greg & Amy Murray** posted:

Dear Lolita, We are so sorry. We have such fond memories of Don's infectious spirit and so appreciated his wonderful talents. We will forever treasure the memories of our fun times together in Laurel Creek with you both. Greg & Amy Murray

January 28 at 1:24 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful Dreams to the Jesse family.



January 28 at 12:59 PM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Donald.



January 28 at 12:59 PM

LL

**Lydia De Leon** posted:

Lolita, so sorry for your loss! Keeping you and your family in my thoughts and prayers!

January 28 at 4:59 AM

BF

**Beverly Flannigan** posted:

Lolita, I am so sorry. Whenever I see you and Don in social media, it is so obvious that you are devoted to each other. Don certainly sounds like a fascinating man but how could it be otherwise because you have achieved so much and contributed so much. You are in my thoughts. Beverly Flannigan

January 27 at 4:59 PM

BH

**Bill & Burtie Hutchison** posted:

Lolita, Don will be forever young in our hearts and memories of the fun days in the Laurel Creek neighborhood. Bill & Burtie Hutchison

January 27 at 1:55 PM



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TM

**The Hutchisons, Nelsons, & Murrays** sent a Blue Caribbean Bouquet to the Jesse family.



January 27 at 1:45 PM

GK

**Gary Kennett** posted:

There's many stories I could tell, since Donnie and I were Holy Cross Crusaders together, like most of his Family. And Lolita, my heart and prayers go out to you, to give you strength to endure the pain you must feel, in losing such a wonderful husband and mate. Gary Kennett

January 27 at 9:38 AM

VL

**Vicki Leone** posted:

Lolita, so sorry for your loss. Lots of fond memories! Keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers.

January 27 at 6:33 AM

RH

**Rick Hill** posted:

Lolita, so sorry to read this and so sorry for your loss. I hope the years of good memories helps with this time of grief for you and Don's family. Sending prayers and positive thoughts. Rick Hill, DHS 71

January 27 at 5:57 AM

KL

**Kim Lovett** posted:

Our deepest sympathies. Im beyond grateful we gathered for paella last summer. May wonderful memories get you through the hard times.

January 26 at 5:47 AM

MM

**Melinda Marsh** posted:

Love from Melinda Marsh and son Michael now living in Bel Air, New Jersey. Wonderful memories of family get togethers.

January 25 at 2:13 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Love Mark And Donna Goodman And Family** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Jesse family.

January 25 at 11:04 AM



**Love Mark And Donna Goodman And Family** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Donald.

January 25 at 11:04 AM





# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Donald by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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