



Donald E. Anderson

October 6, 1926 - September 10, 2020

Florist Note- Please deliver any floral arrangements to the Lewes Funeral Home on Wednesday Sept. 16, 2020 by 2 PM.

All are invited to participate via live-stream Thursday September 17th at 2:00PM. View the live-stream of Donald's services by clicking the following link:

<https://webcasts.lifetributes.com/1090056>

Donald E. Anderson, age 93, of Lewes, DE, passed away on Thursday, September 10, 2020, at home surrounded by his family. He was born October 6, 1926, in Baltimore, MD, but it was the Northern Neck of Virginia that was his home. The son of the late Herman DeShields and Gertrude Jones Anderson, Donald followed in his father's footsteps of a life on the water.

Donald was a patriot and loved this country. When WWII broke out, he begged his parents to sign for him to join the Navy at the age of 17. They did and he soon found himself on a ship in the South Pacific fighting for his country. After the bombs were dropped in Japan, his ship was sent to Okinawa and Hiroshima. He was very proud of his military service and he lived his life with a great respect for the flag and what it represents.

After the war, Donald worked in the Menhaden Fishing Industry as a Marine Engineer. It was the menhaden that brought him to Lewes where he met the love of his life, Betty, his wife of 64 years. When the fishing dried up, he moved onto tugboats and achieved the rank of Chief Engineer for the Interstate Oil Transport Company, a job which allowed him to travel to many waterways all up and down the East Coast. One day he remarked that in 24 hours, he drove over the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, flew in a plane over the same bridge and then powered a tugboat under it! All of these adventures on the sea made for rich stories that Donald loved to share. His talent for storytelling was unique and for those that knew him soon realized that amidst the humor were important life lessons for both children and adults alike. Tales of Captain Russell and rotten fish nets or Captain Kenneth and overloaded decks of fish were among his favorites. They were all of our favorites, too.

In 1976, Donald was in the prime of his tugboat career, but life had other plans for him. He lost his sight. When the doctors told him, he would never see again, he answered them, "Well, if that is how it's going to be, I have an awful lot to do!"

And that is exactly how he lived the rest of his life. He was the strength and pillar of his family, including home maintenance, cutting the grass, feeding the horses, cooking meals, cleaning house, assisting Betty with her busy real estate business, and parenting two daughters (a sixth grader and college freshman). He was the glue that held everyone together.

He was always the first one to rise in the morning drinking a hot cup of black coffee. In the evenings, he would sit at the kitchen table listening to the Phillies baseball game. Talk radio, news, and weather reports were his favorites. History was his passion and he could recite entire Presidential speeches from memory. He could also remember how much he paid for his first car and the price of gas to fill the tank. He knew every bump in the roads all over town, so if you took him for a drive he would always know where he was.

He was a member of the Bethel United Methodist Church, the Jefferson Masonic Lodge #15, where he was an instructor, and the Unity Chapter #16 Order of the Eastern Star. Donald was a generous, kind man with the highest integrity. He was always willing to help others by giving his time and support. If you had a problem, he would listen and help. He spent a lot of time on the telephone! It was a joy to listen to his stories and laughter.

So in the spirit of one of his favorite speeches by General Douglass MacArthur in his farewell speech to Congress in 1951, "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away."

He is survived by his beloved wife Elizabeth M. Anderson "Betty", two daughters, Charlotte Brown and Janice Ferneyhough, both of Milton; two grandchildren, James Goss Ferneyhough IV of Newark, DE and Samantha Grace Tanner of Milton, DE; a sister Catherine Smith of Concord, North Carolina.

Funeral Services will be held on Thursday Sept. 17, 2020 at 2 PM at the Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE. with burial at Bethel Methodist Cemetery, Lewes, DE

A viewing will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2020 from 5 - 7 PM at the funeral home.

All are invited to participate via live-stream Thursday September 17th at 2:00PM. View the

live-stream of Donald's services by clicking the following link:

<https://webcasts.lifetributes.com/1090056>

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, social distancing protocols must be observed, and masks must be worn by everyone participating in any aspect of the services.

Memorial contributions may be made to Bethel United Methodist Church, Attn: Bldg. Fund, 129 W. 4th Street, Lewes, DE 19958, or to Delaware Hospice, 100 Patriots Way, Milford, DE 19963, or to Meals on Wheels www.cheerde.com/meals-wheels.

Please sign his online guest book at this site.

Cemetery

Bethel Methodist Cemetery

Savannah Road
Lewes, DE,

Events

SEP 16 **Viewing** 05:00PM - 07:00PM

Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge
Chapel

16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE, US, 19958

SEP 17 **Funeral Service** 02:00PM

Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge
Chapel

16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE, US, 19958

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Parseell Funeral Homes & Crematorium - September 17 at 03:17 PM



“ A webcast video has been added.



Parseell Funeral Homes & Crematorium - September 17 at 03:09 PM



“ My uncle, Loren Perciful, who also lived in Lewes, Delaware, would bring Mr. Anderson “home” to Reedville to visit. Although I did not know Mr. Anderson personally I can only imagine he and my Uncle Lorne are trading stories and talking about how they both met their wives in Delaware and their experiences on the fish boats and tug boats. My condolences to all the family. Myrna Haynie Satterwhite

Nina Satterwhite Southworth - Yesterday at 03:54 PM



“ I meet Donald through his beautiful wife Betty our Realtor 20 years ago a beautiful couple who we grew to love and stayed friends with,will miss you Donald love you Betty god bless you . Bea & Joe

Bea & Joe Romanoski - September 19 at 08:33 PM



“ Dear Betty and family,
Sending our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to you and your family.

Sue Sampson and Linda Sampson Druin (William and Gladys Sampson daughters)



“ 170 files added to the album LifeTributes



Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium - September 17 at 03:13 PM



“ Betty, I am so sorry to hear of Donald's passing. He was such a gentleman and I always loved seeing you both together.
I miss seeing you!! Kris (Owens) Hollingsworth

Kris Hollingsworth - September 16 at 12:32 AM



“ My heart is just completely broken now. Mr. Anderson I love you so much. I can't even count the many hours we have spent talking. The birthdays we have shared together. You are a hero, a wonderful person, and a beautiful soul. I am sure you just went right to the front of the line when you hit the pearly gates in heaven. I even bet God said this one comes right on in. You were always there for me. You always were ready to listen and help me work things out or just ready to joke around and laugh. Our country wouldn't be the way it is today with out you, and i know i wouldn't be the women I am today without knowing you and listening to your wisdom. How you treated Betty and worshipped her and treated her has always made my own heart skip a beat. Your love was one of the purest and most dedicated I have ever seen. The strength you relationship and faith was one we all should try to work towards in our own relationships. You were the very best of fathers and the very best of grandfathers. So hand's on, never missed anything. From horse shows to ball games. You were there with Betty right by your side giving the play by play. A better team I have never seen. Your friendship is one that I have always treasured. I will miss you so much my hero and my friend.
I have too many wonderful memories to pick just one.



Abby Webb - September 15 at 07:47 PM



“ Naomi Rickards lit a candle in memory of Donald E. Anderson



Naomi Rickards - September 15 at 01:37 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Donald E. Anderson.



September 15 at 11:45 AM



“ Betty, Charlotte, Janice, Goss and Samantha
Donald was one of a kind, the kindest man who was always there to listen and gave sound advice. I have many cherished memories and always felt Donald saw things in life that most people had no idea what was going on around them. I will miss the phone calls just to say hello and catch up on the latest news. Faith and peace be with you, Love Carole



Carole Gibson - September 15 at 10:50 AM



“ Rest in peace Donald. As I told you and Betty when I was training you on the Vibe machine, You were and are an inspiration to me. Always loved seeing you and Betty walk through the door.

Tom Brennan



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Donald E. Anderson.



September 15 at 12:43 AM



“ I am saddened to hear of Brother Don’s passing. He was such an inspiration and good friend. I appreciated his instruction as I became part of the Masonic brethren. I will always remember our times that we sat together and talked. R.I.P. Brother Don until we meet again in glory
Sprig Hudson

Sprig Hudson - September 14 at 11:38 PM



“ Betty and Family,

Our Deepest Sympathy and comfort to you and your family.

From the family of William “Dee” King Family (Carol, David, Louise, Alan, Donna and Brenda)

Carol King Riggins - September 14 at 11:02 PM



“ While we have only known Donald and Betty for about 15 years, we have fond memories of the time we spent together. There were numerous dinners together at Stoney Lonen and so many other restaurants in Rehoboth Beach and Lewes. After dinner we would enjoy coffee or a beer and dessert as we engaged in Trivia questions on several topics - national or world geography, national leaders, show business, national and international events, and then US Presidential Trivia. What always amazed us was Donald's fantastic memory of dates and events! He could quote famous statements made by many people - FDR, Douglas MacArthur, Winston Churchill, and others.

Donald was certainly an exceptional person; a role model, exhibiting in so many ways true character, integrity, faith, patriotism, and a love of his family and fellow man.

We sincerely extend our deepest condolences to Betty, Charlotte, Janice, Catherine, Goss and Samantha.

May God bless you,

Sal and Toni Somma

Sal & Toni Somma - September 14 at 11:16 AM



“ We cherish so many wonderful memories of our times together. We love you.
Barbara and Lawrence Witucki

Barbara and Lawrence Witucki - September 14 at 10:42 AM



“ I always enjoyed our chats with Donald when working with Betty many, many times as he was always with her. My comments where. ' you driving today' We both got a laugh an I have many memories of him..

Ed Schumacher & Frank Dorn

Ed Schumacher/ Frank Dorn - September 15 at 07:52 PM



“ Dear Betty and Family,

My heartfelt sympathy and prayers to all of you. It is interesting that just recently you came to my mind, and I was wondering how you were doing. It has been a long time since I have seen you.

I have fond memories of seeing you both at various times and especially at musical events. I shall always remember your beautiful voice and appreciate how you have used it for God's glory.

Wish I could express my sympathy to you in person at Donald's visitation or service, but distance "gets in the way" at times, it seems. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Take care.

Sincerely,
Judy (Hopkins) Briggs
Lexington, North Carolina

Judith H. Briggs - September 14 at 10:03 AM



“ We first met Don right after "Chubby" finished his tour with the U.S, Coast Guard. Don was a new insurance man with People's Life Insurance Company and came to our home to sell Chubby a life insurance policy (on which we still make a monthly payment). Don had married Betty Gibson by that time. Betty sang at our wedding on 27 Feb 1954. The one thing we marvel about Don was after he lost his eyesight he retained an innate ability to remember a voice and put the correct name to that voice every time. He was a kind, sincere person who will always be remembered by us with fondness. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Betty, Charlotte, Janice and family.

Caddie Ann & Chubby Joseph

Caddie A. Joseph - September 13 at 12:21 PM