



Donald J. Wells

March 8, 1931 - October 26, 2020

Donald J Wells, 89, longtime resident of Crestwood, Missouri, went to meet his Lord and Savior on October, 26, 2020 surrounded by his loving family at home. He is preceded in death by his beloved wife of 65 years, Glenda Bonnett Wells. He is survived by his four children: Gloria Wells Miller (Kent), Nancy Wells Henley (Danny), Steven Wells (Heather) and Teresa Wells Scott (John), 13 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Donald was a lifelong Christian who preferred to share his faith with kindness, gentleness and consistent acts of Christian love with all those who were lucky enough to encounter him. He valued his faith and expressed it with integrity and consistency.

Raised in Stockport, Iowa by Esmond and Evangie Wells (deceased). Don spent his childhood on the family farm playing and working with his nine siblings, James Wells, Pauline Wells Kaplan, Esther Wells Schwerin, Marvin Wells, Charlie Wells, Henry Wells, Andy Wells, Larry Wells (all preceding him in death) and his surviving sibling, David Wells. At age 20, he volunteered to join the Air Force and served honorably for four years, remaining stateside as an aircraft electrical systems maintenance instructor and earning the rank of Master Sergeant. During those years, a pretty blue-eyed hometown girl began to write letters of encouragement to him. They were so encouraging that he took leave and came home to marry that cute letter-writing sweetheart, Glenda Bonnett. After his service, Don sought and completed a degree from Parsons College in Fairfield. He then joined the Social Security Administration and progressed there for 36 years, finishing as District Manager and working his last 26 years in St. Louis while residing in Crestwood, Missouri. In his job, he was dedicated to administering the program with efficiency and humaneness.

By far, Don considered his Christian faith as the most significant guide for how he lived and served others. He attended and contributed to several churches during his life, but he spent the last 47 years enriching and giving to his church family at Crestwood Christian Church, first serving as a Deacon, then Elder and Chairman of the Board of Elders. During his time in stewardship, he proudly helped to oversee a significant building expansion and transition of leadership at the church.

He always shared his deep faith with his children and grandchildren. First, by working long hours to provide for his family and enabling their pursuits, and then by encouraging

togetherness through funding and planning large family gatherings once a year. Always prayerful and fun, he and Glenda made everyone feel loved, appreciated and important, providing a concrete model for a successful Christian marriage and family. He led by example and family is much richer for it.

Don led a rich life of humility, faith and service. He had a quiet nature. When he spoke it was usually filled with wisdom or humor. As a result, he was beloved by many and will be dearly missed by all who were lucky enough to know him.

Visitation will be held Saturday, October 31, 2020, from 11:00 a.m. until the time of the service at 2:00 p.m. at Crestwood Christian Church 11750 Eddie and Park Rd. St. Louis, Missouri 63126 followed by interment at Oak Hill Cemetery 10301 Big Bend Rd. Kirkwood, Missouri 63122. Memorial donations may be made to Crestwood Christian Church. Family and friends can review and share stories, photos and condolences online at www.stlfuneral.com and follow details of this event and others in the community at www.facebook.com/stlchapelhill.

Cemetery

Events

Oak Hill Cemetery

10301 Big Bend Road
Kirkwood, MO, 63122

OCT 31 Visitation 11:00AM - 02:00PM

Crestwood Christian Church
11750 Eddie and Park Rd., St. Louis, MO, US, 63126

OCT 31 Service 02:00PM

Crestwood Christian Church
11750 Eddie and Park Rd., St. Louis, MO, US, 63126

Comments



“ 11 files added to the album Memories Album



Susan Kaplan - November 01, 2020 at 12:23 AM



“ I remember Don's excitement when I told him I wanted to be a social worker. I was young and he was so supportive and interested in what I was doing. Whenever I saw him through the years, he would smile, show such deep kindness, care and love. And I loved his laugh. He always had a story to share and also willing to hear a story. He will be missed, as I loved him a great deal.

Susan Kaplan - November 01, 2020 at 12:13 AM



“ Please accept my deepest sympathy and condolences at the loss of uncle Donald. I always enjoyed his stories of growing up on the farm. I respected and valued his advice and support at various times of my life. The family reunions won't be the same without his humor, wisdom and experience. The love he had for Glenda and she for him lives on through my cousins, his grandchildren and great-grandchildren as well as within all of the people he crossed paths with in life. With love from his niece Pam.



Pamela Schwerin - October 31, 2020 at 01:54 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald J. Wells.



October 30, 2020 at 06:43 PM



“ Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of Donald J. Wells.



October 30, 2020 at 12:16 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald J. Wells.



October 28, 2020 at 08:16 PM



“ My sincere condolences to the family. All the pictures are wonderful memories. I still miss Glenda so much but happy that they are both in Heaven and pain free. Sorry I will not be able to attend the services but will watch it on line.
June George

June George - October 28, 2020 at 07:00 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Donald J. Wells.



October 28, 2020 at 04:36 PM



“ Guy Montminy & P&S SLT purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Donald J. Wells.



Guy Montminy & P&S SLT - October 28, 2020 at 08:17 AM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald J. Wells.



October 27, 2020 at 10:35 PM



“ Lighting a blue candle to match his beautiful blue eyes. His obituary is a wonderful tribute to a well-deserving man. He did a THING when I was growing up - he used to clap for us with one hand. Later down the line, arthritis set in and he so nonchalantly would say he's not able to do it anymore. But always got a kick out of being asked. My kids actually remember him as the uncle that used to clap with one hand. I remember when Preston graduated high school and Aunt Glenda and Uncle Don sent a card to Preston with a monetary gift. We called to thank them for the card and had a great conversation. With Aunt Glenda on one end of the extension, he was on the other end. He was so patient while he just let her talk. She was often apologizing for repeating herself and talking too much - but Uncle Don would just laugh his little giggle on the other end and just let her keep talking. The most playful conversation topic with him was his ongoing ability to maneuver an IPHONE - one many his age would not so easily adapt to. Just a few short years prior, when we were enjoying our Family Reunion in Fairfield, I would always comment how amazing it is that he had more current equipment than I did. On his phone were MANY family pictures, of which he was very proud of, and showed them off with a huge grin on his face every time. Truly, he carried his family with him; he loved his family dearly and truly adored the many memories you all had with those large family vacations. It still amazes me how you all were able to pull that off - more than once. This year did not allow our extended Wells Family to get together - and I know that would have been challenging for him but I know he would have traveled if he felt up to it. It was always hard to keep a good man down. He was proof of that. Much love to the entire family - we were all so blessed to have had him in our lives. Rest Well Uncle Don!



tina payton - October 27, 2020 at 06:19 PM



“ 49 files added to the album Donald Wells



Jesse Lewis - October 27, 2020 at 03:10 PM