



Donald Dean Dewitt

December 7, 1929 - March 24, 2020

Don Dewitt was born on December 7, 1929 to Homer and Lela (Benson) Dewitt at home near Gibson, Iowa. He was the youngest of 6 siblings. The family eventually moved to rural Lacey, where he helped with crops, livestock and worked some at the family store in Lacey. He attended Lacey School where he played basketball and baseball (with his brothers and cousins, they almost had enough for their own team). After graduation in 1947, he started farming with his dad and brother, Raymond. On June 4, 1950, he was united in marriage to Barbara Lucile Walraven. To this union 4 children were born, Robert, Jim, Dennis and Randy.

Don lived and farmed east of Lacey for most of his life. He was a devoted husband, dedicated father and grandfather who thoroughly enjoyed watching his children and grandchildren participate in sports and other activities. He also liked watching the North Mahaska Warhawks sporting events. He especially looked forward to summer vacations fishing in Minnesota with family and friends. One-year Don and three buddies expanded their fishing adventure and made their way to Canada looking for walleye and northern pike. Later in life Don started deer hunting with his son Randy and his deer hunting group. He looked forward to getting together with the guys and scouring the countryside for deer. He enjoyed the hunting but the camaraderie with the group was just as much fun. He didn't mind being teased about sleeping in the truck or wandering into the wrong piece of ground. The teasing quickly stopped when he displayed his accuracy with his gun. He quickly earned the nick name "dead eye" and lived up to it year in and year out. Though he enjoyed hunting and fishing he equally enjoyed sharing stories of his hunting and fishing adventures. Don and Lucile bowled for many years on various bowling leagues and in tournaments throughout Iowa. They also played cards with many different groups in the neighborhood. No matter the game Don enjoyed playing cards, but he loved to win, even if it was just for bragging rights. He was a member of Lacey Methodist church. Don served several years on the Board of Trustees for Adams Township.

Don passed away at Unity Point Iowa Methodist Hospital in Des Moines on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at the age of 90 years, 3 months and 17 days.

Don is survived by his wife of 69 years, Lucile Dewitt of Oskaloosa; his 4 children, Robert Dewitt of Lacey, Jim Dewitt of Kansas City, Kansas, Dennis (Marcy) Dewitt and Randy Dewitt all of Lacey. In addition of 4 grandchildren, Angela Landers of Oskaloosa, Bryan Dewitt and Collen Dewitt both of Lacey, and Tierney Dewitt of Oskaloosa; great grandson, Torrin Dewitt; his great granddaughters, Hailey and Addison Landers and two sisters in law, Pearldene Dewitt and Frances Walraven. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; 3 brothers, Alvin and his wife Geraldine, Charles (Gene) and Raymond Dewitt; 2 sisters, Evelyn Walraven and Vera LaRue; a daughter-in-law Diane Dewitt, and his brothers-in-law, Marvin Walraven and Okley LaRue; and a former sister-in-law, Helen Dewitt.

Due to the restrictions put in place by the Iowa Department of Public Health as an effort to protect our citizens from COVID 19, private family services will be held. Don will be buried at the Forest Cemetery in Oskaloosa. The Bates Funeral Chapel is in charge of the arrangements. Memorials may be made to Lacey United Methodist Church, First Christian Church in Oskaloosa, or North Mahaska Education Foundation.

Cemetery

Forest Cemetery

634 North 9th Street

Oskaloosa, IA, 52577

Comments



“ 1 file added to the album Don singing



Karen - March 28, 2020 at 10:36 PM



“ Uncle Don...you always added a little extra to smile about...and you were an ornery, loveable guy I wish I could be at your service and will miss you. Rest in peace

Jacquie Walraven Jepson - March 29, 2020 at 01:39 PM



“ I have many fond memories of Don and his family, and all of them make me smile. Playing ball in the front yard, Don was always the pitcher! Family fishing trips to Minnesota. New Year's Eve parties with our families. Sincere sympathies to Lucille and their dear family.
Ron Knoot

Ron - March 27, 2020 at 09:32 PM



“ Lucille and family so, so sorry to hear of Don's passing.

Debra Scholtus Lowe - March 27, 2020 at 06:55 PM



“ Lucille, so sorry for your loss. You and Don were so special to me. Loved all the good times playing cards. Thinking and praying for you and your family.

Jeri Kelderman

Jeri Kelderman - March 27, 2020 at 05:18 PM



“ Oh how I loved the teasing and wry humor that Don brought to our Democrats' Central Committee meetings. He and Lucille were faithful members for many years.

Cheryl Benson - March 27, 2020 at 03:20 PM



“ Lucy, Mom and I will be thinking of all of you at this sad time. You and your family have our sincerest sympathies. Cheryl Brown and Wilma Brown

Cheryl Brown - March 27, 2020 at 03:13 PM



“ Lucille, I'm so sorry for your loss, I'm sending Prayers, for Strength, and to hold on to do many wonderful memories. God Bless you and your family.

Deb Beal - March 28, 2020 at 10:57 PM



“ Cindy Mott lit a candle in memory of Donald Dean Dewitt



Cindy Mott - March 27, 2020 at 03:01 PM



“ So sorry for your loss



Mark Weaver - March 27, 2020 at 08:15 AM



“ So many wonderful memories over the years! Don always had a big hug, kind words, a little joke and a twinkle in his eye. Many prayers for the family and his precious wife Lucille.

Lisa Conner - March 27, 2020 at 08:28 AM



“ I will always remember all the family reunions we had at Edmundson Park years ago,,the homemade ice crème we would make, the karom games at gma Mabels house,the sweet corn he would bring into town for us.He was a wonderful guy and Uncle Donald was always so much fun,always had a story to tell.He will be missed.Aunt Lucille,take care,ill never forget working with you at Hy-Vee,in the new store when it opened on a ave.west.. Daryl and Jane Smith Landers Cox

Jane Cox - March 27, 2020 at 01:54 AM



“ Well as you can imagine there were many great moments with my dad. Like when we would race to see who could get to the barn the fastest to check on the old sows (as he called them) to see if all were ok or when he would have us clean out the pig waters by hand and would say get your hands in there and clean it out your hands will wash or the mornings when we didn't want to get up for school living in a two story house he'd yell up and say don't make me come up there (believe me you didn't want him to have to come up there) or when started wrestling and he threatened to bring back the old milk cow so as to give me some strength in my hands to hold on to my opponents or the number of times he tell me to go around that mud hole only to have to come pull me out later. Love you Dad and we'll meet up again

Dennis Dewitt - March 27, 2020 at 01:17 AM



“ Hang onto and cherish the memories. I'm so sorry for your loss.

Deb DeJong - March 29, 2020 at 01:54 AM



“ This is hard for me to write. The last link to my dad, Raymond. At least, I know that they are able to play some ball again. Uncle Donald loved sports and one of the funniest things he ever said to me was when my youngest, Connor, was playing basketball for North Mahaska. During one of his games, I was headed to the concession stand to get some popcorn. He grabbed my arm and wanted to know if Connor knew what a backboard was for in basketball. I told him I had told Connor until I was blue in the face. He knew how to play the game and how you should play it. I will miss him and his smiling face but I am sure that my dad is glad to see him so they can continue playing the games they loved. I wish I was back to see Aunt Lucille and give her a big hug. I will be there when I can but just know how much I loved him.

Sharon Hehli

Sharon Hehli - March 26, 2020 at 09:04 PM



“ Don was a great guy.He and I shared many stories Don was a excellent story teller!
My heartfelt sympathy to Lucille and family

Bob Gatton - March 26, 2020 at 07:30 PM



“ Lucille and family, I am so sorry for your loss.

Carol Wonderlich - March 26, 2020 at 06:28 PM



“ Sorry for your loss. Prayers to the family and friends.

Dale DeHoedt - March 26, 2020 at 06:13 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. Remember all the good times to get you through this time of sorrow.

Steve Robertson - March 26, 2020 at 05:16 PM



“ Our deepest sympathies.

Alan & Cheryl Mason - March 26, 2020 at 03:43 PM



“ We have many wonderful memories of Don. Our sincere sympathy to Lucille and Family. Hugs and prayers.

Bev Hitchinson - March 26, 2020 at 03:15 PM