



Donley Cole Wertz

MAY 19, 1938 - DEC 8, 2020



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



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Donley Cole Wertz, 82, left this life on December 8th, 2020, with his dear wife Elaine by his side. He passed away in Clearfield, UT.

Don (“Bus” as some called him) was charismatic, kind, and thoughtful. He had an amazing chuckle, a bright smile, and a fantastic wit that left us laughing. He was large in stature and even larger in heart.

Don was born May 19, 1938, in Houston, Texas, to Donley and Charline Wertz. The oldest of three children, he brought mischievousness and kindness to his family. His mother and sisters (Sherrill and Dorothy “Duchess”) endured his loving nature with all the extreme patience that he required. Even as he tried to con his way to victory in Monopoly, or catch a ride on the back of the milk truck, he treated those around him with compassion -- everybody loved Don.

Growing up in Texas meant he loved Texas BBQ and TexMex fare. He may have misled some grandkids into thinking he invented Texas Toast, a lie soon forgiven while eating ribs cooked “Pappaw’s” way. He appreciated good food and good company.

Don taught Survival Training at Stead Airforce base from 1958 to 1961, where he was roommates with his best friend Bob Bankert. They lovingly terrorized the Airmen trying to survive two weeks of wilderness training. He proudly served his country and was a great example of patriotism to his family.

He was an avid fisherman and hunter. He and his dear friends Don Vickery, Bob Collins, and Bob Bankert held a close bond that lasted through the years, even as they aged and couldn’t catch pheasants in Nebraska any more.

Don was an active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He served as a Branch President, a member of several Bishoprics, a Ward Mission Leader, and in many other



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callings. He and his wife also served as a missionary couple in the Arcadia, California Mission. He believed in and was an exemplary disciple of Jesus Christ. He lived and loved the gospel.

Don married the love of his life on May 21, 1965 in Reno, Nevada. Don and Elaine were a lively couple; their relationship was witty banter, laughs, and a love pure and beautiful. They were later sealed for time and all eternity on November 27, 1991, in the Salt Lake Temple. Their love continues now and forever.

Don is survived by his wife Elaine “Runt”; sister Dorothy “Duchess”; children Kenneth & Analida, Craig & Cindy, Scott & Sylvia, and Stacy & Travis; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his sister, Sherrill.

A small service will be held at Premier Funeral Services in Roy, Utah, for family. He will be interred at the Elwood Cemetery, in Elwood, Utah.



Tribute Wall

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Dave Paice posted:

Scott and Sylvia, and Dolly, I am sorry to hear of Don's passing. I enjoyed getting to know Don while serving in the presidency at Heritage Park. He was a good man and will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. Respectfully, Dave Paice

December 16 at 12:25 PM



Cheryl Smith posted:

Dawn had the most beautiful bright eyes but I was caught your attention when he looked you right in the face when he shook your hand. He love to make jokes he did a good job of having the ability to make people laugh. He will surely be missed

December 14 at 2:23 AM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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