



Mr. Donald "Don" Lee Turner

May 14, 1933 - October 13, 2020

Donald "Don" Lee Turner, a resident of Willow Springs, passed away Tuesday, October 13, 2020 while at Ozarks Medical Center in West Plains, MO. Don was born on Mother's Day, May 14, 1933, the first born child of Homer Lee and Lilian Josephine (Cover) Turner in Willow Springs.

Don grew up in the Dry Creek area and attended the local schools. He graduated from Willow Springs High School with the Class of 1951. In 1953, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and proudly served his country during the Korean War. After he was honorably discharged, he lived and worked in Kansas City and later moved to Southern California where he would meet his future wife, Marlene. He and Marlene Ann Casper were married May 19, 1973 in Las Vegas, NV. They moved back to Missouri in 1974 where he was employed by the local school board as a bus driver for more than 20 years. Later he was the maintenance supervisor at Sunshine Village senior housing for many years. He was probably best known for his work with the Willow Springs Fire Department, serving the community for 44 years, and was Fire Chief for one year. He also served as President of the Willow Springs Ambulance Board for several years. When Don was not at work, he loved tending the grounds on his property which involved mowing and weed eating and kept them immaculate. He also liked to raise vegetables in his garden. Don was a very social person and enjoyed coming to Willow and visiting. It has been said he would attend every fish fry in town. He will be dearly missed

by his family, his friends, and all who knew him.

Don is preceded in death by his parents; his sister Byma Stotler; and stepchildren: Tom Casper and Julie May.

He is survived by his wife, Marlene; his daughter, Dawn Nolte of Pt. Orange, FL; two sons: Geoff Casper and his wife, Robin of Mtn. Grove, MO, and David Turner of Downey, CA; two sisters: Connie Nall (Bob) and Glenda Turner; three brothers: Dwaine Turner (Louena), Gale Turner (Barbara), and Van Turner (Theresa). He is further survived by 5 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations in Don's memory be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and they may be left at the funeral home.

A memorial service for Don Turner will be held Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 11:00 A.M. at Willow Funeral Home, LLC with Pastor David Lovan officiating with full military honors concluding the service. It is the family's wishes that for the safety of themselves and the public who choose to attend the service to wear a mask while inside the building as well as outside during the military honors. Please adhere to and respect their wishes. Arrangements are under the direction of Willow Funeral Home, LLC. Online condolences may be left at www.willowfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **27**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Willow Funeral Home, LLC
106 E 3rd St
Willow Springs, MO 65793
(417) 469-3141

Tribute Wall

JS

“ *Don was a Good Man and he will be missed by Many. I enjoyed many conversations with Him.*

Jerry Smith - October 26, 2020 at 12:15 PM

CC

“ *Our hearts go out to each member of Don's family. Thankfully, you have many good memories to treasure.*

Charles and Barbara Crouch - October 20, 2020 at 12:44 PM

GT

“ My brother, Don-Don, as I sometimes called him, was and will always be my big-hearted big brother. He was kind and was always volunteering to be of service. As only one example of his kind heart, he frequently visited my Aunt Hope for years when she lived in senior housing in Willow Springs. He would knock on her door and “hide” from her. Of course, she knew it was Don, but she enjoyed “getting after him” for it, and they both enjoyed the laughter. He made sure she had everything she needed. He did the same when she moved to Willow Care, visiting her often along with Marlene. Aunt Hope lived almost 100 years, and Don and Marlene enriched those years. Don learned how to Skype. When I moved to California, he Skyped me pretty much once a week to keep me up to date with the latest news. When I was sick a few months ago, he Skyped more often and said, “Do you feel as bad as you look?” Of course, that made me laugh and made me feel better. Don loved good food, and bragged about Marlene’s cooking. Well, maybe I got that wrong. :>) He loved Marlene so much AND her cooking in spite of what he said. I think his favorite was my sister’s biscuits and gravy. When I had the privilege of having that breakfast without him, I would send him a picture and talk about how awful it was. Turn-about is fair play. I miss him so much. Everyone comments about the twinkle in his eye. I feel that twinkle now. He will always be close and always be special. Sending my love to Marlene and Geoff, and all of the family.



Glenda Turner - October 16, 2020 at 04:22 PM

GK

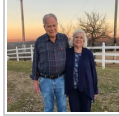
Din was such a happy person. Always had a big smile and that twinkle in his eye Glenda mentioned. I will miss seeing him around town.

Glenna Kentch - October 17, 2020 at 11:45 AM

GK

Don sorry for typo

Glenna Kentch - October 17, 2020 at 11:45 AM



How does one condense a lifetime into a few short paragraphs when compiling an obituary of an awesome man? I apologize for my "brain fog" as I omitted the fact that Don devoted many hours working at Munch even giving up his Saturday mornings to do so. Please support Munch in any manner you choose as we did over the years.

Marlene Turner - October 18, 2020 at 05:06 PM

MM

“ Well we have lost another one of Willow Springs best men, Don always had that great smile an his little chuckle, I will miss seeing that. Marlene you an Don were some of my favorite folks to see in town. Marlene you an the Turner family are in my prayers. Love to All Mary Sue Meal



Mary Sue Meal - October 16, 2020 at 11:24 AM

JG

“ Don was so good to work with Calvin on the Ambulance Board. He will be missed.



Janice Gregory - October 16, 2020 at 11:03 AM

SH

“ *Don was a very nice man, he was kind, sweet, helpful and always smiling, he will be greatly missed.*



Sue Hedrick - October 15, 2020 at 10:01 AM

BT

We have been gone from Willow for years but have stayed in touch. You were so good to us and helped my husband so many times. You were an awesome human being.

bonnie tadder - October 15, 2020 at 01:51 PM

ML

“ *Martha Lawler lit a candle in memory of Mr. Donald "Don" Lee Turner*



Martha Lawler - October 14, 2020 at 03:09 PM

ML

“ *Don was a wonderful man. His smile would light up the room.*

Martha Lawler - October 14, 2020 at 03:08 PM