



Don Burnes

September 25, 1944 - September 7, 2021

The service will also be live-streamed on the Rockwall and Brin Church of Christ Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/RockwallAndBrinChurchOfChrist/>

Wearing Masks is suggested at the request of the family

Don was born September 25, 1944, to his parents, Herald W. Burnes and Della Jo Morton Burnes, and lived his entire life in Terrell. Before graduating from Terrell High School in 1963, Don played football, tennis, and basketball, and was a member of the THS band. Toward the end of his sophomore year, Don met a “new” girl who had just moved to Terrell, who always had a bow in her hair. Her name was Suzie Davy, and Don went home that night and told his parents he had met the woman he was going to marry. After dating for three years, and making sure she had a job to support him as he went to college, Don married Suzie on October 10, 1964. They were blessed to become parents to Todd Patrick, Ty Gregory, and Tiffani Suzanne.

After receiving his Bachelors (1966) and Masters (1968) degrees from East Texas University in Commerce, TX, Don was employed by the Terrell Independent School District. He spent 34 years in education — 14 years as a teacher, and 20 years as an administrator. During his teaching years, he was named ICT Teacher Of The Year. He was a member of the Terrell Lions Club

for many years. He was always a huge fan of football, a sport both of his boys played. The Burnes family held season tickets (as many as 14 as the family grew) on the 50 yard line for more than 50 years.

Don and Suzie loved to travel. Some of their most memorable trips were to Hawaii, Alaska, Las Vegas, and Bar Harbor, Maine. In 1972, dear friends K.L. and Joanne Breeden introduced the Burnes family to the beautiful town of Lake City, Colorado. Don and the family were blessed to spend 49 summers there, and Lake City became his happiest place. He had many close and loving friends, and “solved” many problems of life sitting with his puppy, Jingles, and later Bandit, on the porch of the Henson Creek RV Park. Don was an avid fisherman and taught all of his children the love of fly-fishing. His last moments were spent in the river he loved so much with his son Todd.

Many of Don’s favorite hobbies took place outdoors. In addition to fishing, Don loved to hunt, and play golf. When his sons were teenagers, he led a group of Boy Scouts to Philmont, New Mexico, for a 2 week-long hiking and camping adventure. He officiated high school and junior college football games for more than 20 years.

Don and Suzie were faithful members of the Rockwall and Brin Church of Christ in Terrell, where Don was a member for over 65 years. He served as a deacon, and later as an elder, a role filled previously by his father, and now by his son, Ty. He also served as a song leader for more than 20 years.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, Herald and Della Jo Burnes.

Don leaves behind his high school sweetheart and love of his life, Suzie Burnes (who would have celebrated 57 years of marriage in October); his beloved sons: Todd Burnes and his wife, Nicole, of Dallas, Ty Burnes and his wife, Misti, of Forney, and his cherished daughter, Tiffani Corbett, and her

husband, Stephen, of Abilene. In addition to his wife and children, the pride and joy of Don's life were his grandchildren: Andrew, Colton, and Haven Burnes, Faith and Emma Burnes, and Kyal and Kolby Corbett. Don is also survived by his cousins, Patsy Spoerl and Carole Morton, both of Dallas; sisters-in-law, Tricia Smith of Terrell and Judi and Larry Webb of Sunnyvale, as well as nieces and nephews and a host of friends. Special love to the Charles Wieland family for their love and support for many years. To our sweet Peggy, we love you so much!

Memorial donations may be given to the Terrell Share Center, a ministry Don loved, https://www.paypal.com/donate?token=NJXKV8q31NMOKThgwFznFqyDhR2_PdsCWjMzP2biT1VZuq67jiGt6-vAkt3mdG6D3cOx-ZmaUWkhW37k or mail to 104 Jones St. Terrell, TX 75160.

A celebration of life will be at 1:00 p.m., Saturday, September 18, 2021 at Rockwall and Brin Church of Christ. A reception will immediately follow Don's memorial service in the family life center.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP 18. 1:00 PM (CT)

Rockwall and Brin Church of Christ
407 N. Rockwall Ave.
Terrell, TX 75160

Reception

SEP 18. 2:00 PM (CT)

Rockwall and Brin Family Life Center
407 N. Rockwall Ave
Terrell, TX 75160

Tribute Wall



“ *Don Burnes*

October 08, 2023 at 07:43 PM



“ *Don did not like me and I did not like Don. He didn't know me and I did not know him tho we spent 12 years together in Church and School. I believe that if people live long enough they can become good people. I felt he would need 120 years of living to become a good person. I hoped he would live 120 years. I was wrong. No one has a Funeral like his unless you found your way to becoming a good person. Don and I were a lot alike but neither of us knew. I hated Terrell, Texas and growing up there. I loved the Outdoors, Moutains, Wilderness and so much so that after leaving Terrell I moved to Colorado. Later Hawaii for a decade and then Alaska. The Great Outdoors , I felt more at Home in the Mountains of Colorado than I ever did in Terrell. I took the time to view the family photos and saw the other side of Donny Burns. We were so much a like but he made no effort to get to know me and I made no effort to know him. What a waste of Life. I see now that he gone that I was so very wrong about Donny Burns, he was great Father, Husband, Son, Grandfather and a friend to many. Isn't it ironic that Lake City, Colorado was our Shared favorite place. I wonder how close we came to bumping into each other in Lake City. While stationed in the Army in Seoul, Korea I accidently met a Girl from Terrell that had a few sleep-overs with my sister. I felt that the World was mighty small on that day. I wish we had bumped into each other now. If we had it would have been fun, or I like to think that would have been.*

Joe Tingle - September 27, 2021 at 08:30 PM

JT

Oddly, I am at Yellowstone National Park today, my home is close by. I will find some stones and stack them and scratch his name on the biggest and place it near the Falls. A token-token to a Great Outdoorsman that loved the Great Outdoors of the American West.

Joe Tingle - September 27, 2021 at 08:36 PM

KB

“ Karen Bennett Blunk lit a candle in memory of Don Burnes



Karen Bennett Blunk - September 18, 2021 at 10:44 AM



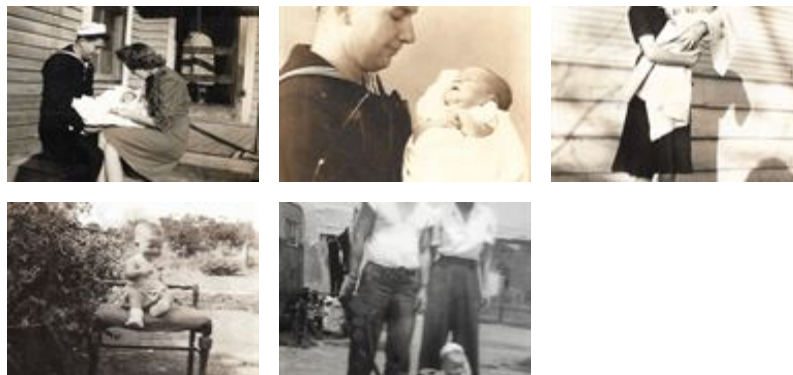
“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Don Burnes.



September 17, 2021 at 02:54 PM



“ 133 files added to the album Life Tributes



Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations - September 16, 2021 at 01:06 PM



“ *Divine Light was purchased for the family of Don Burnes.*



September 16, 2021 at 12:52 PM



“ *Ronald L Smith purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Don Burnes.*



Ronald L Smith - September 16, 2021 at 12:00 PM



“ *Mike, Mark and Molly Watson and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Don Burnes.*



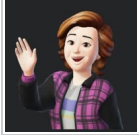
Mike, Mark and Molly Watson and Family - September 15, 2021 at 09:25 PM



“ *Linda Mills Allen purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Don Burnes.*



Linda Mills Allen - September 15, 2021 at 01:20 PM



“ *Angela Hayes lit a candle in memory of Don Burnes*



Angela Hayes - September 15, 2021 at 05:58 AM

RS

“ *Suzie,
I am so sorry for the loss of Donnie. He was my teacher in High School, my co-worker at Terrell ISD, but most of all, he was a true friend. I always enjoyed talking on Facebook with him. My deepest prayers are with you and the kids. He will be truly missed. May the Lord Bless you and your family during this difficult time.*



Ronnie Smith - September 14, 2021 at 10:59 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Don Burnes.*



September 14, 2021 at 09:35 AM

BH

“ *Becca Hamm Hood lit a candle in memory of Don Burnes*



Becca Hamm Hood - September 14, 2021 at 01:48 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Don Burnes.*



September 12, 2021 at 10:23 PM

AS

“ *Mr. Burns always encouraged others. When I told him I was going to be a nurse, he told me I need to be in ICT and then I know you will know you will be a good nurse. I am.*

Alicia McConnell Spears - September 11, 2021 at 09:25 PM

CH

“ *Deeply moved by Dons life and passing. He was an amazing inspiration and source of laughter, prayers for the family.*

charlie - September 11, 2021 at 07:49 PM

JH

“ Jerry And Kitty Huff lit a candle in memory of Don Burnes



jerry and Kitty Huff - September 11, 2021 at 06:55 PM

DV

“ I will always hold your memories close because you are the reason I am a nurse today because of being in your ICT class in high school. Loved being your student as well as your mom's student in English. Hugs and prayers to suzie and the kids. God bless. Debbie Buyher Vicarz



Debbie Vicars - September 10, 2021 at 07:16 PM

TR

“ Tony And Tammy Reed lit a candle in memory of Don Burnes



Tony and Tammy Reed - September 10, 2021 at 02:58 PM

MM

“ My mind has been flooded with memories of Donnie and Suzie in the last couple of days. To me he was a good friend & neighbor, but a good teacher, too. When I was single with 2 little boys, I always felt good about having good neighbors. I knew Donnie had my back when one afternoon, we had been having trouble with a teenage boy coming around the circle way too fast, and I had enough. I came out of the house, headed out to tell the boy what I thought about his careless driving. At the same time, I heard Donnie say, I got this, Margaret. I could always count on him. That's the kind of friend he was. A great Christian man. My Mama told me we should not question the good Lord, but we weren't quite ready for you to go. But I guess God was ready for you to come to Him! Donnie will be missed so very much, as a husband, father, grandfather, and friend. God bless you Suzie and your wonderful family. Love all of you so much.

Margaret Matura - September 09, 2021 at 10:22 PM

LB

“ Donnie and I shared so many memories: square dancing in the first grade, graduating in the awesome Class of '63, being at your wedding, making all those trips to Commerce to get that last degree, and trying to keep up with each other's children and grandchildren through the years. He was such a genuine, kind, and loyal friend and, most importantly, he was a man of faith. Suzie, Huey and I send you our love and will keep you and your family in our thoughts and prayers.

Leeanna (Hooker) Bartlett - September 09, 2021 at 05:26 PM

SB

“ Sharon Boyd lit a candle in memory of Don Burnes



Sharon Boyd - September 09, 2021 at 03:27 PM

KB

“ Kimberly Brown lit a candle in memory of Don Burnes



Kimberly Brown - September 09, 2021 at 10:58 AM

RP

“ Ray & Susan Pinson lit a candle in memory of Don Burnes



Ray & Susan Pinson - September 09, 2021 at 04:56 AM

SC

“ You will be missed, Don Burnes. Prayers for your family, friends, & former students.



Sharon Rush Collins - September 08, 2021 at 08:29 PM

PP

“ *Pam Patterson lit a candle in memory of Don Burnes*



Pam Patterson - September 08, 2021 at 04:32 PM