



Donald F. Baxter Jr.

JUN 22, 1942 - MAY 18, 2024



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The logo for Green Funeral Care features the word "Green" in a bold, green, sans-serif font, and "Funeral Care" in a green, cursive script font below it. To the right of the text is a stylized purple tulip flower with a green stem and leaves.

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Donald F. Baxter, Jr. of Aurora, Oh., died peacefully in his sleep on May 18 in Summa Hospice after succumbing to injuries from a car accident. His family was blessed to spend the last weeks of his life by his side. He was 81.

Don was born on June 22, 1942 in Niagara Falls, N.Y., the eldest son of the late Donald F. Baxter, Sr. and Doris H. (Bentham) Baxter. President of his class, he graduated with honors in 1960 from Lewiston-Porter High School in Youngstown, N.Y., and in 1965, he received his BS in Metallurgy from the Case Institute of Technology in Cleveland, Oh.

Don served in the US Navy from 1965-1969, including a year in Subic Bay in The Philippines, and attained the rank of SK 2nd Class (Storekeeper). He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal for honorably serving during a time of war or conflict.

Following discharge, Don took a job as an assistant editor at ASM International in Novelty, Oh. He worked his way up the ranks, eventually becoming managing editor of the magazines Advanced Materials & Processes and Heat Treating Progress before retiring in 2008 with nearly 35 years of service at the organization. After his official retirement, Don continued to edit and write part-time for ASM and to enjoy convivial luncheons with his colleagues.

Don will be remembered for his steadfastness, wit, and joy-filled appreciation of nature, folk music, poetry, campfires, and comfort food. He was devoted to his children and grandchildren, who miss him terribly.

Don is survived by his daughter, Erika (Aaron) Steinberg of Woodbine, Md., and grandchildren, Ada, Calla, and Wright; daughter, Shannon Baxter of Kent, Oh., and grandchildren, Isa and Reed; and brother, Frederick (Elaine) Baxter of Lewiston, N.Y. He also leaves behind his former wife, Kathleen Gelles-Baxter of Frederick, Md.; sister-in-law, Bonnie Baxter of Hanford, Ca.; Anthony Thornton of Warren, Oh.; and several nieces, nephews, and extended family members. His brother, Andrew Baxter, passed away in 2014.



Obituary

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Ashes will be scattered privately. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland in Solon, Oh., or the Old Fort Niagara Association in Youngstown, N.Y.



Tribute Wall

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BM

Barb Moore posted:

Kathy and family, read of Don's passing in the Record Courier. Please accept my condolences. You are in my prayers, Barb Moore

May 31 at 5:58 AM

BD

Becky Doggett posted:

Oh Erika, Shannon, and Kathy so sorry for your loss. So many wonderful memories through the years that we were neighbors, watching you grow up, girl scouts, and so much more. I love you all very much. Becky (zuver) Doggett.

May 29 at 2:22 PM

AP

Ann G Patella posted:

With love and remembrance, I share your sorrow. I remember Don, his smile and cheerfulness and friendliness and helpfulness during the time when all of our children were young. May God be with you at this difficult time. Ann Patella

May 29 at 2:57 AM

MA

Mary Adams posted:

I had the pleasure of working with Don at ASM from 2006 to 2008. He was a sweet man who never failed to greet me with a smile in the office and anytime I ran into him after I left ASM. I am so sorry for the loss to his family and friends - may each of you find peace and comfort in the days ahead.

May 28 at 5:49 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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