



Donald D. Banks

June 19, 1932 - August 28, 2010

Donald D. Banks, 78, of Fort Collins, Colo., passed away peacefully at home on Aug. 28, 2010, after a brave battle with cancer. He was born on June 19, 1932, in Hugo. Don graduated from high school in Durango, in 1951, and then enlisted in the U.S. Navy in which he served four years. He attained the rank of Machinist Mate Second Class. He married Janet Oversteg in September 1954. They had three sons together, and were married for 33 years. Don enrolled at Colorado State University in September, 1955, and graduated in June, 1959 with a B.S. in Industrial Arts. Don was a dedicated teacher from 1959 until he retired in 1987. He worked the majority of those years as a woodshop instructor at Leshar Junior High School. He had a heart-filled passion for teaching woodshop and mentoring students. During his years of teaching, he also worked in Adult Education and taught Unarmed Self Defense. Law enforcement was a big part of his life and he spent time working in various positions in law enforcement from 1956 - 1974. Those positions included Deputy Sheriff, Boat Warden, Patrolman, and Sergeant-in-charge of CSU police, Special Services Unit. He married JoAnn McHugh on January 4th, 1989, and spent the past 21 years happily married. He has been a longtime member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Fort Collins. Don was extremely creative and talented in his crafts. He enjoyed woodworking, coin cutting, silversmithing, leatherworking, and was active in 4-H. He ran a family business called Don Banks Originals. He also loved inventing, and holds four U.S. patents. Don is survived by his wife, JoAnn Banks of Fort

Collins, her five sons and their families; son Jon Banks and wife of Albuquerque; son Kurt Banks of Ault; son Dirk Banks and wife of Loveland; first wife, Janet Banks of Fort Collins; and a combined total of 21 grandchildren. He will also be missed by many friends and neighbors, and the numerous lives he touched through his teaching. Memorial services will take place at 11 a.m. on Thursday, September 2nd, 2010, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 2000 Stover in Fort Collins. Cremation has been completed, and arrangements provided by Bohlender Funeral Chapel. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Pathways Hospice in care of Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive, Ft. Collins, CO 80524 or to the Colorado State University scholarship endowment reserved for combat veterans. For more information on making a planned gift with Colorado State University contact Marianne Blackwell at 970 491-7862 or mblackwell@ua.colostate.edu or Bill Sheets at 970 491-4679 or bsheets@ua.colostate.edu.

Tribute Wall

AG

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.*

Albert, Carolyn and Jane Goodwin - September 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ *I want to send my love to you, JoAnn, my dear friend. I know this has been so hard. I wish I had been closer. I'm keeping you and Don in my prayers. Love to you always. Pat Windmuller Esbon, KS*

Patricia Frost Windmuller - August 31, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *JoAnn: Jim and I were blessed to spend time with you and Don this June. Our hearts warm at the memory of the day-long conversation & time with you both. Thank you to you, JoAnn, for loving him in his last years. Thank you to all the family members for being there as well - he spoke highly of all of you. Don was my oldest friend, my teacher, my mentor and the model of love, kindness and oneryness in my life. He touched so many of us. With love and tenderness, "Tuffy" Sapia.*

Mystere Sapia - August 31, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ *We send our condolences to all of Don's family. We have known him for many years and always enjoyed his company and his knowledge. He was a great man and teacher. He'll make heaven a better place and be able to repair whatever it needs. Lucinda Swearingen and Bill Grove*

Lucinda Swearingen - August 31, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TJ

“ I don?t start power equipment without thinking of Mr. Banks classroom safety lectures, he presented them in a way that I will never forget. A good teacher and person. To the Banks family I am sorry for your loss.

Tom Skillman Jr - August 30, 2010 at 12:00 AM

VF

“ My sincere sympathy to all of Don's family. Our friendship began at Leshar in 1964 when I joined the faculty as the school nurse.

Virginia Febinger - August 30, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Our family wishes to share our condolences with the family of Mr Banks. As a former student of Mr Banks, I was saddened to read of his passing. He was a blessing to know and have in our heart forever.

Dennis Schick - August 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM

HS

“ Don was the sole reason I became a teacher. He was a superior role model. He inspired me to enter the CSU Industrial Arts Fair. The lesson I learned there, was dreams do come true. Thank you Don! My condolences to the family. Hugh Shepherd Leshar Jr. High 1961-1963

Hugh Shepherd - August 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ To Don I want to say thank you for taking such great loving care of my Mother JoAnn. You truly made her happy and for that we are all greatful. Sean

Sean McHugh - August 29, 2010 at 12:00 AM