



## Donald Ray Hanson

September 22, 1945 - March 26, 2011

Donald Ray Hanson of Fort Collins died Saturday, March 26 of a sudden heart attack. He was 65 years old. He was born on September 22, 1945, in Peoria Illinois. Don graduated high school in Galesburg, Illinois and immediately moved to Colorado where he worked as a trail ride wrangler in Estes Park. Shortly thereafter, his family moved to Fort Collins and he rejoined them to study art briefly at Colorado State University. He enlisted in the US Air Force, serving as a military policeman in Okinawa and an illustrator / graphics artist in North Carolina. In his free time he was a talented painter of landscapes. His true passion, however, was music. Don had a booming bass voice with very wide range, and he quickly found his outlet in SPEBSQSA -- better known as barbershop harmony. For the rest of his life he sang in various local barbershop quartets, choruses, and church choirs. After his Air Force duty, Don returned to Fort Collins and CSU where he became involved in the Aggie Haylofters square dance club. Once again, his voice soon raised him to be "caller" for the exhibition dance team. While at CSU he acquired a degree in Industrial Arts Education. Don was an entrepreneur in many ventures, leading to his broad range of skills. He knew a little about a lot, and could build or fix just about anything. The majority of his work was in construction: from rough framing to fine finish carpentry, he could do it all. He was an active church member at Peak Community Church, and most recently at Life Church of Fort Collins. He was a member of multiple small groups. At church and in the community, Don was a friend to many and loved

by all. Don is preceded in death by his mother, Ruth Hanson and father, Howard Hanson both of Fort Collins. He is survived by a son, Michael David Hanson of Albuquerque New Mexico; a daughter, Andrea Lynn Hanson of Sidney, Nebraska; a brother, Lloyd Hanson of Loxahatchee Florida; and a brother, Milan Hanson of Fort Collins. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday at Life Church of Fort Collins, 1501 Academy Court, Fort Collins. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Life Church of Fort Collins in care of Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive, Fort collins, Colorado 80524 to continue the Lord's work to which Don was dedicated.

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ I have just read of Don's Passing in the Colorado State magazine for Alumni. As Kookie, I have not seen Don since Aggie Haylofters in ,76 or so, however, I do remember bumping into "Uncle Don" at a CSU game a few years later. Don was always the glue that held the team together the fours years I was on it. He was always there to help. I still remember when I was oragnizing a guest caller for our winter dance, that Don was doing more then his fair share of work. Don will be missed by all. May God keep him with always. We have another angel looking after us.

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**Jim Moore** - October 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ We just now heard of Don's passing. We only got to have Don in our tiny town for a few months... but we certainly enjoyed his company. The stonework behind our freestanding fireplace stands as a testimony to his excellent tile work.

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**Susan & Jeff Barrow** - September 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DZ

“ Lesli and I are very sorry to hear about your loss. May he rest in the peace of God.

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**David Zielke** - April 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ I send condolences and heartfelt sympathy to all of Don's family. It's been many years since I saw Don...in fact, not since college days with the Haylofters Exhibition team. I remember Don as a very friendly, always helpful, musically & artistically gifted guy. He lived his faith; one thing I admired. One day, Don told me that he was to make something in woodshop and wondered if I would like for him to make me a hope chest. He did, and I was blessed with one of the most beautifully crafted pieces of furniture that has been a treasure to me ever since. I am so sorry not to have seen him again since returning to the Ft. Collins area, but I know we'll meet one day in Heaven. Don is one gentleman I always admired and will never forget.

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**Kookie Brooks Kahn** - April 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ My condolences to the family. Don was a good friend of mine for a long time. He will be missed. I know hes set free and at peace now. My prayers to you Mike, Andrea, Lloyd and Milan.

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**Kimberly Hofferber** - March 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ I have known Don my whole life as our family lived just two houses down from the Hansons. Our family was really touched when he came to visit us when my mom died last year. I can just see my mom, his mom, Ruth, and Don hugging each other in Heaven.

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**Judy Brown** - March 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ We didn't get to see Don much since we moved to Oklahoma. But a good friend like Don is always in your heart. He's in a very good place now, and we'll have time together again one day. Don was a great person, friend and Christian man.

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**Keith & Donna Schultz** - March 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ As an add on...just remembering the rainstorm/train sounds music along with the Singing Oranges and fireplace...Great times with the Aggie Haylofters! Thanks Don!

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**Bev Rae McBride** - March 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ Our sympathy on the loss of Don. Don was a good friend. We had a lot of fun times together dancing at Aggie Haylofters. Oh the many nights we spent at his house listening to thunderstorms and enjoying our friends. We will miss him. Till we meet again Don. Pat and Wanda

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**Pat and Wanda McBride** - March 31, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Milan and Lloyd, Sorry for your loss. We will keep you in our prayers.

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**Mike and Ruth McCafferty** - March 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ We will all miss Don's sweet smile and kind heart. He was a true blessing to all that knew him. With much love, The Maguire Family

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**Chris & Katie Maguire** - March 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Our thoughts and prayers to Don's family. Our paths crossed many times through the years from the Aggie Haylofters to present. I'm sure Don is singing and dancing in heaven.

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**Mike and Bev Rae McBride** - March 30, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ I first met Don when Uncle Howard, Aunt Ruth and he payed us a fun visit in Ohio, probably 1954. Unfortunately, between my folks and his folks moves I didn't get to see Don as much as would have liked. We got reacquainted when he came to San Antonio on a remodeling job. Donna & I always found Don to be a refreshing spirit, sort of like opening a bottle of soda with extra carbonation! Everything Don did was an example of my favorite verse: "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." We will miss him. I know you all will too, until one day when we'll get to be with Don again.

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**Cousin Ellis Couch** - March 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family. We met only one time at a reunion in Colorado and he was a there with his Mom. May God be with his family.

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**Richard Hanson** - March 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ Don was an inspiration. Growing up next door to him, I always appreciated his willingness to help out — and always with a smile on his face. That smile and his love of life will be missed. My heart goes out to Don’s family at this time knowing that the emptiness will eventually be filled with the fond memories. Live life, love life, and sing all you can. Don will always be with us in our hearts.

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**Larry Koliha** - March 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ I can’t even put into words how much Don meant to us. He has been like a brother to Kevin and I and our kids call him Uncle Don. He has spent countless holidays, kids events and movie night with us and we are not going to know what to do without him. We worked side by side with him on many projects and with our business we will love him forever. Between Grandma Ruth and Uncle Don you both have changed our lives for the better. Thank you for blessing us with just being you! May you fly with the angels and sing to the heavens so that we will always hear your beautiful voice. We love you! Your family, The Colburns!

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**Kevin, Lori, Trevin, Brexton & Breelyn Colburn** - March 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ Love knows no yesterday or tomorrow, no beginning or end... Love never changes. May you cherish the love that will be with you always. Live Today, Remember Yesterday, Await Tomorrow Deepest Sympathy Maryann and George A. "Andy" Hofferber "and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying... Revelations 21:4

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**George A** - March 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ *Milan and Lloyd - So sorry to hear about the loss of your brother. Keeping you in thought and prayer.*

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**Debra Cole Reider** - March 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. Don was a truly wonderful person with a love for life. We were one of the fortunate couples that got to have Don sing at our wedding. He will be missed.*

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**Clay & Kathy Wolking** - March 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ *To all of you our heartfelt sympathies, thoughts and prayers! We know how proud Don was of family and glad he was to see his children and all of us whenever he could. He will be greatly missed, but we have some wonderful memories to keep! I always remember the visits with Uncle Howard and Aunt Ruth and the night crawlers and berry picking with them and the boys! Family is so special and I know many will carry on his love of music and work of the Lord!  
Love, Cousin Barb Hanson Foster and Glenn*

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**Barb Foster** - March 29, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ *Our condolences to the family in their time of sorrow. May he rest in peace.*

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**John Hanson** - March 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ *Andrea, Michael, Lloyd, Milan and your families, My heart, thoughts and prayers are with you in this time of great loss. I'm so thankful I got to see Don at our family reunion last summer, and was looking forward to a repeat this summer. I hope you guys can find a way to make it this year. I didn't get to see as much of your brother, nor do I of you, as I wanted to, but I always enjoyed being in his company when I did. I will miss him, but I know not nearly as much as all of you and your families. Love, Cousin Gary Hanson*

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**Gary Hanson** - March 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM