



## Donald Sommars

January 24, 1916 - March 22, 2013

Funeral services for Donald Sommars of Cambridge, and formerly a life-long resident of Verndale, will be held at 2:00 PM on Saturday, March 30, 2013 at the United Methodist Church in Verndale with Pastor Jill Pawlowski presiding. Friends may call one hour prior to services at the church on Saturday. Donald passed away at the age of 97 years on March 22, 2013 at GracePointe Commons Assisted Living in Cambridge, MN.

Donald Merton Sommars was born on January 24, 1916, the youngest of seven children, to Frances and Harriet "Hattie" (Cummings) Sommars in Verndale, MN. He attended Verndale High School, graduating as Valedictorian with the Class of 1933. Following graduation he worked in a California airplane factory building P-51s. He was called home to the farm when his father died.

Donald and Lillian Eckert were united in marriage on February 23, 1942 in Sebeka. They raised their family on their farm south of Verndale. Don was a lifelong innovator and one of the first in the area to use irrigation. He also had the highest producing herd of Guernsey cows in the state of Minnesota. He loved the outdoors, spending time tending his rose garden, and hunting each fall with extended family. He was a director on the West Central Telephone Board for 36 years, served as a 4-H leader, and sold cars for over 10 years. He and Lillian loved to dance, with a fondness for square dancing, and they

enjoyed hours and hours of playing cards with family and friends. By 1976, they sold the farm, keeping a small acreage to build their home and raise commercial asparagus. Due to Lillian's health, the couple moved into Verndale in 1990, then on to Cambridge for assisted living near family members.

Don was preceded in death by his parents Frances and Harriet; he was the last living sibling to brothers Amos, Harold, Walter, and Frank Sommars, and sisters Doris Richardson and Bessie Biever.

He is survived by his loving wife Lillian; sons Wayne (Jane) of Cambridge, and Dennis (Robin) of South Haven; seven grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren & one great-great-grandchild.

Honorary pallbearer will be Randon Sommars. Serving as pallbearers will be Marvin Runyan, Jim Runyan, Ralph Stone, David Orlando, Len Seglar and Tony Sommars.

Burial will be in Greenlawn Cemetery in Verndale.

# Cemetery Details

## Green Lawn Cemetery

16277 120th Street  
1st Ave./ Co Rd 104 (1 mile west of Verndale)  
Verndale, MN 56481

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAR 30.** 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

United Methodist Church - Verndale  
213 Farwell Street S  
Verndale, MN 56481

## Service

**MAR 30.** 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

United Methodist Church - Verndale  
213 Farwell Street S  
Verndale, MN 56481

# Tribute Wall

CD

“ *Carol Derby lit a candle in memory of Donald Sommars*



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**Carol Derby** - April 03, 2013 at 07:33 AM

CD

*Lillian you and your family are in my prayers. Carol Derby*

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**Carol Derby** - April 03, 2013 at 07:33 AM

SS

“ *Such a deeply felt loss, Another one of our history books gone. Don was just a great neighbor to Len and I. He shared so much with us and is so loved by us.. They filled us up on ice cream and potato chips and those great homemade donuts. They taught us a lot. Such good times and such good friends.. Thanks to the family for letting us share him. Len and Sally*

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**Sally Schaffhausen** - March 28, 2013 at 08:40 AM

JN

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



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**Jan Richardson Nelson** - March 27, 2013 at 01:42 PM

JO

“ *Julie Orlando lit a candle in memory of Donald Sommars*



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**Julie Orlando** - March 25, 2013 at 03:42 PM

SB

“ *Sandee (Seaton) Byrd lit a candle in memory of Donald Sommars*



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**Sandee (Seaton) Byrd** - March 25, 2013 at 01:24 PM



*So many memories of Don and his never-ending grin and little chuckle! My sympathies to all . . . enjoy your memories!*

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**Sandee (Seaton) Byrd** - March 25, 2013 at 01:26 PM



“ *In Memory Blue Spruce Tree was purchased for the family of Donald Sommars.*



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March 23, 2013 at 09:32 PM



“ *Lee And Linda Tarrell lit a candle in memory of Donald Sommars*



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**Lee and Linda Tarrell** - March 23, 2013 at 09:27 AM