



Donald Wells

April 13, 1938 - July 24, 2023

The open house celebrating the life of Don Wells of Verndale will be held on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, from 6:00 until 8:00 p.m. at the Verndale Chapel. A Time of Prayer and Remembrance will begin at 7:00 p.m. with Chaplain Paul Johnson presiding.

Donald Leroy Wells, 85, passed into the loving arms of his savior, Jesus Christ, on July 24, 2023, surrounded by his wife and three daughters.

"Don" was born to Ivan Atwood Wells and Gladys Irene (McDowell) Wells on the family farm in Wing River township, rural Verndale, MN on April 13, 1938, and lived there until February 2023, when he moved to The Gardens at the Meadows in Wadena. Don grew up farming with his dad who helped instill a strong Christian faith into him from a very young age. He continued dairy and beef farming at the same farm until the late 1980s, when he decided it was time for a career change, obtained his GED and a CDL, and then drove semi-truck for about 5 years until he retired.

Don had many interests and pastimes. One of his most beloved hobbies was training and riding quarter horses, participating in barrel racing and other horse games, and buggy driving. He often reminisced about his favorite horse, Red Barbidol, who won many quarter-mile races, barrel races, and other horse games. Throughout his younger years, Don also enjoyed car racing with his brothers and riding motorcycles. He took up motorcycle riding again in his 60s and enjoyed riding until his early 80s. He also enjoyed spending time with his many special dogs (Trixie from his younger years, Dixie and Riley currently

but with many in between.) He was an avid reader and enjoyed learning about many topics, including US history, politics, and Christianity. Don loved to visit and was very sociable. He had strong opinions and curiosity. He loved to tell stories from his childhood and younger years to his family. He loved his family and was proud of his daughters and his grandchildren.

Don married Connie Carpenter in 1979. They had daughters, Holly, Sandra, and Lynnette shortly after. Don enjoyed teaching his girls, Sandra and Lynnette, how to ride horses and participated in barrel racing and horse shows with them. He barrel-raced into his 60s with his horse, Robben Hood Blazer. He also enjoyed activities with the family such as yearly trips to the Steam Threshers reunion in Rollag, MN, trips to Valleyfair, Minnesota Twins games and many more. As the years went on and he became a grandfather, he had much joy in seeing his 6 grandchildren and always highly anticipated their visits.

Don is survived by his wife, Connie Wells; daughters, Holly (Andrew) Swanson, Sandra (Jared) Huwe, and Lynnette (Chris) Cogdill; grandchildren: Andrew Donald Swanson, Laine Cogdill, Tylee Cogdill, Nathaniel Swanson, Jordanna Huwe, and Ivy Huwe.

He is also survived by his younger brother, Allen (Jeanne) Wells; niece, Andrea (Benjamin Greenberg) Wells; sister-in-law, Audrey Wells; and nephews, Ken Wells and Greg Wells.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, Ivan and Gladys; and older brother, Lawrence Wells.

Burial will be in Green Lawn Cemetery in Verndale, MN.

Cemetery Details

Green Lawn Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

AUG 23. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Verndale Chapel
9 North Farwell Street
Verndale, MN 56481
(218) 445-5191

Time of Prayers and Sharing

AUG 23. 7:00 PM (CT)

Verndale Chapel
9 North Farwell Street
Verndale, MN 56481
(218) 445-5191

Tribute Wall



“ Schuller Family Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Donald Wells



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - August 17, 2023 at 05:41 PM

SH

What a wonderful tribute to Don. Amen 🙏

Shelly - August 17, 2023 at 06:28 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald Wells.

August 16, 2023 at 05:45 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Wells.



August 16, 2023 at 05:45 PM



“ 50 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Schuller Family Funeral Homes - August 15, 2023 at 11:21 AM

WS

“ Wayne & Sheila Stave lit a candle in memory of Donald Wells



Wayne and Sheila Stave - August 09, 2023 at 06:15 PM

MB

“ Merle & Sandy Bryce lit a candle in memory of Donald Wells



Merle and Sandy Bryce - August 01, 2023 at 08:41 PM

KA

“ *Krista Anderson sent a virtual gift in memory of Donald Wells*



Krista Anderson - August 01, 2023 at 04:37 PM

BD

“ *Bob Kathy Derby lit a candle in memory of Donald Wells*



Bob and Kathy Derby - July 31, 2023 at 09:11 PM

PH

“ *Phil & Kathy Hastings lit a candle in memory of Donald Wells*



Phil and Kathy Hastings - July 28, 2023 at 11:25 AM



“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



Holly Jean - July 27, 2023 at 07:09 PM

BB

“ Bruce & Barb Brown lit a candle in memory of Donald Wells



Bruce and Barb Brown - July 27, 2023 at 02:58 PM

SH

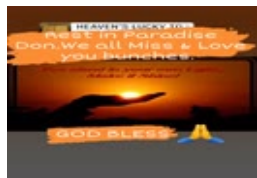
“ 6 files added to the album Don



Sandra Huwe - July 27, 2023 at 02:44 PM

SR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Shelly & Rich - July 27, 2023 at 01:32 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Grandpa



Holly Jean - July 27, 2023 at 11:41 AM



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Holly Jean - July 27, 2023 at 11:33 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Grandpa



Holly Jean - July 27, 2023 at 11:32 AM



“ Bill & Nancy Olson lit a candle in memory of Donald Wells



Bill and Nancy Olson - July 26, 2023 at 04:39 PM