



Donald Swank

February 21, 1934 - February 7, 2015

Don Swank was not an ordinary man; he possessed a variety of talents; he lived life on his own terms. From rural Oklahoma to an Arkansas farm in the 30s, to Californias Bay Area in the 40s, to the Korean War in his teen years. By the time Don was 20, he had lived more life than most can imagine. After surviving the Korean War, Don was stationed in Japan where he learned respect for the Japanese culture, learning to speak Japanese and retained this gift for 60 years. Returning to California, the spit and polish attributes of the Army Honor Guard stayed with him the rest of his life. Don had a tremendous work ethic and just do it attitude along with innate intelligence and talent that took him to the top of his ironworkers profession at a young age. He was proud to belong to Local 378. Dons last career was as a Ranch Real Estate Broker. He loved the people, the land, the livestock. Don judged people by how they cared for the helpless among us children, animals, land. With all Dons wonderful qualities, he was still a humble person and a gentleman. His quick wit and dry humor made him very entertaining. Don is survived by a loving partner, 2 sons, 1 daughter, 4 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. We found Don brilliant and unique. He shared his life with us; he brought us joy. We loved him well. We will miss him and never forget him.

Funeral Home:

Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home New

105 NW Irving Ave

Bend, OR
US 97701

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Obituary Wall*



Niswonger Reynolds Funeral Home & Greenwood Cemetery - May 18, 2023 at 02:24 PM

FO

“ *Donald Swank*

Funeral Home Owner - August 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ *All of this (his obit) and much more!!! He really was his own man. Sherry, my very close and dear friend, Don was Your Man. Even though we live many miles apart both of you have always been in our hearts over the years. Just remember the summer we visited when it was close to 100 degrees with no air conditioning; times like this are what memories are made of. Life is too short but memories do last forever. We love you, we pray for you and Dons family in this time of sadness. Lottie and Jordie Bell*

Lottie Bell - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ *what a fitting line of memorial and description of Don. he was the real deal.and as the old saying goes the best is saved for last .that befits his loving partner Sherry so rest well and in peace Don.u r missed but r on a new just do it path!!! Darryl and Pat Doser*

Pat Doser - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ Some people come into our lives and just stay like it is naturally meant to be. Over 50 years ago Don came into the Prescott family via Ironworkers Local 378. What great pals the two Donalds were. Swank and Whitey they were called and greatly enjoyed each others far out sense of humor. Lunch time on the job consisted of crazy things. One subject went on forever. What do you call a group of whales, elk, goats etc. On it went to mammals, birds, fish and reptiles. They were never dull to be around. Our family enjoyed the beach, mountains and holiday party time with Don. When he moved to Bend it was far away from us but he was so happy to find the love of his life and a new vocation. Don will be missed but his memory will never fade. Lois

Lois Prescott - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ What a GREAT GUY! Sherry- please contact Pam and I Best Wishes-Jon

Jon W. Hayner - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ Sherry, my dearest friend, my love and prayers are with you, now and always. Don will truly be missed. He had a wonderful sense of humor. He was charming and God knows he was gracious. I really appreciated that he was able to share you and his household with us. He was kind and had a gentle soul. My girls thought he was sweet and was a good teacher with his guns. He loved his routines, from gardening to walking the dog. He was a mans man. A man with character and they dont make them like that anymore. So Don, I know God is with you and I know youll be watching over Sherry. Rest in peace, my friend. We love you and miss you. You will forever be in our memories.

Lori Balog - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ That first sentence above was right, Don Swank was not an ordinary man. Don Swank was a protector (he kept my big brothers from tormenting me too much), provider (just about every morning before work he would slip a couple buck under my pillow, walkin around money), a teacher (he taught me how to throw AND catch a ball), and a philosopher (words of wisdom dont eat yellow snow want in this hand and **** in the other. Never point a gun towards anyone) He was my Dad, and I loved him and will miss him so much. Sherry I am so sorry for your loss. Thank you for loving my dad, I know he was truly happy with you.

LeeAnn Price - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM