



Donald E. Alberda, Sr.

April 7, 1935 - November 9, 2013

Donald E. Alberda Sr., 78, of Mundelein, IL, passed away on Saturday, Nov. 9, 2013 at Silverado Senior Living in Lake Zurich. He was born April 7, 1935 in Grand Rapids, MI, the son of the late Matthew and Ethel Alberda. Don attended Michigan Tech, where he majored in mechanical engineering for two years, before enlisting in the US Navy. He flew many kinds of aircraft as a fighter pilot and retired after serving 20 years as a commander, ten years active duty and ten years in the reserves. Don's American Airlines career took off on July 5, 1966 and he flew the Boeing 727, 707 and McDonald Douglas DC-10 around American's route structure as a captain. His hobbies included marathon canoe racing, golf and he also ran in the Chicago and Boston marathons. Surviving are his wife of 54 years, Doris Alberda; two children, Donald E. Alberda Jr. (Sandy) of Lake Villa and Jennifer Alberda of Round Lake Beach; three grandchildren, Sarah, Danielle and Selena Alberda; his sisters, Carol (Fred) Bernhardt of Walker, MI, Christine (Ron) Cochran of Allendale, MI; brothers, Gerald (Jean) Alberda of Hudsonville, MI and Steve (Kathy) Alberda of Wyoming, MI. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. until time of services at 1 p.m. on Wed. Nov. 13, 2013 at the Burnett-Dane Funeral Home, 120 W. Park Ave. (Rt. 176, one block west of Milwaukee Ave.) Libertyville. Interment will follow at Lakeside Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made to the Alzheimers Assn. Info: 847-362-3009 or sign the guest book at www.burnettdane.com.

Tribute Wall



“ Donald was a senior at Grandville High School. We had study hall together and I was a freshman. He asked me to the senior prom. I was just so flattered me being a lowly freshman. We stayed in touch a little after he graduated but drifted apart. He was a perfect gentleman! I know he is sorely missed! Janelle Green Clanton

Janelle Clanton - June 17, 2020 at 01:36 PM

AH

“ May God bless you and your family in this time of sorrow.

annie horne - June 29, 2018 at 02:04 PM

JA

“ It was and honor to be your daughter. I love you, Dad!!!

Jennifer Alberda - June 29, 2018 at 02:04 PM



“ Jennifer, we send our deepest condolences to you and your family. You father will be remembered for his vibrancy and smiles. Please let us know if there is anything we can do in your time of need. With Deepest Sympathy, The Monaco Family

June 29, 2018 at 02:04 PM

BC

“ I'll miss your good spirits Don, thanks for the memories on the Wisconsin and Des Plaines rivers

Barry Coyne - June 29, 2018 at 02:04 PM

JE

“ *It was an honor to be your daughter. I love you, Dad!*

Jennifer - June 29, 2018 at 02:04 PM

RC

“ *Our sincere condolences to the Alberda and extended family. God Bless, Love Randy & Linda Carpenter*

Randy Carpenter - June 29, 2018 at 02:04 PM

FH

“ *I will remember the fun we had training in canoes on the Fox River. Condolences to Don's family. - Fritz Hansen*

Fritz Hansen - April 27, 2018 at 06:15 AM

CC

“ *A good friend, will be missed. He was a very nice man.*

Carol & Everett Crozier - April 27, 2018 at 06:15 AM

GS

“ *So sorry to hear about the passing of you dad and grandpa. Thinking of you Jennifer and Selena. Our deepest sympathies. Gods blessings on your family.*

Gary and Rochelle Schultz - April 27, 2018 at 06:15 AM



“ *Don was a great neighbor and an even better person. He always gave those he ran into his time and attention. He was very athletic and it was inspiring to see him coming back from a run through the seminary. God grant him eternal peace.*

April 27, 2018 at 06:15 AM

DS

“ I am so sorry to hear about your loss. May you find hope and comfort in God's Word, the Bible.

DS - April 27, 2018 at 06:15 AM

SS

“ Don was a friend who we paddled with on up on the Fox River. Will miss him. Steve Sleider

Steve Sleider - April 27, 2018 at 06:15 AM

DH

“ We will miss his smile and humerous stories! Sorry we didn't get to spend alot of time together, only during times like this! We love you all and will keep the Family in our Prayers

Doug & Debbie Hilton - April 27, 2018 at 06:15 AM

JS

“ Deepest sympathy to the family on the loss of this great guy! Many good times were shared with Don both on & off the rivers. Many good memories! He will be missed!

Jim & Linda Strid - April 27, 2018 at 06:15 AM

GK

“ Very sorry for your loss. Don was quite a man and quite a character. I flew with him on the 727 and always looked forward to those trips...so much fun! He was an accomplished aviator with an infectious personality. He could run circles around me whenever we went for a jog on a layover even though he was ten years older than me.
He will be missed. God bless you, Don. God bless your family.

George Krumenacker - April 27, 2018 at 06:15 AM

WK

“ *I never met the man but as a young boy, I was so excited when he would fly over his parents home and then ours on fillmore St, in Jenison, MI. with his Military Jet.... He would always tip his wings if he spotted us outside and waving. I wish I could have met him.*

Wayne Kooistra - April 27, 2018 at 06:15 AM