



Donald "Don" G. Johnson

December 28, 1943 - July 15, 2024

Donald G. Johnson "Don" passed away on July 15, 2024, in the comfort of his home. A visitation will be held on Friday, July 19, 2024, from 12:00 pm until 2:00pm at Cornerstone Church in Anniston. A funeral service will be held the same day starting at 2:00 pm. A graveside service will follow at Munford Baptist Cemetery. Pastor Michael Cox, Pastor Eddie Robertson, and Bishop Lewis Jones will be officiating the services.

Don was born 12/28/1943, in the middle of WW2. His dad was an auto mechanic. His mom was a waitress. His parents divorced when he was a toddler. He rarely saw his dad, and his mom raised her kids on a waitress paycheck, moving around often and marrying multiple times. In spite of the instability in his family, his mother made sure they got to church and he accepted Jesus as his Savior at 8 years old, and God became his Father, giving him the strength and security to overcome many obstacles in his life. He graduated from Gulfport High School in 1961, where he still has many treasured friends. He married at 18 years old and had 2 children, Kirk, then Matthew, while working his way through college.

Don graduated from Parks College, St. Louis University, in Aerospace Engineering in 1967 and was commissioned as a Captain of the U.S. Air Force upon graduation. He was in the U.S. Air Force for 9 years, where he served proudly as a pilot during the Vietnam War, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, Vietnam Service Award, and various other military

honors. He was also an instructor pilot for the Air Force. His third child, Nanette, was born while he was serving in Vietnam. Tim was added to the family after the war, during the babylift of war orphans. He worked as a Design Engineer, a Propulsion Engineer, a Corrosion Specialist, and a manager of a metal distributorship, all as part of God's training for eventually running his own company. After a divorce, and a move from Louisiana to Alabama, he started Metal Samples Co in 1980, with only \$5000 and tremendous faith in God. He survived the first year of business with only \$8000 in profit, then met Peggy and married in 1981. Michel came along 4 years later, completing their family. He went on to build the business with over 220 employees and thousands of customers worldwide, accomplishing things that others would have never tried, because his faith in God gave him boldness to take risks. He won the Special Achievement Award from the Small Business Administration, and the Citation of Merit Distinguished Company Award by NACE International in recognition of outstanding and sustained contributions to the field of corrosion science and engineering. He was so proud of all of his children and grandchildren, and wanted so much for them all to be happy, and blessed by God. He was never pretentious, in spite of his success, and took a lot of joy in helping others. He was generous and enjoyed helping people in times of need, and in allowing God to use him to bless those who served God in Ministry. He supported many ministries around the world, and orphanages as well. He had a heart for orphans, as he often felt like one himself growing up.

His greatest joy was to share Jesus with others. He loved going on the mission field, as well as sharing with others he met every day about what God had done for him. He wanted everyone to know how God had set him free from a generational bondage in his life 25 years ago, and that freedom was available to everyone who was willing to repent and receive deliverance. That is why he wanted to be buried in a shirt that says "FREEDOM"! He always looked forward to the time he would see Jesus, and had no fear of death at

all. He loved to fly, and said he was going to ask Jesus for a spaceship so that he could explore the universe:)

Don is survived by his Wife, Peggy; 5 children, Kirk Johnson (Angelle), Matthew Johnson (Tina), Nanette Mudiam (Sai), Tim Johnson (Jessica), Michel Perales (Steven); brother, Robert Johnson, & sister-in-law, Jeanie; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Fred & Ealar Pritchard, Dennis & Marybeth Pritchard; grandchildren, Taylor Barnett (Chad), Reilly Johnson, Denham Johnson, Nathan Johnson (Tawny), Colby Johnson (Rebekah), Dylan Johnson (Cecilia), Ariana Johnson, Jazmine Erwin (Ryan), Pavan Mudiam (Chelsea), Tyler Johnson (Madison), Sydnee Johnson, Samuel Johnson, Julia Johnson, Bentley Perales, and Maverick Perales; 9 great-grandchildren; 3 nieces and 2 nephews as well as many friends who he loved as family.

Pallbearers will be Nathan Johnson, Colby Johnson, Dylan Johnson, Denham Johnson, Pavan Mudiam, Tyler Johnson, and Samuel Johnson.

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived, what God has prepared for those who love Him. 1 Corinthians 2:9

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 19. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (cst)

Cornerstone Church
Anniston, AL 36207

Service

JUL 19. 2:00 PM (cst)

Cornerstone Church
Anniston, AL 36207

Graveside Service

JUL 19 (cst)

Munford Cemetery
Munford, AL

Tribute Wall

HR

“ Don Johnson was one of my spiritual leaders! A GREAT MAN ! Him and Mrs Peggy are the grandparents I never had , and they loved Jesus!

He taught me how to stand firm in faith even when the storms would come . To keep my eyes fixed on jesus , and not the storms . I remember when I flew on an air plane for the first time. Don took me , my daughter Haley , and Aly . I was terrified, but no so much with him beside me.

They believed in me ,more than i even believed in myself. I remember getting in the air , up in the clouds , and him telling me to take the wheel . I was thinking, you know when I take this wheel we are all going to crash . Lol

He said all you have to do , is keep it steady and between the line. We did not crash ! Thank God ! We glided ! I was so proud of myself that day , for overcoming that fear . My first time in an air plane , i flew it !!

Out of all my years alive , that will always be one of my favorite moments in life ! He talked to me into going back to school. I was terrified bc I had gotten so much older. I stepped out on faith and went. There was so many times that that him and Peggy pushed me into doing things bc they believed in me . It really played a bigger part in my life , more than they will ever know ! I'm sad to see he's gone from earth but I had a dream about Don a few months ago. He was in heaven , in a big White Mansion, that had big columns in the front. Kinda like the white house. He was smiling and waving , so happy and proud! I knew then , from that dream that heaven is real!

I believe wholeheartedly that Poppa Don is in heaven with Jesus ! We love you , Don , Peggy, and family ! We are praying for yall !!! We love you Poppa Don Johnson, watch over us from heaven, til we meet again ! ☐

Heather Stapleton Roszell - July 20, 2024 at 11:32 AM

SW

“ Although I never had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Johnson, I feel as though I know him intimately. I have heard many wonderful stories about this intelligent, caring and generous man. Thank you, Don Johnson, for being such an incredible businessman, and allowing my husband to work for your amazing Company. My deepest condolences to your loving family during this difficult time.

Sherri Weishaar - July 18, 2024 at 08:19 PM

JM

To the wonderful family of Don Johnson: I'll always know that I have been blessed to share 32 years with Don ; a man of the highest character, integrity, vision and wisdom , you Knew Don was a Man of faith in his lord and savior Jesus Christ , he didn't have to testify, God was evident in his speech, his commitments his words and present on his face , you just knew! I had the honor three decades in serving as general contractor for his amazing incredible business, I could write a book on Don , a textbook of a man of greatness as he shared his blessing with so many others, Everyone needs a Don Johnson in their life . An American hero , a American Patriot in serving his country, I will miss him greatly, truly, John Morris

John Morris - July 19, 2024 at 05:01 PM

SV

“ My life and the person whom I am today is because of Don and of course it happened thru Sai who was like a messenger of God. My memory of he taking care of me and my family is permanently etched in my thoughts. The days i have spent in Alspi and the respect i have for the entire family is not something which can be written in few words. My first flight in his plane , visit to customers place and watching him close deals , discussing on business, and just being around him was something which cant be described. Wishing the family great strength to go thru the difficult times as it is not easy to lose the loved ones. Heart felt condolences.

SUREN VENUGOPAL - July 18, 2024 at 05:03 PM

JR

“ I will always have fond memories of Don, and will always consider him a transformational person in my life. I am who I am today because of his guidance and the opportunities he gave me to grow, both professionally and as a human being. I offer my deepest sympathies to the family and friends he left behind, and counsel everyone to keep the faith, as we shall see him again!

Jack D Reece - July 18, 2024 at 07:46 AM

Jimmy Caples

“ I will forever be grateful for the opportunity granted to me by Don to work for him. I greatly admired him. He was a fair and generous man.

Jimmy Caples

Jimmy Caples - July 17, 2024 at 08:17 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Donald "Don" G. Johnson.



July 17, 2024 at 08:13 PM

Jimmy Caples

“ I will forever be grateful for the opportunity to work for Don. I greatly admired him. He was fair and generous man.

Jimmy Caples

Jimmy Caples - July 17, 2024 at 08:12 PM

DM

“ *Dean Morris and I, Becky Morris are deeply sorry for his loss. We worshiped together at Fellowship Church, Hwy. 78 east. I'm sure he will be greatly missed by family and friends.*

Dean Morris - July 17, 2024 at 06:53 PM