



Don Goodrich

November 10, 1928 - March 2, 2021

Don Goodrich

Jefferson, Iowa

Date of Death: March 2, 2021

Longtime Jefferson resident Donald Cole Goodrich died on March 2, 2021, at the Greene County Medical Center. He was 92.

A memorial service will be held at 1:00pm on May 7 at Slininger-Schroeder Funeral Home. Interment will be in the Jefferson Cemetery.

Family and friends may view live-streaming of the Memorial Service at 1:00pm on Friday, May 7th by clicking on this link. Live-streaming will begin just 2 minutes prior to 1:00pm. You do not need a password. https://www.facebook.com/SliningerSchroederFuneralHome/?view_public_for=105863521139107

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Jefferson Public Library, a place that Don loved and used throughout his life.

Don was born in Jefferson on November 10, 1928, the youngest of three sons of Orin and Mary Goodrich. His father owned the Square Deal Grocery on the north side of the Courthouse Square. During World War II, Don was his father's delivery boy, driving orders to local households even though he wasn't old enough to have a driver's license. Permission to help out his dad had been given by Jefferson's legendary police chief Mick Parr.

In 1946, Don graduated from Jefferson High School where he was a member of the football team, and made many lifelong friends.

After high school, Don joined his father in the grocery business. In 1950, Don and Betty Williams, a 1947 JHS graduate, were married at the Jefferson Methodist Church, where they became longtime active members. Don and Betty were the parents of five children, three daughters and two sons.

In 1959, the Goodriches bought a grocery in Harlan. Don and his family returned to Jefferson in 1966 and he later became a painting contractor, painting “half the houses and businesses in Jefferson, inside and out,” said an old friend.

An energetic man, Don loved to swim laps at Jefferson’s municipal pool. His father, as mayor of Jefferson, oversaw the construction by the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) of the pool in 1937, and, once again, Chief Mick Parr overlooked unlicensed activity— after-hours dips on hot summer nights, when Don was a young man.

Don was a committed ...and swift...walker at the Greene County Recreation Center, doing laps on the track until shortly before his death. He never shied from making long road trips, and drove to visit his daughters and their families in Colorado well into his 80s.

Don Goodrich was preceded in death by his parents and his brothers Ellis and Orin Jr., known as “Goodie. Both were decorated members of air crews in World War II, Ellis as a navigator, and Goodie as a pilot, and were greatly admired by their youngest brother.

Don’s wife Betty died in 2014. They were a devoted couple, married for 64 years, who loved to travel, and made many trips to overseas destinations, including the British Isles, Mexico and Tahiti. They also travelled extensively in the USA.

Survivors include his children, Rod Goodrich and his wife Cathy of Jefferson; Mary Jo Cole of Aurora, Col.; Beth Ann Goodrich of Nashville, Tenn.; Sarah Bradley and her husband Michael of Aurora, Col.; and Bruce Goodrich of Houston, Tex.; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Slininger-Schroeder Funeral Home 515-386-2171

Cemetery

Jefferson Cemetery
1019 East Lincoln Way
Jefferson, IA,

Events

MAY 7 Memorial Service 01:00PM

Slininger-Schroeder Funeral Home
119 West Lincolnway, Jefferson, IA, US, 50129

Comments



“ He was an uncle from a past marriage that I loved dearly as well as Betty. I would visit him once a year and we had great times, always went out to lunch and afterwards we would take flowers that I had brought along, out to the cemetery and put on Betty's grave. She always enjoyed flowers and I will continue to put them on their graves. RIP Don. Love you Betty Kindhart

Betty Kindhart - May 04, 2021 at 12:51 PM



“ I was saddened to learn of Don's passing. He was a good and kind man. I have fond memories of he and Betty. One of my favorites was all the dancing at Sarah's and Mike's wedding. None of us could keep up with him. May God bless Rod, Mary Jo, Beth, Sarah, and Bruce during this difficult time. My deepest sympathies.

Love,
Deb Ryan-Purcell and Family

Deb Ryan-Purcell - March 11, 2021 at 08:34 PM



“ I knew Don for many years clear back to church school days! He painted my folks house a couple of times at least and did some painting for me as well in later years. I think back to childhood days spent with Sarah at their house. Don always had a smile or would tease me. He will be missed by many in this community! Sorry for your families loss. Thinking of all of you! Hugs!

Terry Murphy

Terry Murphy - March 09, 2021 at 01:24 AM



“ Thinking of your family at this sad time.

Class of 1980

Class of 1980 - March 09, 2021 at 01:19 AM



“ Hard to keep up with Don at the rec center. A great guy!

Terry Lang - March 08, 2021 at 07:23 PM



“ Dear Goodrich kids,

I'm so sad to learn of the passing of your Dad. Duane and I so enjoyed having long-time friends Don and Betty as our neighbors when we lived in Jefferson. Sending my sympathy and prayers.

Love Valerie Ogren and Mike

Valerie Ogren - March 03, 2021 at 11:07 PM



“ Don Goodrich one of the very best. My really good friend all through grade school high school we played on the same football team we shared a lot of laughs and great memories. We have lost cherished friends Don and Betty. It is so true that death is only hard on the living. Respectfully Jack and Darlene Donovan

jack donovan - March 03, 2021 at 08:24 PM



“ Thinking of Rod and family. Sorry to hear this. He was one of the good ones.

John Lynch - March 04, 2021 at 06:37 PM



“ Enjoyed Don and Betty so much. Wonderful folks. Don was always there for anyone. I remember way back when he was a young man helping his folks in their Mom and Pop grocery store. Don was a great guy. Best wishes to the Goodrich family.

Carrie Melson Hollenbeck - March 05, 2021 at 01:02 PM



“ Thinking of the family during this sad time. Our condolences to all of you. Peace. Bobbie Lamb / Terri Sarsycki

Terri A. Sarsycki - March 08, 2021 at 05:21 PM



“ First United Methodist Church family sends thoughts and prayers of comfort to Don's family and friends. Don was a faithful and active church member. He was a delight to be with and will be sorely missed. May God hold you all close as you mourn the loss of this dear saint of God. With love and friendship, Pastor Julie and church family

Rev. Julia E F Poulsen - March 09, 2021 at 04:32 PM