



Donald D. Sievers

October 13, 1949 - February 20, 2017

Donald D. Sievers

Jefferson, Iowa

Date of Death: February 20, 2017

Donald Dean Sievers was born on October 13, 1949, to Ralph “Dane” Sievers and Clara (Woodall) Sievers in Atlantic, IA. He died of pancreatic cancer on February 20, 2017, at the age of 67.

Don grew up on the family farm in rural Walnut, IA. He attended school in Avoca, Iowa, and graduated in 1967. Shortly after high school he enlisted in the U.S. Army as a Communications Specialist, and achieved the rank of sergeant while serving in Aschaffenburg, Germany.

After he returned from the service in 1972, he met Suzanne Whitaker, a home-economics teacher at Walnut High School. They were married on May 26, 1974. Don attended Iowa Western Community College from 1972-1974, and later transferred to Iowa State University and completed his degree in Fisheries & Wildlife Biology.

Don and Suzanne moved to Jefferson, IA, in 1975. Don built their home with the help of friends and family. They raised their three children Shelby, Chris, and Ashley in this home. He was a wonderful father who always encouraged his children to pursue their interests and supported them unconditionally.

He worked for the Department of Natural Resources at Springbrook Conservation Education Center in Guthrie Center, IA, for 34 years. He retired in 2012.

Don was an avid fisherman and huntsman. He enjoyed spending time outdoors watching wildlife and cruising the countryside. He loved coffee time at Oly’s, spending time with his grandkids, wine-making, scratching lottery tickets, and golfing with good friends.

Don was preceded in death by two brothers: Max Sievers and Gary Sievers; two sisters: Sheryl Patwardhan and Donna Jean Sievers; and his parents: Ralph "Dane" Sievers and Clara Sievers.

Survivors include his wife, Suzanne, of Jefferson, IA; Children: Shelby (Rod) VanNordstrand of Council Bluffs, IA; Chris (Calista) Sievers of Ankeny, IA Ashley Sievers of Minneapolis, MN; three grandchildren: Reed, Madelyn, and Kinley; brothers: Jim Sievers of Avoca, IA; Doug (Sherri) Sievers of Des Moines, IA; Dick (Sue) Sievers of Remsen, IA; Walt (Rose) Sievers of Walnut, IA; sisters: Verla (Larry) Smith of Council Bluffs, IA and Janelle (Rich) Brei of Jackson, WI; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

A time of fellowship for Don's family and friends will be held from 1:00 – 3:00pm Sunday, February 26, 2017 at Clover Hall, Greene County Fair Grounds, 601 East Lincoln Way, Jefferson, IA, followed by a Memorial Service beginning at 3:00pm Sunday.

Events

FEB **Visitation with family present to greet friends** 01:00PM - 03:00PM

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Clover Hall Greene County Fairgrounds

601 East Lincoln Way Street, Jefferson, IA, US, 50129

FEB **Memorial Service** 03:00PM

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Clover Hall Greene County Fairgrounds

601 East Lincoln Way Street, Jefferson, IA, US, 50129

Comments



“ I knew Don as a fellow IDNR employee min the I and E bureau. Always admired his attitude and abilities. His talents were widely recognized by those of us who worked with him, and those he served. In 'another era' I also knew his talented brother, Dick - my condolences to all of the family.

Don Paulin

Don Paulin - March 02, 2017 at 02:42 PM



“ Don was a good friend to me. I'm sorry for your loss.

Jim Lippold - February 28, 2017 at 06:12 PM



“ Don was always in a good mood, enjoyed people, visiting. Loved farming, farmers, wildlife. Always had coffee early in the morning. At the Gas Station. I would come back to Jefferson Iowa to work. Don was always one person That was glad to see you.
Always had a smile. I will miss Don when I come back to Jefferson Iowa , did not know he Had illness.
May Don rest in peace. God bless Don, Suzanne, family. Hard to come to realize that Don has graduated in life for the Family.

David Gumm - February 26, 2017 at 10:03 PM



“ I met Don in 1989 to set up the forestry portion of the Iowa Envirothon State Competition at the Outdoor Education Center at Springbrook State Park. We continued to work on Envirothon until he retired from DNR. We became close friends over the years. Sometimes he'd drop in on me at my office in Adel just to chat and share how life was going - sometimes I'd drop in on him, too. More than a few times we went in search of the best pork tenderloin in the area. We shared stories about our families, griped about work related things, and "adventures" we'd had or had planned. I loved hearing his stories of the trip to Norway. I am truly saddened by his passing. Sure wish I could see my old friend again. My thoughts and prayers go out to his loving family - I am so sorry for you loss.

George Warford, retired DNR District Forester, Adel, Iowa

George Warford - February 26, 2017 at 05:56 PM



“ Bob&Sherry Kinney,Cindy Crosbie, & Shelly Heidesch purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Donald D. Sievers.



Bob&Sherry Kinney,Cindy Crosbie, & Shelly Heidesch - February 24, 2017 at 09:03 PM



“ I am so sorry to learn of Don's passing. I have many memories of the times I visited with him when I had Chris in 2nd grade and in the years after. Whenever I saw Don we would have a short chat. He was a great guy and I know your many memories will help you at this difficult time.

I am sorry that I will be unable to there at this time . I am in Texas but I will be thinking of you . Jan Strawn

Jan Strawn - February 24, 2017 at 12:42 PM



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



February 23, 2017 at 09:35 PM



“ Jim and Jan, Jay and Marlee and Jon and Kim Walton purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Donald D. Sievers.



Jim and Jan, Jay and Marlee and Jon and Kim Walton - February 23, 2017 at 03:09 PM



“ I credit Don with the opportunity I had to work at Springbrook. He was very supportive, and taught me most of what I needed to know to lead the students. I remember that as my favorite job, and I feel blessed to have known him. The bit of advice that has always stuck with me involved personal work space. We had adjoining offices. He told me I'd be spending as much time at work as I did at home, and that I needed to make my office my own kind of special. I have continued to do that with each successive position. He will be greatly missed for his contributions to environmental education, and for being one heck of a man. Linda (Perkins) Jansen

Linda Jansen - February 22, 2017 at 06:51 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald D. Sievers.



February 22, 2017 at 03:00 PM



“ Erica, Emily, Dane and Dustin Sievers & Families purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Donald D. Sievers.



Erica, Emily, Dane and Dustin Sievers & Families - February 22, 2017 at 12:49 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Donald D. Sievers.



February 22, 2017 at 11:59 AM



“ Shelby and Rod, we are so sorry to hear of your loss. Treasure the memories. Please know you are all in our thoughts and prayers.

Mary & Robby Clouse

mary clouse - February 22, 2017 at 10:35 AM



“ So very sorry for your loss. Don and I were classmates at Iowa State and fellow DNR employees, and he was by far one of the nicest people you would ever want to meet. Thoughts and prayers to you all at this difficult time.

Sincerely,
Donna Hanen Muhm

Donna Muhm - February 22, 2017 at 10:23 AM



“ Sorry for your loss.

Sincerely,
Glee and Donna Guess
(friends of Whitakers in Albany)

Glee & Donna Guess - February 22, 2017 at 10:07 AM



“ I worked with Don on many overnight field trips to Springbrook and with several other conservation programs over the years. He was always great to work with and very supportive of all the conservation programs.

He was a great man and a good friend.

Don and his family are in my thoughts and prayers.

Mark Wagner
Dubuque

Mark Wagner - February 22, 2017 at 09:38 AM



“ So sorry to hear about Don. He always reminded me of my brother. He always had a smile on his face and was happy. Thinking of you all with heartfelt prayer and love.

Deb Blackburn - February 22, 2017 at 08:07 AM



“ God's comfort to all of Don's family during this time - Suzanne, Chris, Shelby, Ashley and Grandchildren. May your memories of Don's broad smile and hearty laugh carry you through these difficult times. He is at rest now with his heavenly Father. What an honor to have known him!

Ken and Cheryl Hassenius

Ken Hassenius - February 21, 2017 at 03:01 PM



“ My brother Don was such a comfort during difficult times. He and my sister Verla always seem to be there for us when we need it most. I will miss him but I know he is now receiving the rewards he so deserves. Our sympathy to Suzanne and all the family.

Dick and Sue Sievers

Dick Sievers - February 21, 2017 at 04:41 PM



“ Sympathy to Suzanne & family. I enjoyed many happy memories of Don & his easy going manner working with him at the Conservation Education Center for many years. Always smiling and eager to help.

Linda Kastner

Linda Kastner - February 21, 2017 at 06:38 PM



“ Saddened to hear of Don's passing. He was a man to be admired and respected. Prayers and Hugs to all his family.

Nancy - February 21, 2017 at 10:36 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Don's passing. Tho we hadn't had communication in years, I remember him as being the nicest guy and always a smile. Our sincere sympathy to his family. I know he will be missed dearly..

Rick and Debbie (Sievers) Faaborg

Debbie Faaborg - February 22, 2017 at 07:55 PM



“ Don was a part of the success of the Education Center. One part was the development of a trapping class lead to a fur case for every AEA in the state for schools to use. My sympathy to his family.

Bob Rye

Bob Rye - February 26, 2017 at 08:31 AM



“ Suzanne, Our deepest sympathy to you, Shelby, Chris, Ashley and your family. Don was a wonderful guy. We often think about the many good times and great laughs we had together when we were in Jefferson. His expertise working with our Carroll MS students during their annual Springbrook trip impacted lots of lives and created tons of memories. We are traveling in South Carolina and cannot attend Don's memorial service, but please know our thoughts and prayers are with you. May God welcome Don into his Heavenly Home!

John and Chris Kinley

John and Chris Kinley - February 26, 2017 at 08:42 AM



“ Suzanne and family: what a loving tribute. Patty will deliver a hug and condolences from Linda and myself. So sorry for your loss. He is resting now.

LJ Miller - February 26, 2017 at 02:35 PM