



Donald Ray "Don" Townsend

October 13, 1936 - July 29, 2014

Donald Ray "Don" Townsend, age 77 of Blakesburg, passed away Tuesday, July 29, 2014, under the care of Monroe County Hospice at his home in Blakesburg.

Don was born October 13, 1936, in Monroe County to Arthur Raymond and Clara Elizabeth (McAllister) Townsend. He married Twyla Mae Clark on November 28, 1960, and to this union, 3 children, Teri, Roger, and Gary, were born. Don and Twyla shared 34 years of marriage before her passing in January 1995. Don later married Merrily Vance in May, 1996.

Don attended school in Blakesburg and graduated from Blakesburg High School in 1954. After high school, he served his country in the United States Army as a helicopter crew chief. After returning from the service, Don worked at the Massey Ferguson dealership from 1950 until 1971, when he purchased the garage. Don owned and operated Townsend Tractor Service until he retired in 2004.

Don enjoyed riding horses, pitching horse shoes and traveling. In his younger years he would participate in roping events with his fellow horsemen.

Don is survived by his wife, Merrily Townsend of Blakesburg; his children, Teri Townsend of Atlanta, GA; Roger (Sheila) Townsend of Clive, and Gary

(Jennifer) Townsend of Des Moines; Step-children, Mark (Teresa) Vance of Altoona, Stacy Moore of Moravia, and Michelle (Jerry) Frazier of Albia; a sister, Faye Mullinix of Red Oak; 13 grandchildren; 4 great grandchildren. Donny is also survived by several nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Twyla; his parents, Arthur and Clara; a brother, Arthur; and a step-son, Craig Vance.

Funeral services will be held at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, July 31, 2014, at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Pastor Jim Ellis officiating. Don will be cremated per his wish and a private family burial will be held at a later date.

Visitation will be held from 4-7 p.m., Thursday, July 31, 2014, at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Don's family present.

Memorials may be made to Monroe County Hospice.

Tribute Wall



“ Donald Ray "Don" Townsend

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ Donald Ray "Don" Townsend

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ Gary, Roger, & Teri I am so sorry to hear about your dad. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your families.

Teresa VanCleave Balmer - Hollow Creek, KY - August 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ I'm very sorry for the loss of your father. Your family will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Cynthia

Cynthia Hernandez - San Antonio, TX - Co-worker - July 30, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Sorry to hear about your dad's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Russ Lickteig - July 30, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ So sorry to here of Don's passing, my thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Jack Benge - West Des Moines, IA - July 30, 2014 at 12:00 AM