



Donald Lee Akers

June 27, 1946 - January 27, 2024

Donald Lee Akers, age 77, of Bluefield, WV, passed away on January 27, 2024, in Princeton, WV. He was born on June 27, 1946, in Pineville, WV. Don was a beloved husband to Marla, a loving father to Lisa Akers and Kimberly Dowdy, and proud grandfather to Leo, Mitch, and Graysen. He was a cherished brother to Mary Stalnaker, Pam Brewster, Ella Hash and sister-in-law Lois Franks, and uncle to several nieces and nephews. Don was preceded in death by his father, Jack Akers, mother, Virginia Duckett Akers, and brother, McKinley Akers.

Don graduated from Bluefield High School, went on to earn a degree in Business from West Virginia University, and later a degree in Computer Science from Bluefield State University. He had a successful career as a computer programmer and analyst with the WV Department of Employment Security until his retirement.

He loved his daughters and was proud to attend every event. Soccer, basketball, and volleyball games, band performances and competitions where he was perhaps the best Band Booster of all, dance recitals, graduations, and weddings. His grandchildren were the light of his life and he often traveled to attend their events or watched them on livestream.

Don had a spirit for adventure and enjoyed traveling with his family to explore

every corner of West Virginia and also the United States (including SO many battlefields). Sometimes a trip to McDonald's in an unexplored town was a good excuse for a drive. Together with Marla, he visited all 50 states and several foreign countries. He enjoyed the journey and the destination equally.

One of Don's favorite activities was to have a picnic - whether at a park, at a roadside table, or at the top of East River Mountain. His family and friends will celebrate his life with a picnic at a future date.

Don's humor, his sense of fun, and his love of family will forever be cherished by his loved ones and all those who had the privilege of knowing him.

Tribute Wall

EL

“ Marla, so sorry to hear of Donnie's passing. I have memories of you both from our visits to Bluefield. Always cheerful with a great smile. Thoughts and prayers for you and your family.
Elaine & Army Long

Elaine Long - February 13, 2024 at 10:55 AM

RW

“ Marla, words cannot express how we felt when we heard of the passing of Don . Was a former co-worker for many years and a good friend. Will be missed by many. Our sympathy to you and the girls.

Richard and Chris Wooten

Richard Wooten - February 05, 2024 at 09:29 PM

CB

“ So glad he had you, Marla. Being a battlefield buff was something he shared with my Dave Bard. Lunches overlooking the Bluestone at Pipestem dining room was a fond memory. Carol Bard

Carol Bard - February 03, 2024 at 05:02 PM

BW

“ Marla, keeping you and your family in our thoughts and prayers.
Much love, Barbara Wood

Barbara Wood - February 03, 2024 at 12:52 PM

GB

“ Marla, Sorry to learn of the passing of Don. Our thoughts and prayers for you and the family. I found Don to be a gentleman and a very conscientious, dedicated co-worker when we were employed together at the employment service. Gene Bailey

Gene Bailey - February 03, 2024 at 10:36 AM

JB

“ Growing up across the street from Don, was great for me, He was like an older brother and good friend, my regret is that we lost touch over the years, but his memory of the times we had together will live with me forever. Growing up in our neighborhood was priceless.

Jim Ball - February 01, 2024 at 08:42 PM

CA

“ I don't think that I have a childhood memory that does not include Marla and Don. Marla, I am so sorry for your loss and no words can adequately express how much Don will be missed. Thinking of you, your girls, and the grandbabies. Much Love, Christina Albert-Elswick

Christina Albert-Elswick - February 01, 2024 at 08:16 AM

 Gene
Kirk

“ Grew up with Don in Bluefield. We were good friends. He was a great guy and I'm sure he will be missed

Gene Kirk - January 31, 2024 at 06:32 PM

RD

“ *Mr. Akers along with his wife, were strong supporters of the band programs at both Bluefield Junior High and Bluefield High Schools. During my time as director at BJHS, he never hesitated to offer a kind word or a congratulations after every performance. I will always be in his and Mrs. Akers debt for their gratitude, encouragement and support. He will be missed by many.*

Roger Daniels - January 31, 2024 at 05:04 PM