



## Donald Louis Rud

December 26, 1932 - February 17, 2021

Rud, Donald L. Resident of the Pines of Richfield and long-term Bloomington resident passed away 2/17/2021 at the age of 88 after a three-year struggle with stage 4 Radon related lung cancer. He was born 12/26/1932 In Red Wing, MN to Louie and Marie Rud and was the eldest of their 6 children. Don was raised in Webster, MN and graduated from Northfield high school in 1950. He served his country honorably in the USAF in N. Africa during the Korean War. He returned to MN and worked many years as a civilian employee of the 934th Tactical Airlift Group. Don was very active in the American Federation of Government Employees, serving in many different capacities. He then finished his working career as a long-term employee of the AFGE. He was involved with both the American Legion and the VFW. Don was married to Marian Pexa on August 3, 1957 and they raised four boys in East Bloomington. He loved fishing, playing cards and watching any and all sports. Don coached all his boys in BAA Baseball and supported them in all of their endeavors. Baseball was his favorite sport and although he loved the Twins, his favorite team was the St. Patrick Irish. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother Rodney; sisters, Lucy Hill and Doris Clark; son-in-law Jose Perez. Don is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Marian; brother, Stanley; sister, Nordis Buethe; sons, Glen (Crystal), Paul (Claire), Mark and Joel (Sandy); grandchildren, Tanya, Jeff, Briana, Kara, Christopher, Lauren, Nathan, Hannah, Nicole, Levi, Steven and Rachel; great grandchildren, Kiriana and Alyssa; special friends, Dan Peckel and Mike Dahl. Don's family wishes to

express their thanks to the staff at the Pines and the Minneapolis VA for their kind and compassionate care. Due to COVID-19 private services will be held on Saturday, Feb. 27 at 2pm and will be live-streamed via the following link: [washburn-mcreavy.com/obituaries/Donald-Rud/](http://washburn-mcreavy.com/obituaries/Donald-Rud/) A public celebration of Don's life will occur next summer at St. Patrick's Tavern. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the St. Patrick Baseball Association. Washburn-McReavy.com  
Werness Brothers 952-884-8145

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

FEB 27. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Bloomington Chapel  
2300 W. Old Shakopee Road  
Bloomington, MN 55431  
(952) 884-8145  
[info@washburn-mcreavy.com](mailto:info@washburn-mcreavy.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels created a Funeral Service of Donald L. Rud in memory of Donald Louis Rud



Washburn-McReavy - February 26, 2021 at 04:38 PM

DT

*What a beautiful service! Until we meet again. . . Debbie and Jon Tonkin*

Debbie Tonkin - March 12, 2021 at 10:44 AM

JF

“ Marion-Jim and I send our deepest sympathies to you and your sons.  
We watched the Live Stream, you did such a nice job with that.  
Wish we could have also seen Glenn and Mark too.  
We have so many fun memories of our yrs on 82nd. We always had a good time.  
Mic's houseboat, NYE parties, cherry tomatoes, golf lessons, garage sale, the "streaker" :-).  
I don't have an address to even send you a card. But please know we have been thinking about you with Love and fond memories.

*Jim and Sandee Frederickson*

Jim and Sandee Frederickson - February 28, 2021 at 04:11 PM

TR

“ *Marian & family,  
What a beautiful service you had for Donnie. Our deepest sympathy to all of you at this difficult time. We have so many beautiful memories of him....Christmas gatherings, weddings, playing cards, baseball games....wherever he was it was always a good time! My dad really enjoyed fishing and playing cards with him and Rod....they always had fun together :). We're sure when Donnie got to heaven he had an amazing reunion with everyone there.  
Keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers,  
Tim & Debbie Rud*

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**Tim & Debbie Rud** - February 27, 2021 at 04:23 PM

TR

*Aunt Marian,, Glen, Paul, Mark and Joel:*

*Truly saddened to hear about the loss of Uncle Donny. He was always such a upbeat, positive and friendly guy. I don't think I ever heard him raise his voice or show any kind of anger. Even when we hadn't seen each for many years, I could feel the love he had for me and his entire family when we would run into each other. One of those long awaited reunions was when he came to visit my dad in Belle Plaine. He didn't realize just how bad Rodney had gotten and I had to tell him. He was visibly shaken by the news but I could see the respect he had for me and how I was trying to do to make my dads final days easier. I just thought that something Uncle Donnie would do.*

*Quiet as I was as a kid, and with 20 plus cousins running around at Grandpa and Grandmas \$1 dollar house in Webster (which always felt like a priceless castle to me) every Xmas Eve, and a bustling Euchre tournament(probably the most intense, insane and humorous card tourney Minnesota has ever seen) vying for his attention, he always took the time to talk with me and make sure that I had his attention as long as I wanted or needed. He really was an amazing person . I remember the dogs playing cards picture on the wall and can now imagine Donnie, Rod, Lucy and Doris) sitting at that table.*

*I am so grateful to be part of our family. We got lucky and had some wonderful parents, who despite having. their own struggles, managed to get the job as parents 100 percent right.*

*Funny thing, it wasn't more than a month ago when I was thinking about the old school bus he converted into a 'RV/mobile fishing cabin) and taking a ride to Lake Minnetonka. Thanks to Uncle Donnie, I was able to ride in a houseboat. I just think this is where my love of traveling and 'living in an RV for months at a time originated.*

*His loss is all that much harder, coming a year into the hardest one of lives. I'm grateful to hear he didn't have to deal with COVID(it still boggles my mind that this is actually happening)). One thing I'm realizing now, your dad and husband always inspires me to be better at being a good person. What would Uncle Donnie do? Is going. to be my new mantra.*

*Even though we don't see each other often, if you finally leave the living hell that is winter{bud if Minnesota summers aren't heaven on earth, don't know what is) move to Arizona like mentioned in Dr Paul's eulogy, we can change that, Every day I take the item to thank the universe and send positive energy into the world for you.*

*Oh and one last thing(I'm a writer, not a talker) it's Rud, not*

*Rude, pronounced as it's spelled, hard U. it's the 'e's fault. Euchre and lutfisk know what I'm talking about. Why you gotta be so rude about it. I haven't been rude since I left Minnesota.*

*Hi Tim and Deb! Love you*

*Thomas Rud*

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**Thomas Rud** - March 02, 2021 at 03:24 AM

SW

“ *We played a lot of euchre with Donny and his brothers over the last several years. They were always a lot of fun and really nice people. Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire family. Rest in peace, Donny!*

*Harry Thurmes, Sandy and Jane*

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**Sandy Wall** - February 25, 2021 at 02:14 PM

AC

“ *Ashley, Amy, Paul, Nick, and Chris purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Donald Louis Rud.*



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**Ashley, Amy, Paul, Nick, and Chris** - February 25, 2021 at 12:53 PM

JL

“ *Don was a friend and associate during my time at the 934th. He was a great advocate for the veterans. He assisted me in assuring that the employees at the base kept their jobs. I will miss him greatly.. Deepest sympathy to Dons family.*



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**Jerry LaLonde** - February 22, 2021 at 01:44 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Donald Louis Rud.*



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February 22, 2021 at 09:08 AM

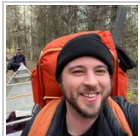


“ *To the Don Rud Family we wish the Family our Deepest Sympathy and Condolences. Don will always be in our thoughts and memories. The great times on the waters of Lake Michigan and other Lakes; to the Ice packed lakes of Red and Lake of the Woods. He was a fighter all the way -- from employee rights to the last few years with his cancer. Rest in Peace Our Friend -- Rick / Patti Klick*



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**Rick / Patti Klick** - February 21, 2021 at 11:36 AM



“ *I worked at the 934th TAG and got to know Don as our National Representative for AFGE. Don was one of the finest persons I ever met in my life. Always able to make you laugh. Always supportive. I will so miss the phone call I would get “hey it’s been a while, let’s meet fo breakfast” (or a beer). I will deeply miss you Don. RIP*

*Dave Engstrom*

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**Dave Engström** - February 21, 2021 at 08:36 AM

RW

“ Don made me laugh every time we would meet. I like laughing. It makes a person feel good. I hope in the time we spent I made him laugh as well. I'll never forget his face or the things he said that made us laugh. After having just lost our Mother last year I do understand the sorrow of family and friends. That being said, remember DON will still be looking out for us.  
Thanks Don

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**Ronald Welp** - February 20, 2021 at 02:07 PM

KB

“ Growing up without a Father is pretty heartbreaking and it is not easy to express the joy it would bring when Don would wave me over to play catch knowing he already had five boys screaming to throw them the ball.

*I am grateful for the times he took me fishing and remember holding the sixth of five tangled fishing poles in his face. He did not mind.*

*He taught my the importance of untangling your own mess and not cutting the line and throwing it all away.*

*Hanging out in the garage or around the picnic table with Don. You were never in the way and he always made you feel welcome.*

*I have done all I can to be the good neighbor he was.*

*A good man.*

*Ken Bowe*

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**Ken Bowe** - February 20, 2021 at 01:40 PM

KB

4 LOL

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**Ken Bowe** - February 20, 2021 at 01:45 PM

DM

*We are so sorry to hear about Don,s passing. We got to know him thru out the years living down the street from him in Bloomington, watching him walk and seeing him and Marion at the vfw. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Dick and Ann Mlachnik*

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**Dick and Ann Mlachnik** - February 21, 2021 at 11:43 AM