



Donald "Don" Bricker

November 3, 1934 - December 13, 2011

Donald "Don" Blair Bricker, 77, of Vulcan, passed away on Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at his home.

He was born November 3, 1934 in Detroit, MI, son of the late Arthur and Maud Luella (Bronson) Bricker. At age 2 his parents moved the family to Lapeer County, MI. He graduated from Lapeer High School in 1953 and was very active with FFA and participated on the high school fencing team, earning state awards. Following graduation, Don went to work for General Motors for nine years. Two of those years he served in the U.S. Army, being stationed in Korea for eight months. On August 7, 1954, Don married Alberta "Bert" Werden at the Juanita Latter Saints Church in Juanita, MI. In 1962, Don and his brother-in-law established their own excavation business which they ran until 1970. He worked for the City of Lapeer excavating dept. from 1970-72. Don then joined the State of Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources Wildlife Division at the Norway Field Office where he spent 23 years, retiring in 1995. He was a member and deacon of the First Presbyterian Church in Kingsford. Don was also a member of the MI Snowmobiler Assoc., and the Superior Sams #77 Good Sam Club and the American Legion in Norway. He was a wood craftsman, making his style of camping table and raffling them off for charity. He and Bert loved camping and traveling, visiting many places including Alaska, Mexico, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island in Canada, and two trips to the islands of Trinidad and Tobago. Don had many interests

including hunting, fishing, spending time with his children and grandchildren, & teaching them and other young people about wildlife and nature.

Don is survived by his wife, Alberta; six children, Terry (Ronn) Gregor of Niagara, Rod Bricker of Green Bay, Bethany (Michael) Jayne of Milan, MI, Jeffrey (Tammy) Bricker of Stevens Pointe, WI, Sally (Dan) Simondsen of Sagola and Stephen (Susan) Bricker of Mt Juliet, TN; a sister, Betty (Dave) Dotson; 4 sisters-in-law; 2 brothers-in-law; 18 grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Edward Bricker, three sisters-in-law, two brothers-in-law, and his best fishing and hunting friend, Arthur DuVernay.

Visitation will be held on Friday from 9:00 to 11:00am at the First Presbyterian Church in Kingsford. Funeral services will follow at 11:00am on Friday at the church. Rev. Michael March will officiate. Burial will be in the Norway Township Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial will be established in his memory.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Donald "Don" Bricker online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the funeral arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 16. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church
395 Hamilton Avenue
Kingsford, MI 49802

Funeral Service

DEC 16. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church
395 Hamilton Avenue
Kingsford, MI 49802

Tribute Wall

KF

“ Steve and Family

We were very saddened to hear of your father's passing. I have very fond memories of spending many youthful days at the Bricker home. I will never forget that he would always ask me if I wanted to have a hot pepper and when I refused he would "eat it for me". I'm thankful for having ran into him and your mom at a restaurant here in DePere last year and this summer in Iron Mountain. I always enjoyed talking to him. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Kevin and Maribeth Braspennickx

"To Live In The Hearts We Leave Behind Is Not To Die" - Thomas Campbell

Kevin Braspennickx - Green Bay, WI - Friend - December 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ My thoughts go out to you. I knew the Brickers from years ago in Lapeer, as very good people and very good neighbors.

Mary Ann Freeman Churchill - Arcadia, MI - Old friend of the family - December 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ Uncle Don will be sorely missed. I will always remember the fun we had at his house in Lapeer, MI when we were all young. My prayers are with all of his children and especially to Aunt Bert. Love and Prayers Diana

Diana Walker -Siwa - North Branch, MI - Niece - December 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AT

“ *What an amazing man! I am so grateful to have known Don and have the chance to be a part of his wonderful family. His welcoming embrace, kind nature and love of family and life are truly a reflection of God's love. I have fond memories of losing to him at cards as well as talking about fishing and old excavation equipment. They don't make em' like Don anymore. To Bert, I pray that God will comfort you and your family. Shauna and I love you all!*

Adam Raymond - Nashville, TN - December 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LN

“ *Uncle Don, you will be missed. What a wonderful man you were!! I remember when you brought home a St. Bernard puppy, and the huge dog house you built. I can still here Aunt Bert say...Donald Bricker good thing you built that "BIG" because your going to be in there too!! lol!!! Love you and I'll see you again one day.*

Lynn Pridemore - Tawas City, MI - niece - December 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ *May knowing you're
in the hearts and thoughts of others
help you and yours
through this time of sorrow.
So sorry for your loss you are all in my thoughts.*

Angela Anson - Friend of Tiffany Waldeck - December 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ I just learned of Don's passing. I am so sorry to hear that Don passed away. My sympathies go out to his family and friends. I remember Don from my first day on the job in Norway. He was a very positive influence on a new, young biologist. Don was a very patient and caring person and would always take the time to share information, his thoughts, and his ideas regarding deer and deer habitat. I will always remember him attempting to teach me how to operate the skidder and hydromower. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Bob Doepker - December 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM

EN

“ I loved all the times that I was able to spend with Uncle Don, going fishing, hunting snowmobiling, and some of the best memories are of him cooking. Right after my wife Melinda and I moved to Norway, I was having problems finding work, so in the spring he asked me to help out with the deer charting, which meant we walked through the woods counting deer poop, lol. While we were out there we had come across a small brook, he said he would go across first and to watch what he did, so I did it looked like he just simply walked across, no problem I thought and took my first step off the edge and sunk all the way up to my crotch, he instantly started to laugh, and came back to help me out. He said what happened I said I don't know you just walked across so why did I sink he said didn't you see that I stepped on that stone there and that log there, after he pointed everything out it was noticeable. The memory of me sinking like that always made him laugh and I enjoyed that and it's a memory that I will cherish the rest of my life. I love you and I'll miss you always.

Edmund Werden - Paw Paw, MI - nephew - December 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ I just wish one more time I could try and steal Uncle Don's dimes in a game of golf (cards). He was such a loving, caring, and thoughtful person that will be missed by so many people. His memory will live on with us all until the day we meet again.

xoxo

Kimberly Werden - Norway , MI - Family - December 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Bricker family now during this loss of your wonderful father! Many memories of him and the DuVernay family being together and being neighbors.

Thinking of you all and hoping God can give you peace and comfort during this time.

God Bless you!

Amy Orn

Amy Orn - Norway, MI - December 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ Katherine Jayne,

I am sorry for your loss. Your love for your grandfather will carry you through these difficult days and I provide very pleasant memories of your life with him for ever more. My thoughts and prayers are with you and yours.

Chuck DeSantis - December 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ To the family of Don: My deepest sympathy on your loss. My aunt Sally had a great dad, who, for as long as I can remember was kind and gentle - always willing to assist those in need. He had a sense of humor, which added zest to the lives he touched. He will be missed at Simondsen family gatherings. We have many memories of Don and will remember to share them with future generations. Alberta, please know you will always be a part of our family :) Love to all during this time of sorrow.

Teri - Oconto Falls, WI - Family Friend - December 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ I am so sorry for your loss, Don will be missed by everyone who was lucky enough to know him. I was lucky enough to spend time growing up with him and your wonderful family. Many great memories of Flying Kites, (he made the best kite string reels), Gardening and just hanging out.. I will keep all of you in my thoughts this holiday season...

Cindy (Bates) Thompson - Oconto , WI - Family Friend - December 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LF

“ Sal and Family, So sorry to hear of Don's passing. He was such a great guy and loved by so many. May the good Lord bless and be with you during this trying time. You have many great memories to hold on to and share. Each of them will bring a smile to your face and a warm spot in your heart. He'll always watch over you. Love to all, Lar, Rob and Family

Larry and Robin Gardepy - Clearfield, UT - Friend/Family - December 14, 2011 at 12:00 AM