



Donald William Daly

August 17, 1935 - January 18, 2025

Donald William Daly, age 89 of Phoenixville PA, passed away peacefully on January 18, 2025, surrounded by his family.

Born on August 17, 1935, raised in Philadelphia, Don was the son of the late (Joseph Daly), and Josephine Gallagher. He often insisted we mention he was born the same year as Elvis Presley.

Don was a devoted husband to Carroll Daly (Rush) and the proud father of Brian, Kevin (Jaclyn), Matthew (Chrystine) and Peter (Anne). He was the beloved "Poppy" to his grandchildren: Kayla, Dylan, Logan, Ciara, Mason, Jaiden, Vaughn and Cami. Don was the dear brother of the late Elizabeth (Betty) Vernot and Joseph.

Don lived a very full and rewarding life. He was raised in the 2nd floor apartment of a modest row home in Southwest Philadelphia with his mother and sister. After graduating from West Catholic High School, Don joined the Army in 1957 and served in Hawaii for 2 years as an armored carrier driver. He followed that up by joining the Merchant Marines, traveling through the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico.

Like most of the Philadelphia youth, Don ventured to the Jersey Shore every summer in the 1960s. These trips expanded his circle of friends, and soon led

to him meeting his soulmate, Carroll, at a dance place called Drexelbook in Drexel Hill. Don was a great dancer and they dated for two years and were married on October 30th, 1971. Carroll was by his side until the end.

His work ethic carried him through two careers - 22 years as a proud Philadelphia Police officer and 20+ more as a fraud investigator for national banks. His work led to many great adventures and stories. His life was full of personal encounters with famous folks such as Mother Teresa, Muhammed Ali, Pete Rose, Don Ho and Chubby Checkers to name a few. He interacted with every Philly mayor from Frank Rizzo through Michael Nutter. The FBI rewarded him with a service reward in 2002 for his contributions to the September 11th investigations. He enjoyed reading, politics and it is believed he never lost a trivia game. Don was described as "Kind, Sweet, Funny, and Caring" by his many friends and colleagues.

Above all, Don's priority was being there for his family. He always ensured we had summer vacations in Sea Isle City and the Poconos throughout our childhood. In the 80s, he was known for walking the beach with his large VHS camera and filming his family. He had stories that could inspire a Hollywood movie. An avid reader of crime and spy novels, Don knew where Hoffa was buried long before The Irishman movie came out. He loved telling family and friends these stories and they will live with his family forever.

In lieu of flowers, any Memorial contributions may be made to Ann's Heart in his name at annsheart.org

Viewing with family and friends is Saturday Morning 9-11am with a Funeral Mass to follow at 11:00 at St. Ann's Chapel 604 Main Street, Phoenixville, PA, 19460. Details for the luncheon will be provided at the Mass.

Arrangements are being handled by the Campbell - Ennis - Klotzbach Funeral

Home, Inc. Condolences may be offered online at www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Ann Cemetery

300 W. Pothouse Road
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Previous Events

Public Viewing

JAN **25**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Ann Chapel
604 S. Main Street
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Mass

JAN **25**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Ann Chapel
604 S. Main Street
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Tribute Wall



“ *Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Donald William Daly*



Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home - January 24, 2025 at 07:55 AM

AR

Beautiful memories! God Bless....

Anne Winnick Rabenold - January 24, 2025 at 02:28 PM

JD

“ *John and I were so sorry to hear of Don's passing. He was a kind and friendly man whom we met when we first moved into our community. Condolences to Carol and their family. John and Sterling Dougherty*

John and Sterling Dougherty - January 29, 2025 at 02:44 PM

MC

“ *So many memories of Don, too many to share. What I remember most was that he was a very kind, decent, human being. And his humor, we all enjoyed. My condolences to the family. Mike Cullen*

Mike Cu - January 24, 2025 at 04:14 PM

MV

“ Dear Carroll and family,

I am so sorry to hear of Don's passing. He was a wonderful man and we could not have asked for nicer neighbors. We saw how much you both enjoyed your boys and were so kind to our 2 when they came along. I certainly miss living on Oriole Street, but cherish the time we were neighbors. Please accept my heartfelt condolences.

Meg Vickers

Meg Vickers - January 24, 2025 at 11:48 AM

CK

“ *I will always treasure the time I spent with Don when he shared his memories and I was able to get them into a story with his help. I will miss visiting with this very sweet neighbor.*

Carol Koman

Carol Koman - January 24, 2025 at 10:10 AM

JD

“ *I'm so blessed to call this wonderful man Dad for the past twenty years. He lived every meaning of the word Dad. Not only that he was a wonderful leader and role model in the world. I will strive to keep making him proud of the Daly name for generations to come. I know my son Logan Donald Daly will live up to his name and he is very proud and honored to do so. Rest in peace Dad. We all love you.*

Jaclyn Daly - January 24, 2025 at 09:51 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald William Daly.



January 24, 2025 at 06:22 AM



“ PH SSG & SOG planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald William Daly.

PH SSG & SOG - January 23, 2025 at 11:06 PM



“ PH SSG & SOG purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Donald William Daly.



PH SSG & SOG - January 23, 2025 at 11:06 PM



“ We will miss Don's friendly smile; engaging personality; fascinating experiences; and, kind heart. We will smile when we think of Don and the times we were together. Our thoughts and prayers are with Carroll and their family.

Fran and Toots Fee.

Fran Fee - January 23, 2025 at 12:35 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald William Daly.*



January 22, 2025 at 10:22 PM



“ *A real fine man with a keen intellect and great sense of humor. Don definitely had a lifetime of interesting and exciting experiences. He will be greatly missed Mary Jane and I extend our sincere sympathy to the Daly family.*

Jere and Mary Jane Doyle

Jeremiah Doyle - January 22, 2025 at 08:26 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald William Daly.*



January 22, 2025 at 07:42 PM



“ *I always loved talking to Don. We would meet in the darned places while he was working and I was Socializing. One of Philadelphia's finest. Thanks for your service Don. RIP 🙏🙏🙏*

Jim and Jackie Fee

Jim Fee - January 22, 2025 at 06:23 PM

KD

*Thanks for words! Sounds like a typical Don encounter
Kevin*

Kevin Daly - January 23, 2025 at 09:18 PM

JS

“ *I always enjoyed talking and laughing with Don at family parties.
Frank Rizzo stories were the best!*

Joe Sullivan - January 22, 2025 at 05:43 PM