



Donald "Don" Frank Klempel

June 17, 1945 - September 5, 2023

Donald F. Klempel (78) of Glendive, MT went to be with his Lord on September 5, 2023, after losing a battle with cancer.

Don was born on June 17, 1945 in Glendive to Frank and Kathryn Klempel. Don attended South Valley School and graduated from Richey High School in 1963. From there Don attended Montana State University-Bozeman and graduated in 1968 with a mechanical engineering degree. Shortly thereafter, Don met the love of his life (Deborah Oljar) on a train headed to Bozeman. The two made a commitment to God and each other to be husband and wife on December 14, 1969. Their hope and faith in Jesus Christ was the foundation of their lives. They were blessed with three daughters, and as a result Don endured more shopping excursions, and bag carrying, than any male should ever be exposed to. However, I truly believe he was in his "happy place" doing this, as he cared more about others happiness than his own. Needless to say, when Paul and I became part of the family, Don welcomed us with open arms, probably with a hope for some free labor or maybe he longed for a little small talk about cattle and crop prices or the weather. Most likely, he knew he had fresh opponents for the Scrabble board. Either way, he loved us as if we were his own sons and for that, I am grateful. He was a man of few words and always led by example. He had an inquisitive mind, and the harder the problem, the more he enjoyed figuring it out. Travel and family were a top priority, he loved family reunions, sharing family and local history. Don and Deb took many trips across the United States and to Europe.

When he shared places like Washington D.C. and Alaska with his kids and grandkids, his cup runneth over. Known as Papa Don by his grandkids, they will always remember his love of the 4th of July, fireworks, CO2 infused whipping cream and his homemade french toast. Don worked 37 years in the oil and gas industry with Montana-Dakota Utilities and subsidiaries in Glendive and Bismarck, North Dakota and was known to mentor many co-workers. After he retired, he moved back to Glendive where he enjoyed working with his brothers on the family ranch near Bloomfield, as well as having his own livestock.

All of us who knew Don were blessed in one way or another, whether it was a lesson he taught us, or words of encouragement he gave us. Don was always on your side, hoping the best for you and praying for you when you needed it most.

Don is survived by his wife, Debbie; three daughters; Sarah (Paul) Siderius, Becki (Justin) Miller, Beth Klempel; grandchildren, Katie, Emma, and Abby Siderius, and Rye and Piper Miller; his siblings, Janice (Duane) Mullet, Tom (Marge) Klempel, Alan (Sherri) Klempel, and sister in-law Ilene (Gordon) Klempel, and numerous nephews and nieces. His parents Frank and Kathryn, and his brother Gordon preceded Don in death.

A Funeral Service will be held on Monday, September 11, 2023 at 10:30 a.m. at the Alliance Church in Glendive with a luncheon to follow. A family burial will take place at the Dawson County Cemetery. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Eastern Montana Bible Camp had a special place in Don's heart and the family would suggest anyone wanting to make a memorial do so to EMBC. Remembrances and condolences can be shared with the family at: www.silhafuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Dawson County Cemetery

Corner of North Sargent Ave. and East Allard
Street
Glendive, MT 59330

Previous Events

Funeral Service

SEP 11. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (MT)

Glendive Alliance Church
105 Highland Park Road
Glendive, MT 59330

Tribute Wall

DO

“ Don and Deb were some of my greatest supporters both financially and in prayer all my years in Taiwan and ever these years in retirement. I praise God for their faithfulness to Him. Dorothy Holzwarth

Dorothy - September 12, 2023 at 01:14 PM

DB

“ My condolences to the family and friends of Donald Klempel at this difficult time. Prayers to all.



Denise Bortrager - September 12, 2023 at 06:33 AM

BS

“ God be with you during this difficult time. I am sorry that I never got to have a deep conversation with Don after God saved me but looking forward to it when that day comes! I don't think I could forget the time he loaned me a car from Fargo to Brumfield and "forgot" to tell me there was a trunk load of professional fireworks in it :)

Brad Snelling - September 11, 2023 at 02:30 PM

MM

“ Marla McCormick lit a candle in memory of Donald "Don" Klempel



Marla McCormick - September 10, 2023 at 09:22 PM

MD

“ Our prayers are with you all. The Klempels are special people from our Glendive days. Don set an example of how to live life. His faith and family were paramount to him and it was evident in how he lived.

-- The Doughertys

Michael Dougherty - September 09, 2023 at 10:26 AM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald "Don" Frank Klempel.



September 08, 2023 at 11:43 AM

RB

“ Debbie & family, my deepest sympathy goes out to you all. I was sad to learn of Don's passing. Don was definitely a man to be respected and admired in his professional and personal walks of life.

May God's peace and comfort be with you all!

Rosemary Baldwin - September 08, 2023 at 10:59 AM

KM

“ I was sorry to read about Don, I always enjoyed talking with Don. No matter what the subject I would always learn something. Don also possessed the Klempel Humor gene, so we never experienced a conversation without lots of laughing. He will be missed.

Kyle Milne

Kyle Milne - September 07, 2023 at 10:57 PM



“ Toni Schultz lit a candle in memory of Donald "Don" Klempel



Toni Schultz - September 07, 2023 at 10:55 PM



“ Tony and I have so many great memories of the family. We send our prayers and thoughts for you, Debbie, and your family. Don was such a good man. He will be missed.

Tony and Sharon Finneman - September 07, 2023 at 09:30 PM



“ Diane Crockett lit a candle in memory of Donald "Don" Klempel



Diane Crockett - September 07, 2023 at 08:17 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers and prayers are with you, Deb and your families. What a very special man! God's light surely shined through Don. We will never forget not long after we moved across the road and you showed up to introduce yourselves as our neighbors. Bill loved visiting with Don while getting irrigation set up and closing out for the season, along with any other little projects that came along. Although we didn't know him long, we will never forget him. God hold you close with your wonderful memories.

Bill and Rita Hanley - September 07, 2023 at 08:12 PM

KC

“ *Klempel family, I am so sorry for your loss. I pray that your many memories will bring you comfort at this sad time.*
Kelly (Barney) Couture

Kelly Couture - September 07, 2023 at 06:38 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Donald "Don" Frank Klempel.*



September 07, 2023 at 05:47 PM

LF

“ *Deepest sympathies to you and your family.*



Linda Frank - September 07, 2023 at 05:40 PM



“ 50 files added to the album LifeTributes

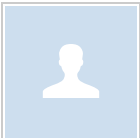


Silha Funeral Home - September 07, 2023 at 05:05 PM



“ Klempel Family - My thoughts and prayers are with your family - May all your memories guide you through the tough days. Mandy (Boese) Kutzler

Mandy Kutzler - September 07, 2023 at 03:44 PM



“ Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Donald "Don" Frank Klempel.



September 07, 2023 at 03:29 PM



“ Oh, Debbie... I am so sorry to learn of Don's passing. Please know a memorial is going to EMBC from Gene and me. Right now my thoughts are with you. Be strong. Bless you, friend.

Gene and Bobi Allard - September 07, 2023 at 01:04 PM

AA

“ *Debbie, my deepest sympathies. God's comfort and peace be with you and your family. Avis Anderson*

Avis Anderson - September 07, 2023 at 12:48 PM

PS

“ *Patty Steer lit a candle in memory of Donald "Don" Klempel*



Patty Steer - September 07, 2023 at 10:39 AM

GP

“ *Prayers and Condolences to the Klempel Family.*



Ginger & Kelly Pulse - September 07, 2023 at 09:00 AM

KM

*The fact that The basis of your marriage was your Faith is so great!
What a life! Blessings on all of you!
I really like Don!*

Kevin McGovern - September 07, 2023 at 01:45 PM

SF

“ *Our deepest sympathies and sincerest condolences.
Carson and Sheryl Fleck*

Sheryl Ann Fleck - September 07, 2023 at 07:55 AM

JS

“ *Deb, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Don was a great co worker. Always enjoyed working with him.*
Gordy and Judy Schmitt

Judy schmitt - September 07, 2023 at 01:33 AM

BJ

“ *We are so sorry. You're all in our prayers. Hold onto your special memories. They do help you through.*
Bob and Dixie Justice



Bob and Dixie Justice - September 06, 2023 at 08:29 PM

MS

“ *Deb and family, I was so sorry to hear about Don. Don hired me in Gas Measurement when I moved from the division to P&T. I worked for him for several years before you moved to Bismarck. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*



Mel Sampson - September 06, 2023 at 08:17 PM

JS

“ *Jim/Donna Stanfill sent a virtual gift in memory of Donald "Don" Klempel*



Jim/Donna Stanfill - September 06, 2023 at 07:31 PM

CH

“ *Deb & family, so sorry to read of Don's passing. Cherish all the many fond memories.*

Cherise - September 06, 2023 at 06:36 PM

DD

“ *Dan Donna Dobson lit a candle in memory of Donald "Don" Klempel*



Dan & Donna Dobson - September 06, 2023 at 04:57 PM

VJ

Deb, Sarah, Becki and Beth, we are so very sorry to hear of Eon's passing. He was a wonderful man and we were so glad the we knew him. We will be praying for peace for all of you and your families! Love to each of you. Gary and Virginia Johnston

Virginia Johnston - September 06, 2023 at 07:03 PM

KM

*Deb and family,
We are sorry to hear of Don's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. May wonderful memories comfort you at this time. Dave and Kathy Mangskau*

Kathleen Mangskau - September 07, 2023 at 04:40 PM

BR

So sorry for your loss. Liked working with Don, Bernice Rudnick

Bernice Rudnick - September 07, 2023 at 06:24 PM

GG

*Dearest Debbie. and family,
I am at a loss for words that will, bring you each comfort.....The
memories and your fondest activities will comfort you in the future~~~~
I was glad to see your name, and have wondered for ever so long
where the path in life had taken you, but was comforted by reading
Dons obituary and knew you had had a wonderful relationship and
family, I shall try to get in contact with you in the near future,~~~~~
gloria (punkie) a very old baby sitter and friend from long ago
remembering you and your family when you where just a wee bright
new baby girl!!*

Gloria Jean Guffey - September 08, 2023 at 05:39 PM