



Don Harp

January 15, 2011

Donald Leon Harp, our beloved husband, father, and grandfather, was welcomed into glory to be with his Lord and Savior on Jan. 15, 2011. He was born Jan. 6, 1928, in Springdale, Ark., to Harvard and Floy Harp.

He was the oldest son of four children. He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Reland Harp and sister, Judy Harp Vanhoose. He is survived by his brother, Gerald Harp. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Martha Miller Harp and is survived by his present wife, Jeanne Justis Harp. He is also survived by his children, Julie Priest and husband Mark, Patti Pianalto and husband Dwain, Dawn Michelle Benson and husband Walter, Tina Clouse and husband Jerry, and Gina Bell and husband Brett, as well as Jeff Justis and wife Kim, Jana Cate and husband Devin, and Joe Justis and wife Lisa.

He loved and was adored by his grandchildren, Virgie Chandler, the late Bryan Reynolds, Brandon Reynolds and wife Cassie, Nathan Reynolds, Kaila Pianalto, Katie Pianalto, Jaclynn Pianalto, Chad Benson and wife Kathryn, Caleb Benson, Shane Benson, Judi Bell, Briana Bell, Kendra Bell, Alexa Bell, John Michael Justis, Sarah Cate, Mack Cate, Ashley Meyer and husband Adam, Kristin Justis, and Tuesdae Justis. Don also had four great-grandchildren, Jeren Chandler, Julia Chandler, Jaqlynn Chandler and Elijah Justis.

He is also survived by lifelong friends, Bill and Louise Ferguson. He was truly a family man and friend to so many.

Don loved his country. He served as a paratrooper in the U.S. Army, 82nd Airborne from August 1946 to January 1948, and also served in the Air Force as a first lieutenant from 1951 to 1953.

Don had a heart for community service; he was an Eagle Scout, served as a member of the Kiwanis Club of Springdale and served a term as president. He was a Legion of Honor member and received the George F. Hixson Fellowship Award. He served as president of Springdale Country Club, was on the board of the Associated Wholesale Grocers in Springfield, Mo., served on the Springdale Memorial Hospital Board for 30 years, served on the Chamber of Commerce. He was a member of the Arkansas Polled Hereford Association and was a Polled Hereford breeder.

One of his greatest loves was serving on the Rodeo of the Ozarks board for 25 years. He was a fullback for Springdale High School and continued to support the Springdale Bulldogs throughout his life. He graduated from the U of A where he served as a member of the Air Force ROTC and graduated with a business/economics degree. He was a supporter of the U of A Razorback Foundation, the Republican Party, and was a member of Phi Delta Theta. He loved to hunt and was a Golden Eagle Member of the NRA.

When he was 12 years old, he worked in his dad's Cash Grocery where he learned the grocery business. After college and serving in the military, in 1953, he formed a partnership with his father, which later became Harps Food Stores. His brothers, Gerald and Reland Harp later joined him in the business. In his later years, he developed and ran Harp's Properties.

He was a faithful member of First Baptist Church of Springdale, now Cross Church, where he served as an usher, greeter, and member of the finance committee. The family was blessed to have wonderful caregivers in Don's last days: Roseanne Leverich, Juana Hernandez, Allen Wood and Donna Lasiter.

Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday night at Sisco Funeral Chapel of Springdale. The funeral service will be held at Cross Church (formerly First Baptist Church of Springdale) at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 18, with the Rev. Cliff Palmer and the Rev. Charlie Foster officiating. Interment will be at Friendship Cemetery in Springdale.

Pallbearers will be Tex Holt, Tom Reed, John Gladden, Cecil Phillips, Dr. Jim Rollins and Jim Fuller. Honorary pallbearers will be Larry Cook, Jerry Stamps, past and present Rodeo of the Ozarks board of directors and secretary, and Janet Edwards.

Charitable contributions can be made to the Springdale Kiwanis Club Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 652, Springdale, AR 72765, or the Oklahoma and Arkansas Chapter of Alzheimer's Association, P.O. Box 96011, Washington, D.C. 20090-6011.

Tribute Wall



“ *Don Harp*

January 21, 2023 at 02:29 PM



“ *To the Harp family. Don hired me as a cashier in 1961 & we remained friends all these many years. I was associated with him due to working with the Rodeo of the Ozarks & always counted him as a true gentleman to everyone. My sympathy to all.*

January 26, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *We pray peace and comfort for the Harp family during your time of loss. Much love to all especially Shelly and Patti, Brett & Gina and all the grandchildren.*

January 22, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Couldn't ask for a better person, he will be missed. Don and Charlotte Ralston*

January 19, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers go out to your family in your time of loss.*

January 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Don was greatly missed when he left the Polled Hereford industry. Cattle shows were always hard work but Don's charm and wit made them a joy.

The Hamm and Swope families would like to extend our condolences to the whole family and especially Gina and Tina. We spend a lot of hours in the cattle barns together.

Bill and Sarah Hamm

Jane Swope

January 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Our prayers are with the entire family. I went to school with the Harp kids, knew the family well, and Don and Jeannie have stayed in contact with my Mom. "Death is a heartache no one can heal - love leaves a memory no one can steal."

January 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Our condolences to the Harp family. Since moving to this area in 1965, we have known the Harp family. A lot through my working with the Chamber of Commerce and the Rodeo of the Ozarks. Jeannie, a dear friend and Shelly and Walter, former neighbors, Gerald and family, your twins and my daughter were school buddies, our prayers are with you and the rest of the family. Don will be missed greatly.

January 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *From Harps employees, our deepest thoughts and prayers are with you.*

January 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. My mother, Colleen Gay Watson, was first cousin to Don, daughter of Jessie Harp Gay.*

She passed away June 6, so I understand what an emotional time you are going through, and will be for many years to come. Someday I hope to complete what family history I have accumulated and send to other family members.

May God Bless You and comfort you during this difficult time....Gaylene

my address is 12340 N. 177th E. Ave. Collinsville, OK 74021 phone (918) 371-9087

January 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Don was a great man and a good friend who will be missed by all.*

January 18, 2011 at 12:00 AM