



Donnie Melvin Baker

May 7, 1934 - January 13, 2017

Don (Donnie) Melvin Baker beloved Husband, Dad, Grandpa and Great Grandpa went to a Happy Homecoming with His Lord on Friday, January 13, 2017. He was born in Thomasville, Missouri on May 7, 1934 to Lelia Wilcox Baker and Elijah Van Baker.

He joined the United States Navy in 1953 and served with honor in the Korean War on the USS Taylor DDE468 as a gunners mate for four years. He loved his country and was very patriotic.

He married Betty (Gorman) Baker on October 26, 1957 and to their union was born three children, Terri (Teresa) Sue Baker Kreitler, Donald Edward Baker, and Sydonyia Marie Baker Crossman. He taught his children right from wrong with "Dad's Little Sermons" at the supper table. He was a strong Christian and never waivered in his beliefs. He was a loyal employee of Central Hardware for 32 years.

He loved to garden and grow beautiful flowers, loved working on his small farm near Montauk, Missouri.

He is survived by his wife of almost 60 years, Betty Gorman Baker. They lived in Ballwin, Missouri for 45 years and they have recently resided in Festus, Missouri. Oldest daughter, Terri Baker Kreitler (Ron) of Festus, Missouri, son Donald Baker (Tammy) of Crown Point, Indiana, and daughter Sydonyia Baker Crossman (Philip) of Minto, New Brunswick Canada. Eight grandchildren- Daniel (Laura) Kreitler, Pensacola, Florida, James (Angela) Kreitler, Festus,

Emily (Dan) Moore, Festus. Timothy (Karissa) Baker, Griffith, Indiana, Megan Baker and Caitlin Baker, Crown Point, Indiana, Noah Crossman and Jonathan Crossman, Minto, New Brunswick, Canada.

Eleven Great Grandchildren are Austin, Jeremiah, and Harmony Kreitler, Owen, Jolie, Karis, and Maddox Kreitler, Hallie, Noah, and Elijah Moore, and Clark Baker.

Brother of Geneva Counts, Ruby Byfield, James Baker, Gene Baker, Robert Baker, all of Salem and Norma McGuirk of St. Peters, Missouri. Pre-deceased by siblings, Irvin Baker, Bonnie Baker, Carl Baker, and Dale Baker. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Don Baker's name to the St. Louis Alzheimer's Association at alz.org.

Funeral services for Don Baker will be held at The Salem Chapel of the James & Gahr Mortuary on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 1:00PM. Internment with full military honors will follow at Patterson Cemetery. Visitation for family and friends will be held at the Chapel on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 from 5-8PM.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 18. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Salem
103 West Center
Salem, MO 65560
(573) 729-3117
jgsalemmo@hotmail.com
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

Service

JAN 19. 1:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Salem
103 West Center
Salem, MO 65560
(573) 729-3117
jgsalemmo@hotmail.com
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

Military Honors

JAN 19. 2:00 PM (CT)

Patterson Cemetery
Salem, MO

Tribute Wall



“ *Donnie Melvin Baker*

January 30, 2023 at 04:37 AM



“ *Donnie Melvin Baker*

January 30, 2023 at 02:54 AM



“ *Lawyers and Secretaries, Wegmann Law Firm purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Donnie Melvin Baker.*



Lawyers and Secretaries, Wegmann Law Firm - January 17, 2017 at 02:18 PM



“ *In the years I have known Don and Betty and members of their family, especially the Kreitlers, they have been faithful servants of the Lord. What a testimony Don had! I can't imagine the heartache and sorrow the family is now experiencing, but I also know they have deep joy and rejoicing knowing that Brother Don is now with Jesus, the one whom Don loved and served for so many years. Our deepest sympathy and prayers go out to the family. We feel so honored to have known them.*
Bro. Pete and Kathy Ruble

Pete Ruble - January 17, 2017 at 09:24 AM

JM

“ We will always remember Don as a very happy ,caring person who always had a smile on his face. I will be forever grateful for his kindness in helping me find my first job at First National Bank in St Louis after I graduated from high school. He was a great brother.

Norma and John McGuirk

John C McGuirk - January 16, 2017 at 06:33 PM

EM

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Evelyn Morgan - January 16, 2017 at 09:51 AM

LC

“ My sincere condolences to *Sydneyia and the Baker family.*

Lois Crossman (Philip's sister)

Lois Crossman - January 15, 2017 at 06:20 PM

AG

“ Amy and Eric Smith, Michelle and Steve Grojean purchased the *Beautiful in Blue* for the family of *Donnie Melvin Baker.*



Amy and Eric Smith, Michelle and Steve Grojean - January 15, 2017 at 10:43 AM



“ *Pretty Please* was purchased for the family of Donnie Melvin Baker.



January 15, 2017 at 09:04 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden* was purchased for the family of Donnie Melvin Baker.



January 14, 2017 at 09:29 PM