



Donavon L. Aylard

September 1, 1933 - December 11, 2019

Donavon L. Aylard, age 86, of Bloomsburg, passed away on Wednesday, December 11, 2019, a patient of the Sunset Ridge Healthcare Center, Bloomsburg. Don was a resident of Elysburg for three years and Bloomsburg for the past five years. Don previously lived in Auburn, WA with his wife Anita for over fifteen years.

He was born on Friday, September 1, 1933 in Jackson, MI a son of the late Clark and Esther (Vore) Aylard. Don graduated from Santa Rosa High School, Santa Rosa, CA in 1951. Donavon expanded his education by attending San Jose State University, San Jose, CA, and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Art. He faithfully served his country in the U.S. Army enlisting in 1956 and was honorably discharged in 1958. On December 23, 1964, Don married his loving wife, the former Anita H. Campbell, who preceded him in death on April 1, 2010.

For over 32 years, Don was employed by World Vision, Federal Way, WA as a graphic artist and most of that time was Art Director for World Vision Magazine until his retirement in 2001. Don was a beloved member of Elysburg Presbyterian Church. He was a man of prayer and deep Christian faith. He enjoyed nature photography and spiritual reading, especially C.S. Lewis and Thomas Merton, and novels, such as the Mitford series by Jan Karon. He loved his time at play with his grandchildren.

In addition to his parents and wife, Don was also preceded in death by two brothers, John Aylard, and Roger Aylard.

Survivors include his three children; Beth A. Aylard and spouse Sandra Meades of Tacoma, WA, Rev. Jill E. Young wife of Rev. Matthew D. Young of Bloomsburg, Todd L. Aylard of Seattle, WA, two grandchildren, Grace E. Young, Jack D. Young, a brother, Vern Aylard and wife Terri of San Jose, CA, a sister in law, Lorna Aylard of Auburn, CA, as well as many beloved nieces, nephews and cousins.

A time of visitation for family and friends will be held on Saturday, December 14, 2019

from 10:00 am to 11:00 am at Elysburg Presbyterian Church, 320 W. Valley Ave., Elysburg.

Funeral Services will begin on Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 11:00 am at Elysburg Presbyterian Church with Don's son-in-law, Rev. Matthew D. Young, officiating. Graveside committal services will be held at a later date in Mountain View Cemetery, Auburn, WA. The Allen Funeral Home, Inc., 745 Market at Eighth Sts., Bloomsburg is honored to be serving the Aylard and Young family.

Memorial contributions in Donavon's name are suggested to: World Vision, 34834 Weyerhauser Way S., Federal Way, WA 98001 or worldvision.org/donate. Friends and family wishing to send a memorial gift, share a personal memory or offer condolences to the family, a Memorial Tribute Page in Donavon's honor and a Sympathy Store are available at www.Allen-FuneralHome.com.

Events

DEC 14 **Public Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

14

Elysburg Presbyterian Church

320 W. Valley Ave., Elysburg, PA, US, 17824

DEC 14 **Funeral Ceremony** 11:00AM

14

Elysburg Presbyterian Church

320 W. Valley Ave., Elysburg, PA, US, 17824

Comments



“ Dad, May you find yourself wrapped in the unending embrace of the Divine Mystery that you have known throughout your life. Peace and love.

Beth Aylard - December 17, 2019 at 01:39 AM



“ 5 files added to the album LifeTributes



Jill Young - December 16, 2019 at 12:26 PM



“ Of all friendships since college years, Don and Anita and family have been among the most treasured. Don's quiet but intense thoughtfulness related to spiritual matters was balanced by a sense of humor and a twinkling eye. We are thankful these last years have been shared with grandchildren and Jill and Matthew's home and pastoral life, as a place of refuge from the loss of Anita, his life partner. We were blessed in their friendship.

Gwen and Jim Hedges

Jim and Gwen - December 14, 2019 at 03:18 PM



“ Thank you for your beautiful words! I love how you describe my dear dad - so true! Your family was a huge part of our growing up years from summer swims in your pool to getting to have Jim as an English professor!...and your friendship with my parents such a beautiful gift of God. We love you!!!

Jill - December 16, 2019 at 11:32 AM



“ Don and Anita Aylard have been faithful and life-long friends. They are family. It began in the 1960s when Hal was a Fuller Seminary student and I found a job at World Vision. I worked part-time in the art department and Don was my trainer and supervisor.

Soon after I began work, Don and Anita invited us over for dinner (they excelled in hospitality!) and our friendship began. Down through the years it grew. We watched our kids grow up together. We enjoyed many meals and long conversations on subjects dear to our hearts. We shared our love of literature and could talk for hours about favorite passages from C.S. Lewis.

When Hal and I left for the Bolivian mission field, we kept up the relationship via letters and cassette tapes. Don made one memorable trip to be with us in La Paz. They were our touchstone on furloughs home.

The covers of my four published poetry books are graced with Don's photographs.

Words, even a poet's words, can't describe the worth of this man, but I'll throw out a few: kindness, gentleness, intelligence, creativity, generosity, compassion, loyalty, wisdom.

When I received word that Don was dying, I wept, but I also rejoiced as I imagined him coming face to face with Aslan. I imagined the reunion with his beloved Anita. Then I prayed that, as soon as possible, God would let him sit down for a long conversation with C.S. Lewis. I smile every time I think of it. I imagine there will be many such conversations and that Lewis will feel greatly enriched in knowing Don.

I thank God for the life—past, present, and forever ongoing—of Donovan Aylard.

Hal and Nancy Thomas
Newberg, Oregon

Nancy J Thomas - December 14, 2019 at 11:12 AM



“ Your words touch my heart, dear Nancy...and honor my dear father so well. My dad valued and enjoyed you and Hal so much as kindred spirits and was richly blessed by your family's friendship and deep faith as was/is our whole family! Nice to remember about his visit to La Paz and of course the covers to your poetry books. And yes! to the conversations with C. S. Lewis! :)
Love & hugs!

Jill - December 16, 2019 at 11:47 AM



“ 1 file added to the album LifeTributes



Jill Young - December 13, 2019 at 10:30 AM



“ 28 files added to the album LifeTributes



Allen Funeral Home, Inc. - December 12, 2019 at 03:05 PM