



Donald Martin Klingshirn

November 11, 1944 - June 20, 2018

Donald “Donnie” Martin Klingshirn, a Faith-filled, teddy-bear of a man, died unexpectedly at his home on Wednesday, June 20, 2018. Donnie, 73, of Charlotte, was born November 11, 1944 in Rogers City, MI, the son of Alfred and Anna (Grochowski) Klingshirn. He graduated from high school in Rogers City in 1962 and shortly after moved to Charlotte to take a job with Harris Brothers, fellow Rogers City natives. He proudly answered the call to duty when he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in the Vietnam War, where he helped build the airport in Cam Ranh Bay. Upon his return, he married the love of his life, Jane “Janie” Orban, on May 18, 1968. The two started their family and Donnie went to work for Oldsmobile, retiring in 2004 after over 30 years. In retirement, Donnie worked for Delta Airlines at the Lansing airport, working in many capacities on and off the tarmac.

Donnie and Janie were devout members of St. Mary Parish in Charlotte, where he was very involved in St. Vincent DePaul and the Knights of Columbus, achieving the honor of fourth degree brother knight. Everyone will remember Donnie as the beloved St. Nicholas, visiting Mass during the feast day in full staff and mitre and handing out candy canes. He also sang in the church choir, and participated in every church function throughout the years.

He loved the Detroit Tigers, the ink on his finger tips from reading “real” newspapers, and woodworking. He was a skilled handyman and craftsman, always keeping things running around the house and helping with woodcraft for Janie’s elementary art classes at St. Mary School. He loved music, and even enjoyed the opportunity to sing the “12 days of Christmas” on stage with Kenny Rogers. Donnie remained proud of his service to his country, his Faith, and his family. One of his greatest joys in life as “Dzia Dzia” was time spent with his grandchildren, especially attending their many activities and events.

Donnie is survived by his wife of 50 years, Jane Klingshirn; 3 daughters, Marcy Klingshirn, Kristy (Steve) Shepard, and Jenny (Larry) Hart; 5 grandchildren, Amelia, Annalise, Adeline, Gunnar and Archar; 4 siblings, Betty Valentin, Barbara (Gary) Lamb, Jimmy (Nancy) Klingshirn, and Mary (Mike) Witulski; and several nieces and nephews. He was

predeceased by his brother, Charles Klingshirn; sister-in-law, Gayle Klingshirn; and his parents.

Friends are encouraged to support Donnie's family at visitation and funeral services. Funeral Mass will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, June 25, 2018 at St. Mary Catholic Church, Charlotte with Rev. Fr. Dwight Ezop officiating. Visitation will be from 2:00 – 4:00 and 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. with a Rosary at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, June 24, 2018 at the funeral home, and from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. on Monday, just prior to the Mass at the church. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to St. Mary Parish or St. Vincent DePaul.

Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Donnie on his Tribute Page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Events

JUN **Visitation** 02:00PM - 04:00PM

24

Pray Funeral Home

401 W. Seminary St., Charlotte, MI, US, 48813

JUN **Visitation** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

24

Pray Funeral Home

401 W. Seminary St., Charlotte, MI, US, 48813

JUN **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

25

St. Mary Catholic Church

807 St. Mary Boulevard, Charlotte, MI, US, 48813

JUN **Funeral Ceremony** 11:00AM

25

St. Mary Catholic Church

807 St. Mary Boulevard, Charlotte, MI, US, 48813

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 23, 2018 at 05:17 PM



“ Jane and Family,

So sorry to hear of Don's passing his absence will be missed by all.

During all the years that I have known the family each family member and their unique personalities will be forever etched in my mind.

Donnie in my estimation was a steady ship in this world. He was always very approachable with a warm smile, soft spoken, and good humor.

Donnie was a genuine person firmly planted in his faith and the direction he was going in this life.

When I was playing basket ball for St. Ignatius I would walk down to Anna's and wait for practice at 5pm. The Klingshirn household was always bustling with activity with Fritz coming home from work, Mary, Jim, Donny, and Anna going about their day. Anna always cooking (YUM) and Buza always asking who turned the heat down.

Great memories that I will always hold dear to my heart.

God Bless You Jane and Family,

Ivan & Holly Wirgau

Ivan Wirgau - June 25, 2018 at 09:58 AM



“ Dear Janie, Marcy, Kristy, and Jenny and family, Donnie was a very generous and gentle man who shared his many talents and time at St. Mary's, St. Vincent DePaul, Knights of Columbus and many other times that we don't even know about. I remember his laugh and funny sense of humor. We have been friends for over 50 years and I sure hope that we can be there to help you out for any thing that comes up or to just be there to listen. The service yesterday was a beautiful tribute to Donnie!! Well done faithful servant! Love, Carol and Ray Idalski

CAROL IDALSKI - June 26, 2018 at 10:18 AM



“ So sorry to hear of Don's swift passing. Our condolences and prayers for you and your family. He was a wonderful person, classmate, and greatly respected. Don and Jacqui Smith. (Rogers City)

Don and Jacqui Smith - June 25, 2018 at 09:50 AM



“ Dear Janie,
We are so sorry to hear this sad news. Donnie was such a vibrant and generous spirit. He was giving with his time, whether with the school or the church. Neither will be the same without him. Our children will always remember him as St. Nicholas. We will remember him as a gentle friend.
Love,
Chris and Frank Fleischmann

Christine Waugh Fleischmann - June 24, 2018 at 07:50 PM



“ i worked with and for Don many years in the die division at Oldsmobile. He was a good friend as well as a good and fair boss. May the blessings of the Lord be with his family and may God rest his soul. Dick Hanna

Dick Hanna - June 24, 2018 at 06:12 PM



“ So sorry to hear about Don. Worked with him at Oldsmobile as a fellow die maker & friend. He was always friendly & easy to talk to. I retired in 1998. I know he will be missed. RIP

Jerry Dick - June 24, 2018 at 04:34 PM



“ Janie and Family....I was so saddened to hear of Donnie's passing. He was such a great guy!! Way back in high school he showed his dedication, caring, giving and fun loving ways....and continued them all his life....I am very thankful to have attended school with him and to have known him all these years. "When you lose someone dear, memories bring you comfort, what helps to heal your hearts, is knowing the love you shared, can never die. Thoughts & Prayers will remain with you all. Linda Cook Knopf

Linda Cook Knopf - June 24, 2018 at 03:57 PM



“ Dear Janie, You have our deepest sympathy at the sudden loss of Donnie. You will be in our thoughts and prayers in the months to come. Hoping your memories will comfort you and your faith will give you peace. Love, Florian and Grace Idalski

Grace - June 24, 2018 at 09:28 AM



“ Jane. My heartfelt condolences on the sudden passing of Don. It was evident he served his Lord with great conviction. He is now basking in his reward. Be comforted in your faith and the promise of God our savior.

I'm sorry I cannot personally attend visitation or the funeral as we are leaving this morning on vacation up north. We dedicated the rosary on Wednesday to Don.

May the Lord in His goodness, Bless us, protect us from all evil, and lead us to life eternal, AMEN

Tim Francis - June 24, 2018 at 09:05 AM



“ Our deepest condolences go out to to the family! Rest in piece Don!

Janet - June 24, 2018 at 08:10 AM



“ 1 file added to the album LifeTributes



Steve & Bridget Tennes - June 24, 2018 at 08:04 AM



“ Prayers your way. I'm so sorry to hear about Don. Jane, Marcy, Kristy, Jenny. My heart goes out to each of you and your families. Take care and know he will always be with each or you.
The Fisher family

sharon Fisher - June 24, 2018 at 06:35 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Martin Klingshirn.



June 23, 2018 at 04:53 PM



“ 43 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - June 23, 2018 at 04:13 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald Martin Klingshirn.



June 23, 2018 at 01:40 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Martin Klingshirn.



June 23, 2018 at 10:04 AM



“ Janie and Family, We are so sorry to hear of Donnie's passing. Be comforted with the knowledge that so many others are thinking of you and your family. Everyone who knew Donnie, whether as a boy, young man, or adult, friend, classmate, or buddy, will miss him greatly. He will live on in the hearts and minds of all who knew him along with the great memories they have of him. We are praying for you and your family, keeping you close in heart, and hoping God will grant all of you the Peace only He can give. With our most sincere sympathy, Ivan and Rose Buck

I Buck - June 23, 2018 at 09:40 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Donald Martin Klingshirn.



June 22, 2018 at 10:36 PM



“ Don was one of the most gentle, patriotic, faithful men we have ever known. What an inspiration. A true angel now. Love and sympathy to all who have known, respected and loved him. Art and Joanne Williams

Joanne Williams - June 22, 2018 at 10:17 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Donald Martin Klingshirn.



June 22, 2018 at 09:10 PM



“ Even tho' God gained another angel, our hearts just broke when we learned of Donnies passing. It was always enlightening whenever we got to talk to you folks. We were blessed to have this fine man here on earth with us. Hold on to your memories Janie. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Rita & Rodger Jones, Allegan, MI.

Rodger & Rita Jones - June 22, 2018 at 09:04 PM



“ We have lost one of the good ones. A kind, gentle man that was always helping others. What a loss to us all but especially to Janie, daughters and 5 grandchildren. Our prayers to the entire family. Joanne and Ed Folsom

Joanne and Ed Folsom - June 22, 2018 at 08:17 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Donald Martin Klingshirn.



June 22, 2018 at 07:17 PM



“ don helped the knights in many ways he played santa clase and he did work veary hard with the cards for keep christ in chirmass and was in charge of popcorn at the pig of pouliza

stephen godin - June 22, 2018 at 07:15 PM



“ Oh my, I am so very sorry. He has left a legacy of faith, laughter, and love. Diane Hudson

Diane Hudson - June 22, 2018 at 07:15 PM



“ He was easy to talk to and very friendly! I always liked catching up when we would all be together for family functions. My condolences and prayers for the family for peace and comfort from our Lord, Jesus Christ!!!

Andrea Wirgau-Socia - June 22, 2018 at 06:01 PM



“ A wonderful guy. Gone too soon. May the angels lead him into paradise. Rest In Peace, Don.
Prayers said for the family!
Christine Hopp

Christine Hopp - June 22, 2018 at 05:49 PM



“ So very sorry to hear of my brother knights passing Don K I will miss him during Christmas he had a way about him that always warmed my heart at Christmas my wife Shannon and I are praying for the family you are missed Don R i P

Donald procknow - June 22, 2018 at 02:18 PM



“ A man too good..
A time too soon..
our loss is Heaven's gain.

"In my estimation, all that we suffer in the present time is nothing in comparison with the glory which is destined to be disclosed for us". Romans 8:18

cousin Marilyn Jane Klingshirn

Marilyn Klingshirn - June 22, 2018 at 02:09 PM



“ We were shocked and in disbelief when we heard the sad news. Donnie was a good good man with a huge heart!! He didn't like to be the center of attention, but he worked tirelessly and quietly helping people with whatever and whenever he could. That was Donnie.
We all lost an angel here on earth when we lost our brother-in-law. May God bless you Janie, Marcy, Kristy, Jenny and all your families with the strength to bear the difficult days ahead.
Our hearts break for your loss,
Love,
Paulette & Larry

Paulette & Larry - June 22, 2018 at 01:32 PM



“ Janie and family,
We were saddened to hear of Don's passing. He will be truly missed.
While reading his obituary, my husband realized that he and Don were in VietNam, same place, same time.
We pray for guidance during these difficult times ahead.
God bless you all.

Dan and Glenda Levandusky



Glenda - June 22, 2018 at 10:00 PM



“ Love and Prayers Don & Betty purchased the Garden of Serenity Bouquet for the family of Donald Martin Klingshirn.



Love and Prayers Don & Betty - June 22, 2018 at 12:56 PM



“ Jane, my heart goes out to you and your family at this sad time. I was so saddened to see the news of Donnie's passing. I have so many fond memories of Don and he will always be remembered. I'm saving a big hug for you so we can cry together.

Janet Buczkowski Garant - June 22, 2018 at 10:37 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Martin Klingshirn.



June 22, 2018 at 09:52 AM



“ Jane and Family,

My first thoughts of Don after reading the sad news, was Don walking me to school on my first day at St. Ignatius school. My deepest sympathy to you and your you Family.

Michael and Joan Grohowski

Michael Grohowski - June 22, 2018 at 08:53 AM



“ jane,

what a shock. remembering you and donnie. i am deeply so sorry to hear this. my heart is heavy. i pray you find some peace. you have an angel in heaven. i was not close to either of you but looked forward running into one of you every so often.

"rogers city people" are all family, no matter where life's journey takes them.

trini vogelheim dixon

trini vogelheim dixon - June 22, 2018 at 08:25 AM



“ Donnie truly was a big teddy bear! I don't think I ever heard a bad word out of his mouth. He was kind and friendly to everyone! Rest In Peace Donnie. I'm sure you and Terry are enjoying a greatget together in Heaven. We will all miss you. Lee Bingle

Lee Bingle - June 22, 2018 at 04:31 AM



“ Only the good die young, they say. Donnie is now dancing with the angels and everyone in Heaven is rejoicing! My heartfelt condolences to you, Janie and all of your family.

Lyn Petz - June 22, 2018 at 03:06 AM



“ Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Donald Martin Klingshirn.



June 22, 2018 at 01:11 AM



“ Rick and I are so sorry for your loss. We have fond memories of him and your family. Prayers to all of you. Kim Klatt

Kim Klatt - June 21, 2018 at 11:43 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Martin Klingshirn.



June 21, 2018 at 11:10 PM



“ So very sorry to hear of Don's passing. He was a gift to many and a gift to Christmas. I'm sure his good works are being recognized and his reward is Great... May God Bless him and his Family..

SK Ken Watterson
Assembly 0496
Lansing, Mi

Ken Watterson - June 21, 2018 at 10:07 PM



“ Donnie was such a gentle man. He will be missed by new and old friends. Prayers to the family. Valli

Valli - June 21, 2018 at 08:56 PM



“ Simply Chic Mixed Plant Basket was purchased for the family of Donald Martin Klingshirn.



June 21, 2018 at 08:36 PM



“ I am sorry for your loss. May God bless you with strength during this difficult time.

Laurie Newland - June 21, 2018 at 08:14 PM



“ We write this with such heavy hearts for the Klingshirn Family. What a wonderful, kind, and generous man! He and Janie helped so much at St. Mary Church and School, that Fr. Francis joked that they should be on the payroll! Every encounter with Donnie was met with warmth, humor, and kindness. We know where he is~ Heaven has certainly gained another angel. Our concern is for the dear family left behind. Donnie was always such a devoted husband, father, and dzia-dzia. Our hearts break for you, and our prayers for God's healing strength to aid you in this time of need are unceasing.

Blessings and Love~
Jeff and Linda Yeager

Jeff & Linda Yeager - June 21, 2018 at 08:06 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Donald Martin Klingshirn.



June 21, 2018 at 08:05 PM



“ Our deepest love and sympathy to you, Jane and your family in the passing of Donnie.
May God give you all strength in this time of sorrow. Always remember the good times and it will help you through this.

LOVE,
Jim & Pat Grohowski

Patricia A Grohowski - June 21, 2018 at 07:47 PM



“ Oh, Poppa Klink. I have never known a kinder, warmer, more gentle man than you. Your hugs, smiles and laughter were the absolute greatest! Thank you for all of your encouraging words during those softball days! To know you was to know kindness, love, patience and acceptance. Knowing how much your family and friends loved and admired you, I know they are feeling such a hole right now. I'm so very, very sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers for you all!

Kim (Them) Weicht - June 21, 2018 at 07:36 PM



“ So many memories! One of the best good guys! You are so missed Donnie. Linda Scranton and family

Linda Scranton - June 21, 2018 at 07:25 PM



“ Janie thoughts and prayers to you and your family. Please accept my deepest condolences. May all your memories hold him close in your hearts. Sincerely Bev (Darga) Lalonde

Beverly LaLonde - June 21, 2018 at 09:34 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Don passing! My heart goes out to you Jane, and all of Don's family.

Ardi Mertz - June 22, 2018 at 12:28 AM