



Donald "Don" L. Baker

August 19, 1960 - January 11, 2026

Donald "Don" L. Baker, 65, of Charlotte, a proud and loving husband, father, brother and friend, died peacefully on Sunday, January 11, 2026. Don was born August 19, 1960, in Alma, the son of Louis Donald and Quna Belle (Fry) Baker. He graduated from Harry Hill High School in Lansing in the class of 1979. Don married the love of his life, Shelly, on May 16, 1998, and the two happily raised three sons. Don worked as a chef for Michigan State Dining Services for 24 years, retiring just a few years ago. He loved working in the kitchen in the food service industry. He was known for taking great pride in his work.

Don was also an avid fan of the Spartans, and the Detroit Lions and Tigers. He was not a fan, however, of cold weather. Don enjoyed being outside on sunny days, working on his landscape and various improvements around the house. He loved flowers, and trips to visit Michigan's beautiful lighthouses, especially in Ludington. Above all, Don was proud of his family.

Don is survived by his wife, Shelly Baker; sons, Travis (Julie) Miller, Patrick Baker, and Matthew Baker; grandchildren, Trevor and Haizel Miller; siblings, Lynett (Duane) Jack and Louis Baker II; nieces and nephews, Curtis Cole and Amber Jack; and his beloved in-laws and extended family members. He was predeceased by his parents.

Friends are encouraged to support Don's family by attending services or sharing memories on his Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com. A Memorial Service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 17, 2026, at Pray Funeral Home with Laura Cooper officiating. Visitation will take place for one hour prior to the service. The funeral will be webcast so you may watch it from any computer, smartphone, or mobile device that has internet access. Go to www.prayfuneral.com, click on Don's tribute, then click on Photos and Videos from your computer (or Media from your smart phone). If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to the family in the care of Pray Funeral Home. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W Seminary St
Charlotte, MI 48813

Memorial

JAN 17. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W Seminary St
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Donald "Don" L. Baker



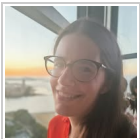
Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 17 at 10:27 AM



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Donald "Don" L. Baker



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 16 at 06:23 PM



“ Don was one of my favorite cooks to work with when I was a student cook. He was funny and always looked out for us. He always had a hidden stash of aprons for *his* student cooks because we always ran out, and one day I got a lot of compliments about a soup I made because he went around saying I was the one who did it, but really, I'd just finished it off, he was the one who did all the seasoning, so it was thanks to him that it turned out so good. I learned a lot from him, and he will be missed. Rest in peace, Don.

Jordan Taylor - January 18 at 04:33 AM

KH

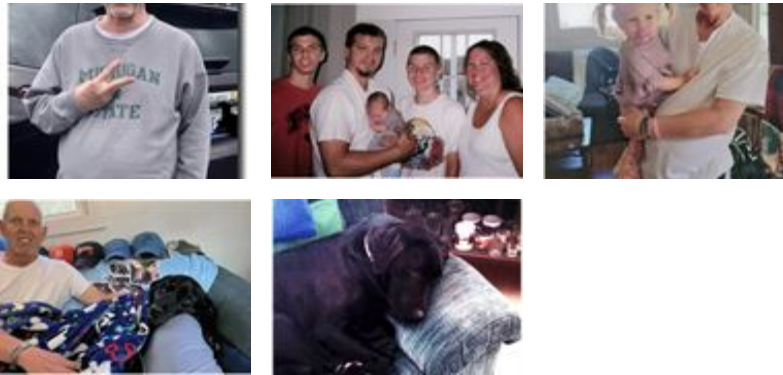
“ Katlin Harwood-Schelb purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Donald "Don" L. Baker.



Katlin Harwood-Schelb - January 17 at 11:32 AM



“ 67 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 16 at 06:16 PM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Donald "Don" L. Baker.



January 16 at 10:11 AM

MH

“ Don was a customer at my barbershop for many years he was always a laid back easygoing gentleman that LOVED talking about the pride he had for his family and his beloved Michigan State Spartans...As the years evolved Don became more of a friend than a customer and we (my Son In Law Rece who also works at the barbershop) always enjoyed Dons conversations and company...I will never forget when you asked him how he liked his haircut after it was done he always replied “I thank you very much”...Well my friend, Shall you always watch your family and beloved Spartan from the Heavens I will send you off with my own “I thank you very much”...Shall you rest in peace my friend!

Mark Hughes - January 16 at 08:12 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Donald "Don" L. Baker.



January 15 at 09:33 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket* was purchased for the family of Donald "Don" L. Baker.



January 13 at 12:00 PM

AN

“ Aunt Lenaye, Kyle & Nina planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald "Don" L. Baker.

Aunt Lenaye, Kyle & Nina - January 13 at 12:00 PM

BR

“ Brandon & Raylene purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Donald "Don" L. Baker.



Brandon & Raylene - January 13 at 10:29 AM

BR

“ Brandon & Raylene planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald "Don" L. Baker.

Brandon & Raylene - January 13 at 10:29 AM

TG

“ With loving memory, we share our deepest condolences to our cousin Don, and all of his family, we wish you the greatest peace and so many blessings during this difficult time.
All of our love, Thomas and Cheri Guilford

Thomas and Cheri Guilford - January 12 at 08:43 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Donald "Don" L. Baker.*



January 12 at 05:39 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald "Don" L. Baker.*



January 12 at 05:32 PM



“ *Dylan & Bri Malcuit purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Donald "Don" L. Baker.*



Dylan & Bri Malcuit - January 12 at 04:22 PM



“ *Dylan & Bri Malcuit planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald "Don" L. Baker.*

Dylan & Bri Malcuit - January 12 at 04:22 PM