



Donald Cantrell

October 6, 1938 - August 24, 2008

Donald Wayne Cantrell, a resident of Huntsville, Texas, died in Conroe, Texas, on August 24, 2008, at the Odyssey Hospice Hospital after suffering with cancer for several months. He was sixty-nine years old. Don was many things in his earthly life: a family man, an evangelist, a public servant, a soldier, and a sportsman.

Don was a cherished husband, father, and grandfather. He is survived by his wife of forty-eight years, Myrna Dean Cantrell, four children, and thirteen grandchildren. His children are Carlton Bryan Cantrell and his wife Angela of Huntsville, Kevin David Cantrell and his wife Cyndi of Weatherford, Texas, Catherine Elizabeth Moak and her husband Sam of Huntsville, and Collin Davis Cantrell and his wife Misty, also of Huntsville. Bryan's four sons are Chase, Colten, Chance, and Charlie. Kevin's children are Wesley, Kirsten, Stephen, and Kenneth. Catherine has two sons, Jacob and William. Collin's children are Ariel, Cade, and Conner. Don is also survived by his sister Janice Cantrell of Mansfield and his brother Charlie Cantrell of Oklahoma City. Don was born in Waco, the son of Charles Morgan Cantrell and Pearl Davis Cantrell, on October 6, 1938. Grandparents were Carl and Willie Cantrell and Claude and Garnett Lee Davis. Don spent all of his early years in Waco and graduated from Waco High School in 1956. After high school, he attended Texas A and M University and upon graduation was commissioned into the United States Marine Corps.

Don's love for the Lord could not be contained. He shared the Gospel with everyone he met. He loved to witness to friends, coworkers, and strangers. He used his love for Christ to establish the Fishermen's Club, an evangelism ministry that shares the Word through Gospel tracks. Above all things Don wanted his illness to glorify God, and rejoiced at every opportunity to witness to other cancer survivors at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Don was a member of the United Methodist Church for over 30 years where he was a Sunday school teacher and evangelist.

Don was a devoted public servant. Most recently he served as District Attorney for Limestone County for over fourteen years where he fought in the Limestone County Citizen's War on Drugs. He also served as County Commissioner in McLennan County for two terms and several other civic roles including president of the Rotary Club, director of the United Fund, and director and president of the Chamber of Commerce.

Don loved his country and was proud to serve as an aviator in the United States Marine Corps for over nine years. In his bravery he was awarded the air combat medal with four stars for flying over 100 combat missions in the Vietnam War.

Don was an avid sportsman. He was the pitcher for the first little league baseball team in Waco. He was also the color-commentator for KYCX sports and loved high school football, particularly the Groesbeck Goats and the McGregor Bulldogs. He often served as an official starter for high school track meets in the Waco area. He coached little-league baseball for his children and loved to watch his grandchildren compete in any sport. Don loved the Aggies and followed every sport from football to women's soccer. He was a noted bass fisherman and loved to take his grandchildren fishing and hunting in west Texas. When he was not hunting or fishing he could be found on the golf course with his four-some.

Services will be held Wednesday August 27, 2008 at 1 PM at First United Methodist Church of Groesbeck at the direction of Reverends Robert Herzig and Ron Bellomy. Pallbearers will be David Clancy, Randy Berringer, Dennis Wilson, John Hudson, Hugh Seiber, and Roy De Friend. Doug Rand is honorary pallbearer. Interment will follow at Faulkenberry Cemetery under the direction of the Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home and Groesbeck Funeral Home. The family will receive friends from 5:30 to 7:30 PM Tuesday August 26, 2008 at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home in Huntsville.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to either the "Don Cantrell Memorial at FCC" in care of First Christian Church - 1800 Avenue R - Huntsville, TX 77340 or the First United Methodist Church of Groesbeck, P.O. Box 150, Groesbeck, TX 76642 or the Maffet Memorial Library of Groesbeck.

Those wishing to leave condolences for the family may do so at www.shmfh.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Donald Cantrell*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *I just learned of the passing of my friend Don. I knew Don at A&M and flew with him in The Marines, and HMH 777, Navy Dallas.*

What a wonderful gentleman, Texas Aggie, Marine Officer, and pilot. Great family man and Christian. If everyone were like Don Cantrell it would be a wonderful world.

I am sorry for this loss.

Love to the family.

Ray Dupree

Ray Dupree - September 21, 2009 at 06:52 PM



“ *Cathy & Collin,*

Just heard of your father's passing. I'm so sorry to hear the news. Please know that I'll be praying for you in the days and months to come. Keep your faith in God and he will give you the comfort that you need. I miss you and love you all!!!

Lisa Caldwell - September 07, 2008 at 04:37 PM

JW

“ Bryan, Angela and family, We love you guys and are praying for you. I watched the video and what a wonderful man! If you haven't read the book "Heaven" by Randy Alcorn, get it or borrow ours. It will comfort you in the days ahead.

Joe Pat & Wyndi Whitehead

Joe Pat & Wyndi Whitehead - August 29, 2008 at 11:27 AM

MC

“ To Myrna and family, We extend our sympathies on the loss of Don. We counted him as a dear friend and are better by having known him. May God bless you and yours.

Mark & Judy Chilcoat - August 28, 2008 at 11:28 PM

CM

“ To view the video from Don Cantrell's funeral reception visit the link below:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xNutcB6cZLg>

Cathy Moak - August 28, 2008 at 11:32 AM

KP

“ Myrna, We are so very sorry for your loss, but know that God is in control. He definitely received two wonderful men home this past week and while their passing leaves a void here on earth, heaven is full and rejoicing! Don't you know Don is just in awe at all the things he is seeing! Finally, to be seeing what he has been teaching all these years! Such a reward! And so well deserved.

God bless you and be with you and your family. Know you are in our prayers.

Your friend forever in Christ,

Karen & Jay Pye - August 28, 2008 at 09:32 AM

CM

“ *Friends and Family,*

Thank you so much for your prayers and kind words. We rejoice that my father is no longer suffering and is now in the presence of God.

*Love,
Cathy and the entire Cantrell Family*

Cathy Cantrell Moak - August 27, 2008 at 08:56 PM

SP

“ *Dearest Myrna and family - My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family and I am so very sorry for your loss. Don was a wonderful man and there are so many of us whose lives were touched by his compassion and kindness. I will never forget him or the many happy memories from our time at the DA's office, as well as those joyful Fourth of July gatherings. I pray that God's peace will fill your hearts and help you through this most difficult time.*

Stacey Moore Pope - August 27, 2008 at 07:27 PM

RT

“ *Dear Cathy and family: i am so sorry to hear of your loss. You will be in my thoughts and prayers. Let me know if there is anything I can do. Ruth(Rachel's sister)*

Ruth Tarver - August 27, 2008 at 02:49 PM

JH

“ *Myrna & Family - You are in our prayers during this tough time. What a blessing to have worked for Don! He was a true reflection of God's love. When we heard the news that he had passed, we could both imagine his smiling face, smiling bigger than ever before, in the presence of our Lord Jesus! We pray for the comfort that only God can provide to each of you. Thanks for sharing Don with our family.*

Joe and Robbie Hall - August 27, 2008 at 10:57 AM

CC

“ *Bryan, Colin and Cathy, and all the Cantrell family members,*

We are so sorry to hear about your Dad but rejoice that he is with the Lord now. What a blessing to have had him in Huntsville surrounded by so many loving family members these past months. You have been in our prayers for awhile and we will continue to remember each of you as you face the coming days. He's left quite a legacy and we know you will pass it on. May you feel God's special presence sustaining you, your mom and your families at this time.

In His love,

Carol, Peter, Claire & Kate Cooper

Carol, Peter, Claire & Kate Cooper - August 27, 2008 at 09:14 AM

BL

“ *To Bryan and the entire Cantrell families ... one fine man has gone to Heaven... he leaves behind his legacy of Christian children and their mothers love. Our prayers are with you as you continue to make Don proud... he is always with you and yours. Our condolences.*

Bobby and Jeanne Lane - August 26, 2008 at 10:47 PM

JM

“ Collin, misty and the entire cantrell family. I was saddened by the news of your loss. I offer mine and my families prayers to you in this difficult time. May god bless you all and be thankful to him for the strong family that you have. Sincerely , johnny miller. Lorena tx

johnny miller - August 26, 2008 at 10:34 PM

AW

“ Myrna & Family: Don was a special christian man and I know he will be sorely missed. He was so considerate and thoughtful to me when Clarence was so ill and I will never forget it. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time and he is now in heaven reaping his rich rewards. Ann Walston, FUMC, Groesbeck, TX

Ann Walston - August 26, 2008 at 04:26 PM

TT

“ Dear Cantrell Family,

Our thoughts & prayers are with you during this time of sorrow.

Tim & Donna Tullous - August 26, 2008 at 03:27 PM

DT

“ Dear Cathy and family,
I know this is a difficult time for your family. You will be in my thoughts and prayers. Take care and know that God is with you and will give you the strength you need. I am so sorry for your loss.
Dorothea Tarver (Rachel's mom)

Dorothea Tarver - August 26, 2008 at 12:56 PM

SH

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May God be with you today and in the days to come.

Sharese & Lane Hurst - August 26, 2008 at 11:10 AM

PP

“ To all of the Cantrell Family, I'm was saddened to hear of the loss of Mr. Cantrell. May the prayers of many help you through these trying days. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Paula Pemberton - August 26, 2008 at 11:00 AM

PM

“ May the memories held deep withing your heart help soothe your family.

You are in my prayers.

Love to all

Myrna, Brian, Kevin, Cathy and Collin

Pamela Moak

Pamela Moak - August 25, 2008 at 08:21 PM

JM

“ My deepest sympathy is extended to the entire family. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this sad time. Janette Murray

Janette Murray - August 25, 2008 at 02:38 PM

WJ

“ *Cyndi, Kevin and family,
You are all in our thoughts and prayers. We love you. The Nursey
Staff FUMC*

Wimona Jones - August 25, 2008 at 02:16 PM

LC

“ *To the Cantrell family:
Don was a fine gentleman and will be missed.
Always went out of his way, no matter where he was, to say "hi"..
Leon Cheney*

Leon Cheney - August 25, 2008 at 01:52 PM

SS

“ *Don was one of the finest persons I ever met. Not only an excellent
and honest prosecutor (I worked many, many cases with him), but
an outstanding man. Please accept my condolences.*

*Stan Schwieger
Waco, Texas*

Stan Schwieger - August 25, 2008 at 12:43 PM

DW

“ *To all the Cantrell family, We are so sorry for your loss. Don will be
missed by all the lives he has touched. You are in our thoughts and
prayers. Bobby and Debbie Walton*

Debbie & Bobby Walton - August 24, 2008 at 11:09 PM

NM

“ *To All the Cantrell Family,*

We are so sorry to hear of your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Herman and Nancy Myers

Nancy Myers - August 24, 2008 at 07:21 PM