



Donald Eugene McMillan

September 17, 1946 - October 30, 2010

Donald Eugene McMillan Donald Eugene McMillan, dearly loved son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, and loyal friend, passed away early Thursday morning, October 28, 2010, after more than a 30-year struggle with diabetes and its long-term complications. He was 64. Born September 17, 1946 in Waco, Texas, the youngest son of Clarence H. and Maudine (Wallace) McMillan, Don grew up on a blackland cotton farm, and from an early age worked and learned the value of a dollar. From seventh grade through his first year in college, he mowed lawns and worked at the local grocery store in his hometown of Mart, Texas to buy clothes and eventually his first car. He was proud of this strong work ethic, and it served him well all his life; he was never a slacker and found genuine pleasure in seeing a job well done. After graduating from Mart High School and one year at Sam Houston State University, Don joined the Marine Corps Reserve and served six years while completing his business degree and working for the Texas Department of Corrections. As it turned out, he started on the front picket at the Ferguson Unit in 1968, left as Assistant Warden in 1977, and after twenty-four years of service took medical retirement while Director of Payroll for the TDCJ in 1992. Don's generous nature always put the needs of others before his own. First and foremost in his life were his wife, Janet, and sons, Jeff and Scott. They always came first. ..his greatest love was for his family. But anyone who knew Don found him to be eager to help, willing to shoulder responsibility, and uncomplaining in adversity. Complication from diabetes saw him endure

weeks and weeks of multiple hospitalizations, numerous surgeries, and eventually loss of both legs. Through it all, he faced every hardship with uncommon courage and an unspoken understanding that God was in control. Time and again, the Lord put His hand on Don and brought him up out of the belly of the whale. Ever the optimist, Don only saw his "glass as half-full." In the face of grim reality, Don laughed at himself and teased about medical situations that would defeat the ordinary man. Don is survived by his loving wife, Janet (Burke) McMillan, sons Jeffrey Don and wife, Amanda, and Clifton Scott and wife Amber. Nine month old grand-daughter Addison Faye made his eyes shine! In addition to nieces and nephews, also surviving are father, Clarence H. McMillan, Sr., brother Clarence H. McMillan, Jr., wife JoAnn, and sister-in-law Jennifer (Burke) Flowers and husband Ric. The family gratefully acknowledges years of dedicated, compassionate care from Dr. David Knuth, and more recently Dr. David Ficklin. Both friends and strangers in and out of the community, prayerfully supported Don and family and are invited to a celebration of his life on Saturday, October 30, 2010, 10:00 a.m. at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home Chapel in Huntsville, Texas. Graveside services will be held at Prairie Hill Cemetery west of Mexia at 3:00 p.m. Visitation will be Friday, October 29, 2010, 6:00-8:00 p.m. at First Christian Church, 1800 Avenue R, Huntsville, Texas. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association: American Diabetes Association P.O. Box 11454, Alexandria, VA 22312 or <http://www.diabetes.org/donate/> Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.shmfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Donald Eugene McMillan*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *I have a lost a dear old friend and you have lost a dear loved one, who had a zest for life and appreciated it more than many of us do. Always remember the good things he did just as he always saw the good in those he encountered. May God grant you the peace of knowing that he no longer suffers and is in a better place.*

Richard Jones - November 22, 2010 at 03:50 PM



“ *Dear Janet and family,*

When Don passed away, the world lost the nicest man I ever met. On my first day at TDC(Ferguson), Don called me and invited me to join their car pool. We became close friends and then as we advanced, I met Janet(the love of Don't life). After getting to know Don and seeing how he dealt with ALL people, I remember asking someone, "is Don as nice as he seems to be and is he always that nice"? The answer was, "yes, that's him". Although we have not had much contact these last years, I often think of Dan and have told many people about 'the nicest man I ever met'. My love to you and your family, David Myers

David Myers - November 15, 2010 at 02:30 PM

DH

“ Janet: Sorry to hear about the passing of Don. Good memories from the past. Everyone thought so highly of him and your family. God bless you.

David Henderson - November 04, 2010 at 07:12 PM

BW

“ Janet, Jeff & Scott: We all loved Don so much! Don was an incredible person. He was such a giving person. He loved and was so proud of his family and it showed. He has done so much for us but some of the things we remember the most are...he was the first one at our door 30 years ago when we were neighbors to help us move to the house we are presently living at today. When the twins (Heather and Heath) were born (31 years ago this Thanksgiving) they had to be life-flighted to Houston because their lungs weren't developed...there was Don...he rode with Bob in the ice to Houston to check on the babies. Then, when the babies were ready to come home..Janet was at the door ready to ride with us to help bring the babies home! I could go on and on but your family has always been there for us and we love you dearly!!! Please let us know if we can do anything for you.

Bob, Mellicent, Bobby II, Heather, Heath & Justin Wiley - November 03, 2010 at 08:41 AM

TF

“ Janet, Dad and I wanted to let you know how sorry we are for your loss. Don fought a good fight and stayed here much longer than most with similar problems. He always made me feel happy when I saw him although it hurt me to see his failing health. Don was a special and wonderful man. He is at rest and in a much better place. Keep his spirit alive in your heart and I believe you will be with him again some day. Don will be missed. God bless you and your family, Janet.

Trudy & John Fuchs - November 01, 2010 at 01:14 PM

DE

“ *Don was such a sweet man and a consummate professional. It was a genuine pleasure to know him and work with him in the TDCJ family. Our condolences to his family.*

Dana and Doug Eckles - November 01, 2010 at 10:03 AM

LC

“ *"The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want..."*
-Psalm 23.

We pause this date, at sun-set to extend our sincere sympathy to the family/friends of a notable 'Gentleman' and a true professional...Mr. Don McMillan. Many are praying for you and when we pray, we will ask God to surround you with His loving arms during this transitional time in your lives.

Lawrence and Dessie Cherry - October 30, 2010 at 07:46 PM

KG

“ *Dear Janet and Family, I am sorry to hear about Donald passing, but he put up a great fight for years. My cousin was a very special person and will be greatly missed by many, but I have some very nice memories. My prayers are with you and all the family. We love all of you. Kay*

Kay Gillam - October 30, 2010 at 10:26 AM

KS

“ *Janet and Family, What an honor it is to have known Don. He was a positive presence everywhere he went, no matter what was happening in his life. You can tell how special he is by the wealth of friends and family he was blessed with. Don will be missed, but we know he will forever be carried in our hearts. May you be wrapped in HIS comforting arms forever more.*

Kathy Smith - October 30, 2010 at 10:21 AM

CG

“ Janet,
We want you to know that we, in the laboratory at the hospital will certainly miss Don coming into our lab. He always had a smile for all of us no matter how bad he felt; he was one of ur favorite patients, and we will not forget him. We are remembering you and the boys in our prayers. Carolyn, Suzanne and Nan

Carolyn Gibson - October 29, 2010 at 09:46 PM

JP

“ Don was a true friend and a great man. He always did the right thing and never felt defeated during trying times. No matter what---he always was positive and had a smile for everyone. He will be greatly missed.

Jerry and Billie Peterson - October 29, 2010 at 08:40 PM

JL

“ Growing up as a neighbor on Jones View, Don and the McMillan's will always be a part of my childhood memories. I wish the best for Jeff, Scott, and Janet. I know he will be missed.

Jeff Ledyard - October 29, 2010 at 08:36 PM

BT

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time. May God bless you and help you through this difficult time.

Bruce & Mary Thaler - October 29, 2010 at 03:32 PM

PE

“ Dear Janet, I am so sorry to hear of Don's moving on to heaven. What a loss for all who knew him. I know he is already smiling down on all from heaven. Sorry I will be out of town this weekend or I would be there to honor him. I so loved working with him and his determination was admirable. He always made us laugh and will be missed. You take care of yourself and the boys. Love, Patrice from op rehab at hospital.

Patrice Eastland - October 29, 2010 at 02:46 PM

EM

“ Janet, Jeff & Scott, Words can never express my respect and love for Don. He was truly my Mentor in work, as well as, in life. Janet, he loved you so very much and my heart aches for you. I pray your many wonderful memories will help ease your pain. My love and prayers are with you always.

Elaine Meadors - October 29, 2010 at 01:38 PM

AR

“ Don was an incredible man who had a strong will to live because he loved his family so much. He will be missed. Best wishes to the family.

Allan Rushing - October 29, 2010 at 11:54 AM

SH

“ Janet and family, I had the pleasure of working with Don at TDCJ when he was Director, of Payroll. He was an inspiration to everyone around him and always had a smile on his face. After he retired I would occasionaly run into him at Wal-Mart or around town and even with all his medical problems he would always ask how I was doing and had a smile for you no matter what. I know you and your family will greatly miss him. Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, Love leaves a memory no one can steal. With warmest regards, Stephanie

Stephanie Harris - October 29, 2010 at 09:21 AM

AT

“ Janet, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers during this time.

Amy Turner - October 29, 2010 at 08:55 AM

PC

“ Janet and family,

There are no words to express how sad we are at Donald's passing. We have such wonderful memories of him growing up in rural Limestone County near Mart.

We pray that God wraps His loving arms around each one of you and gives comfort that only He can give now and in the days to come. Last year when we lost Walter/Daddy we were told that one who is loved is never forgotten and Don was loved by many.

*God bless,
Elaine William, Pat and Billy Tom Curry, Beverly and Alex Fambro,
Lanelle and Russ Crawford and families*

Pat Curry - October 28, 2010 at 11:14 PM

CH

“ When I learned of Don's passing, memories of growing up him and Clarence flooded my mind. What a great pair of buddies to have as neighbors. We played, laughed and worked together at Kirk. He was always an upbeat person even as a child. We have lost another one of the really good guys. May the Lord bless the family.

Charles Holland - October 28, 2010 at 11:10 PM

JB

“ What wonderful memories we have of Don. We could not have found such a loving family to have as neighbors. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

John and Kay Bayne - October 28, 2010 at 08:04 PM

DS

“ Mrs. McMillan, I'm sorry to learn of Mr. McMillan's passing. What an optimist person he was to all! He will be missed.

David Stacks - October 28, 2010 at 07:41 PM

HM

“ Janet and Family,
You are in our thoughts and prayers. May God give you comfort at this time.

Herman and Nancy Myers - October 28, 2010 at 06:02 PM

DB

“ Janet and family, know that you are in my prayers. Don fought a long, hard battle without feeling sorry for himself, and with you foremost in his heart. Janet, he could not have asked for a more loyal, supportive, loving mate than you. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Donna Barron - October 28, 2010 at 05:19 PM

DM

“ Janet,
I still remember a favor that Don did for me in February 1973. There was a bad hail storm and Don took care of my damaged mobile home when i was out of town. He was a good man and a good example for all to follow. Our prayers are with you and your family.

David & Lori McNutt

David McNutt - October 28, 2010 at 02:10 PM

SS

“ *Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time. May your faith carry you in the days ahead. Much love to you...*

Susan Small-Cook - October 28, 2010 at 12:25 PM

JB

“ *Jennifer & McMillan Family,*
So sorry to hear about the loss of your brother-in-law. He fought such a hard race all these years and never gave up on life...such an inspiration to other survivors!! I just hope all your wonderful memories will help you make it through the rough days ahead! He is no longer in any pain now and has everlasting peace. God Bless...
Jamie & Don Brinegar

Jamie & Don Brinegar - October 28, 2010 at 12:24 PM

BM

“ *Although no words can really help to ease the loss you bear, just know that you are very close in every thought and prayer.*

May the comfort of God help you during this difficult time.

*Warmest regards,
Barb Myall*

Barbara Myall - October 28, 2010 at 11:45 AM