



Don Wakefield

NOV 24, 1949 - JAN 8, 2024



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Don Wakefield

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Don A Wakefield, 74, of Weeki Wachee, passed away peacefully on January 8, 2024.

He was born on November 24, 1949 in Lebanon, Tennessee, to the late Manson and Pauline (Halliburton) Wakefield.

Don was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, cousin, and friend. He is survived by his wife of almost 40 years, Teresa Wakefield; his daughter, Melissa Yost; his grandsons, Robert, Thomas, and Joshua (Caitlin) Yost; his great-granddaughter, Rylynn Yost; his sister, Glenda Lamberth and brother-in-law, Steve Lamberth of Tennessee; his nephews, Kelly (Lisa) Chance and Shawn (Shauna) Chance also of Tennessee; his dear cousins, Dr. Terry and Marcia Meadows; and many other relatives and friends who will miss him dearly.

Don was a dedicated and respected professional in the medical field for over 50 years. He graduated from Vanderbilt University as an x-ray technician. He later earned his physician's assistant, surgical assistant, and orthopedic physician's assistant certifications and worked with Dr. John Sullivan at Orthopedic Specialists in Palm Harbor, Florida for more than 30 years.

Don was a man who lived life to the fullest and enjoyed many hobbies and passions. He loved sailing on his two boats and was an accomplished scuba diver. He was an avid gun enthusiast and a skilled competition shooter in Florida and Georgia. He also liked in-line skating, golfing, and cheering for his favorite team, the Tampa Bay Lightning.

Don had a little musical talent and a sense of humor. He liked to sing and play guitar, even though admittedly he was not very good at it. He always made his family and friends laugh with his jokes and stories.

The Family will continue to tell stories of Don for many years to come as there are more than could be shared here.



Events

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Entombment


 **Monday**, January 15, 2024


 2:00 PM ET

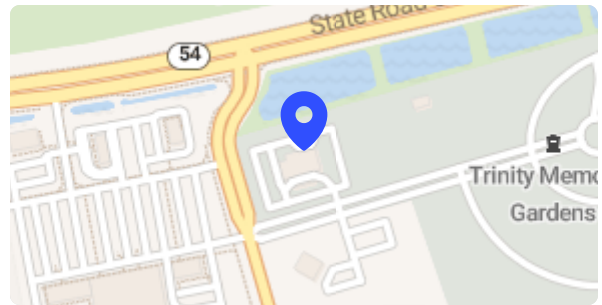
 **Trinity Memorial Funeral Home**
12609 Memorial Dr, Trinity FL 34655



Cemetery Details

 **Trinity Memorial Gardens**
12609 Memorial Dr, Trinity FL 34655

 **(727) 203-4055**





Tribute Wall

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GL

Glenda posted:

To my dear brother and friend, I have many good memories of our childhood and life with you. When we got our first bicycles and I learn to ride mine first, you got so mad. When we moved to Portland, I got my drivers licenses and taking you to baseball practice in that car that had straight shift. And driving us to school. You were a freshman when I was a senior. You and Darrel Link playing jokes on everyone. It has been a memorable life full of happiness with you. Now you can fly with the angels, rest peacefully. I love you, big Sis, Glenda

January 15 at 3:44 PM

JS

John Sullivan March 18 at 10:08 AM

Where do I start when writing about my devoted friend, Don Wakefield? I had the honor and privilege of working with Don for 28 years starting in 1986 until his forced early retirement in 2014. Don was instrumental in helping shape my practice in its early years. He was a loyal and valued employee as we developed and learned new treatments, organized the clinical side of the office, and was always ready to help train new employees in the RIGHT way to do a skill. He helped me develop the techniques to do things correctly, but also the same way every time. (I laugh now every morning when I get the coffee ready and I try to do each little step efficiently and in the same order!) I was around for the in-line skating, the shooting ranges, coffee roasting, singing, the advanced scuba diving, a few new homes, playing with my twin girls in the old office, deaths of his parents and mother-in-law, and all the daily political observations and jokes (IMO, 50-50 on good jokes vs the flops). Don was especially helpful and approachable to the other employees when it came to encouraging them to get sound financial advice, which saved many people from plopping all their 401K funds into CDs. He was completely devoted to his wife, Teresa, and always spoke glowingly about her. Her loved his family and would do anything for them. I know that his legacy will live on in myself for the rest of my life, but in addition, he will live on in the memories of all the people he came into contact with at work, including our employees, patients, hospital and surgery center employees, and all my family that met him. Thank you, Don, for your years of friendship, your years of devoted service, and for making my life and the world better. John G Sullivan, MD



Shawn Chance January 25 at 4:04 PM

To our Uncle that could not stop for all his hobbies. I remember the weekend you took Kelly and I to Beach Bend amusement park. I don't remember much about the activities but I do remember, we get to spend a couple of days away with our Uncle. Over the years, conversations about your in line skating days, shooting matches, love of your guitar, Scotch and family. I will cherish those conversations. Your dedication to God, Theresa and family can't be mimicked. Even with ailments that were not curable, your head stayed high and looking forward. You can rest now. Shauna and I love you and Aunt Theresa.

KC

Kelly Chance January 15 at 5:38 PM



Tribute Wall

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To the best uncle I could have asked for, you will be missed dearly. I enjoyed our conversations over the years about everything from golf to life in general. You taught Shawn and I how to play chess when we were 11 or 12, I still remember coming to stay with you and Teresa after graduation years ago, and enjoying your company and stories. You led a very impressive and interesting life and we are very proud of your accomplishments. We will definitely see you again one day...all our love Kelly, Lisa



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Don by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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