



Donald R. Skinner

December 6, 1938 - September 9, 2017

Donald Ross Skinner, 78, a longtime Wenatchee resident, passed away Saturday, September 9th, 2017, surrounded by his loving family. Don was born December 6, 1938, in Bevier, MO to the late A.T. “Mike” and Ruth Skinner. The youngest of eight children, he moved with his family to Walla Walla, WA. After attending Laurelwood Adventist Academy, Don entered the US Army as a medic. Stationed at Fort Detrick, Maryland, he worked in medical research in the White Coat Project. He met the love of his life, Judith Reed, at Columbia Basin Community College and they married in Walla Walla. Don worked and finished his schooling at the University of Washington in Nuclear Medicine Technology. While they were living in Seattle, their daughter Chanin was born. After Don finished his degree, the family moved to Wenatchee to work for the Wenatchee Valley Clinic (now Confluence Health). Their son Shawn was born soon after. Don helped start the Nuclear Medicine Department and later the Ultra Sound Department, retiring after 30 years of service. His co-workers were like family, and he enjoyed meeting and befriending many patients there as well.

While working at the clinic, Don started a construction company, Accent Homes. He built over 20 new homes in the area plus remodeled many others to keep as rentals. An avid bird hunter, he enjoyed training his yellow labs and hiking the hills. Don was also a pitcher for several championship teams in the fast pitch softball league and he was inducted into the NCW Softball Hall of Fame. He coached for many years with Wenatchee Youth Baseball. He

cheered on the Mariners, Seahawks and his “beloved” Huskies. In addition to being a sports fan, Don was a born entrepreneur. He started King Salmon Outfitters, two guided fishing camps on the Nushagak River in Alaska. Many Wenatchee residents fished in his camps, thrilled to catch large King Salmon. He loved the water, was a member of the Lake Chelan Yacht Club, and even helped take a boat from Miami through the Panama Canal to Mexico. Don also enjoyed cooking. He won several pie baking contests and started a pizza restaurant in Rincon De Guayabitos, Mexico, where he and Judy wintered for many years. Don was a true renaissance man who could do it all! But he was best known for his loving heart. He had an ability to easily make friends everywhere with his warm smile, sense of humor and true concern. He made everyone feel special. Don will truly be missed and always remembered.

Don is survived by his wife of 52 years, Judy, his daughter Chanin (Dave) of Wenatchee, son Shawn (Sonja) of Milwaukie, Oregon, five adoring grandchildren Thane, Taylor and Troy Street and Simone and Bryce Skinner, his sisters Elaine Derby, Lenore Wagner, Lee Peterson and Marilyn Stanford, and many nieces and nephews. The family thanks the Confluence Health doctors, nurses and staff who took wonderful care of Don the past two and a half years as he bravely battled cancer.

Don’s life will be celebrated Saturday Sept. 23rd at 2:00 pm at the Wenatchee First United Methodist Church, 941 Washington Street, Wenatchee. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Don’s name to “Cancer Care NCW- Our House”, 1708 Castlerock Ave, Wenatchee, for local cancer patient needs.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

SEP **23.** 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (PT)

Wenatchee First United Methodist
941 Washington Street
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Tribute Wall



“ Jones & Jones - Betts Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Donald R. Skinner



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - September 10, 2018 at 05:17 PM

JH

“ Dear Judy and family,
I am heartbroken to learn of Don's death. I had been looking for you and stumbled across this Tribute Wall. I still remember the time I spent with you in Wenatchee, you were such a loving couple and friends. I appreciate the love and support you gave me at the time of my loss. I would love to reconnect. I'm still at the same address and phone number.

Love,
Jeanne Harr

Jeanne Harr - October 13, 2018 at 04:48 PM

CH

“ Chanin lit a candle in memory of Donald R. Skinner



Chanin - October 24, 2017 at 12:50 PM

DD

“ Did you ever notice how a room would just brighten up when Donnie walked in? His always cheerful approach to life, his humor, his big heart made him a super star friend, father, brother, and an uncle I will never forget. Love you, Dennis

Dennis Derby - September 22, 2017 at 01:38 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Life Tributes



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - September 20, 2017 at 03:09 PM

MD

Don was truly a special person! He had the rare gift to make others feel cared for and important. I was lucky to know him as a coworker and friend. He treated everyone with respect and was loved by his patients. Don I will miss you.
Margareta Dilley

Margareta Dilley - September 21, 2017 at 10:58 PM

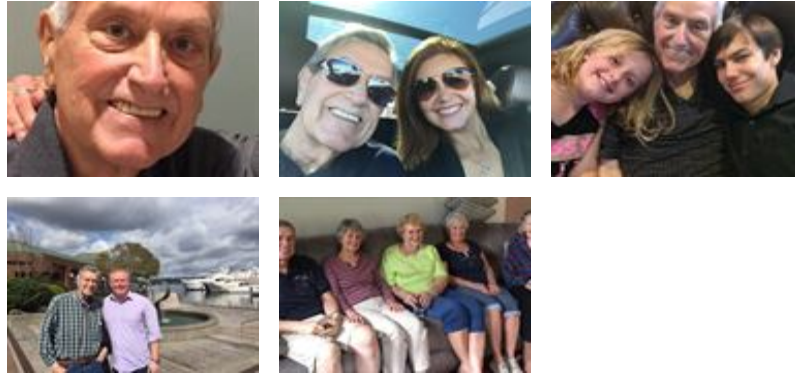
CD

“ Don was special man-smart, talented and had a great sense of humor. I had the honor of working with him for many years at Wenatchee Valley Clinic. You could always count on him for help or just to share a laugh. He was a great friend to many and he was very devoted to his family. He will be greatly missed.
Cheryl DeChand

Cheryl Dechand - September 20, 2017 at 12:19 PM



“ 64 files added to the album Life Tributes



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - September 19, 2017 at 05:18 PM

RT

“ A magical, selfless person. Don loved doing for others. He enjoyed a lively game of Mexican Train. We only knew him part time over the past 12 years, but we shall never forget him. Delma and Tracy send our blessings to you and yours Judy!

RON & Delma Tryuda - September 19, 2017 at 11:47 AM

EL

“ Such a wonderful man. Always came to the coffee club at the Ke Lindo with a smile and a great conversation. I will miss his sweet smile. I have been blessed by having had the chance to spend quality time with this great man.
May he rest in peace. All my love and respect to his wonderful wife Judy. You were his rock Judy.

Janet & Eddy Lang
Port Moody, B.C.
Canada

Eddy Lang - September 18, 2017 at 10:08 PM

RA

“ *Constant friendship since elementary school (grade 2) until he passed. We were like brothers.*

Robert Adams

robert adams - September 18, 2017 at 06:28 PM