



Donna A. Mende

December 24, 1931 - October 17, 2016

Donna Audrene Wold Mende, 84 years old, of East Wenatchee, passed away on Sunday, October 16, 2016 at home in East Wenatchee, Washington. Her resilience, curiosity, courage, and can-do spirit will be missed by all who loved and knew her.

Donna was born in Scobey, Montana to David L. and Ellen V. Nelson Wold on December 24, 1931. Her parents and brother John Wold preceded her in death. She is survived by her brothers Duane (Dolores) Wold of Billings, MT and Darrell Wold of Spokane, WA and her sisters Beatrice Busby Geddings of Leavenworth, WA; Marian (Dallas) Hiner Johnson of Elk, WA; Judie (Dale) Engeberg of Burbank, WA; and Rachel (Louis) Conner Beall of Tallahassee, FL.

Donna graduated from Mt. Ellis Academy in Bozeman, MT in 1950. She went on to earn her Teachers Certificate for Elementary Level from the North Pacific Union of the General Conference of SDA Department of Education. She taught elementary school from 1952 – 1957, 1969 at the Wenatchee SDA Church School. Donna married Milton Mende in East Wenatchee, WA on August 7, 1955. She joined her husband in the ownership and operation of Mende Excavation. They retired in 1996 and moved to Sebring, Florida, then returned to Wenatchee in 2007. Donna was a Fine Artist working with paper tole, bunka, and wood sculpture winning many awards in Sebring, Florida and

Chelan County Fair ribbons. She was an avid gardener and seamstress, and delighted in her pets and taking on new projects.

Donna is survived by her spouse of 61 years, Milton; her children, Curtis Dean Mende; Beverly Joy (Denny) Parker; Gary Todd Mende; and Nola Kay Smart. She greatly enjoyed her grandchildren, Filena Mende; Shauna Cook; Valerie (Matthew) Schott; Jody (Sara) Horner; Jessica (Tim) Humble; Samuel Smart; and Stewart Smart and her great-grandchildren, Kylee, Holly, Landon and Aurora Horner; Amber Cook; and Cody Mende. Her favorite grand dog Choc (15yo) passed two days after Donna.

The family wishes to extend their deep felt gratitude to Bonnie Jordan who cared so wonderfully for Donna over the last several years. The Hospice Team for their support in her final days. Also John and Denise Moore for their timely and angelic help.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 A.M., Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at the Valley View Seventh-day Adventist Church, 1201 10th Street NE, East Wenatchee, WA 98802-4635. Viewing will begin 1 hour prior to service at the Church. Jones & Jones-Betts Funeral Home are coordinating arrangements. Condolences may be left in Donna's online guestbook at jonesjonesbetts.com/obit.

Tribute Wall



“ Jones & Jones - Betts Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Donna A. Mende



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - October 21, 2016 at 12:42 PM

SM

The best big sister ever. Wonderful example of living.

Sister Marian - October 22, 2016 at 01:22 PM

RE

We are looking forward to seeing Donna in the new earth. May the cicle be unbroken. Love to all the family. From Ralph and Ruby (Mende)Ewing and our family in Florida

Ruby Ewing - October 22, 2016 at 02:45 PM

RC

Thank you for sharing this beautiful memory. Deepest sympathy for your family's loss....she lived a very full life and we will all meet again, very soon in the earth made new. God bless you all.

Rosemary Wills Cook - October 22, 2016 at 08:05 PM


Nancy
Wood

What a beautiful tribute to your mom Nola. She was such a sweetie.

Nancy Wood Horejsi Focht - October 24, 2016 at 09:30 AM



Peggy Vines

Donna always welcomed me into her home with a smile . I am sure she could have brained joy and me at times. Like the night we stayed up all night sewing. I can't remember how many times she told us to go to bed. I will always have fond memories.

Peggy Vines - October 25, 2016 at 09:12 AM



MO

Wish I could be there. Condolences to ask the family. Hugs to Milton.

Marilyn Orcutt - October 25, 2016 at 01:09 PM



DY

The beautiful music is a wonderful compliment to the priceless photos of such an amazing lady! She will be missed by many!

DyannaVarner - October 26, 2016 at 12:05 AM



M(

“ Marian Johnson (sister) lit a candle in memory of Donna A. Mende



Marian Johnson (sister) - October 29, 2016 at 03:45 PM

JG

“ Such a small world (I didn't realize Curt was her son), and such a shame that you have to read the obituaries to find out so much interesting information about a person you once knew. What a great history each person has. Mrs. Mende was my fourth grade teacher at Monitor from 1957-1958. That must've been the last year she taught there. I looked up my report card and note that Mrs. Mende wrote nice things about me, but also the truth that would help me (work up to capacity). That has been so true and I never quite felt like I did that. The other thing I noticed was on my report card cover. She had us cut up a potato, I think, somehow put red ink on it and stamped all over it. Now I know from reading about her, that she was quite creative. Little did I know that then! Now, you, her family members can rejoice in knowing you had a wonderful person in your life and you're so lucky. She will be watching over you still.

Jeanne (Riedel) Guthrie - October 27, 2016 at 08:33 PM

GB

“ Dear Milton and family,
I have lost one of my dearest friends, she hasn't perhapped know me for a long time and I haven't talked to her for a long time but has been in my prayers and I have so many great memories of Donna and the fun we had doing crafts, parties and just talking to her. I remember the good times that Milton, Donna, Dick and I would go places together. So many memories that it would take a book to right them all down. Can't forget our taffy pulls and all the parties we had at your house, especially the surprise party for Donna's birthday, lots of fun. She loved the Lord! I thank your kids and other relatives that I got to meet for letting us be a part of the family!! Now she is resting in Jesus and that glorious morning when we will all meet in heaven, oh what joy!!! Love y'all

gayle beerbower - October 25, 2016 at 10:06 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - October 24, 2016 at 01:49 PM



“ Darrell Wold sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna A. Mende



Darrell Wold - October 24, 2016 at 11:26 AM



“ Lori Bodnar sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna A. Mende



Lori Bodnar - October 23, 2016 at 03:13 PM



“ Karyn Busby sent a virtual gift in memory of Donna A. Mende



Karyn Busby - October 23, 2016 at 03:10 PM

RC

“ Rosemary Wills Cook lit a candle in memory of Donna A. Mende



Rosemary Wills Cook - October 22, 2016 at 08:11 PM

CE

“ My prayers are going out to the family. May God bless you all.

Cindy Ewing - October 22, 2016 at 03:29 PM



“ I have fond memories spending time with the Mende family. Picking cherries, making apple cider, and flying with Milton. My love of flying is because of Milton. To Dean, Joy Gary and Nola may you find comfort in each other and that your mother was a special person. We love you and may God bless you. Jack Love Jr. and the entire Love family.

Jack Love - October 22, 2016 at 12:08 PM

SS

“ Prayers, love, and hugs Joy, you are so special to me, wish I could be there for you but we are in CA til Thanksgiving. Your mom was a very special lady i remember the many Women's Retreats that she so generously provided apples for the week end. I know we all look so forward to the second coming when Jesus will take us to heaven an we WILL be whole again free from all the illness and grief we suffer here on earth, Praise the Lord we are so ready for that great day!
Hugs Sue

Sue Schock - October 22, 2016 at 11:55 AM

JW

“ *Janna & David Wold lit a candle in memory of Donna A. Mende*



Janna & David Wold - October 21, 2016 at 09:45 PM

GM

“ *Gary Mende lit a candle in memory of Donna A. Mende*



Gary Mende - October 21, 2016 at 07:35 PM

BG

“ *Beatrice Geddings lit a candle in memory of Donna A. Mende*



Beatrice Geddings - October 21, 2016 at 05:02 PM