



Donald E. Saunders

May 29, 1937 - August 6, 2021

Donald Ernest Saunders was affectionately known as Pooh, Poochie, Big Don, and the list goes on. He was born on May 29, 1937, to the late Ernest and Helen Saunders. He was born and raised in Chester Pennsylvania and educated through the Chester Upland School District. He was brought up in St. Paul CME Church starting with the cradle roll. He graduated from Chester High School in 1955 and served time in the Marine Corps.

As a teenager, he went to Asbury Park in New Jersey for summer work. This was his first job that he worked very hard to get. After high school he worked at Piasecki Helicopter Corporation, later known as Boeing. He later started working for Sunoco (Sun Oil Company) in 1968 as an operator in the operations department. He worked there for 30 years. During his time there, the turning point of his testimony came about when he was encouraged to start the 12-step program. After that, he wrote his own story.

He was a founding member of the Gospel Choir of St. Paul CME Church. He was one of the two remaining founding members which he was recognized for at their 40th anniversary ceremony. He was also a driver for the children's choir at St. Paul and the Big Friends Program through Widener University. He leaves to cherish his memory his wife, friend, and partner of 49 years Tina Saunders. His daughter, Donna Childs of Chester, PA and son Donald G. Saunders of Chester, PA. Three grandchildren, Dionna, Diamond and David Childs of Chester, PA and one great-grandson Sterling N. Childs of Chester, PA. His siblings Helen E. Loper, of Philadelphia, PA, Shirley J. Ginn of Atlanta,

GA, Carolyn S. Brandon of Chester, PA, Tracy G. (Rev. Elaine C) Saunders of Boothwyn, PA and Maxine C. Ross of Williamsport, PA. One sister-in-law, Eloise Gadsden of Hollywood, SC. Mother of his children, Geraldine Saunders of Chester, PA. Lifelong friend Albert (Jean) Butler. Plus, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Donald was known for his love of life. He was always a happy person and enjoyed spending time with family and friends. His favorite scripture was I Corinthians 13. He was in a 12-step program that he served daily for 50 years. He has helped many, many people. He's lived a good life; his soul is at rest. We can take comfort in knowing that all is well in the hands of God.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87844235305?pwd=ZnkwcUcyd1FGNjVKT1E4UE8rU2FSdz09>

Cemetery Details

Chester Rural Cemetery

412 W. 15th Street
Chester, PA 19013

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 23. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Murphy AME Church
700 Yarnall Street
Chester, PA 19013

Service

AUG 23. 11:00 AM (ET)

Murphy Asbury AME Church
700 Yarnall Street
Chester, PA 19013

Tribute Wall



“ Donald E. Saunders

October 07, 2023 at 11:34 AM



“ Donald E. Saunders

October 04, 2023 at 12:55 PM



“ I am very sorry to hear of the passing of Don, I never actually called him Don, He was always the Colonel to me, and the rest of us people at Sun Oil...He was a very likeable person and will be deeply missed by many...I am also sorry to hear about his death at this late date and not be able to attend his services...When i look at his picture in this obit , it makes me smile....He was a good friend and co-worker at Sun for many years...My best wishes to all of his family.....peace Don, May the Good Lord rest your soul.....

Al Billinger - September 03, 2021 at 11:08 AM



“ Bless you, Don. Saying a prayer for your Going Home Journey. Gratitude for the kindness and patience you gave to help so many of us striving to engage in the Design for Living here on earth.



Charlene - August 24, 2021 at 06:41 PM

HS

“ Don was a light in my life and to others. He will be miss but not forgotten Howard Scott



Howard Scott - August 23, 2021 at 04:56 PM



“ thanks for showing me how to stand for something and remaining teachable



Daymon Warren - August 22, 2021 at 08:29 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Daymon Warren - August 22, 2021 at 08:25 PM

JU

“ Jean Uranko- love you and miss you, however I know you are at peace.

Jean Uranko - August 22, 2021 at 11:50 AM

AB

“ From Albert Butler- love you and miss you my friend! Will see you later!!

Albert Butler - August 22, 2021 at 11:48 AM

MB

“ To the Saunders family, sorry for your loss soon there will be a world without tears

John 11:25-26

Maerene Butler

maerene butler - August 21, 2021 at 09:01 AM

KG

“ My uncle was the best! I will miss him tremendously. "Ain't nothing but a party" always & forever. Your Niece, Kia

Kia Ginn-Siebie - August 20, 2021 at 07:21 PM

MI

“ Medical Supply Inc. purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Donald E. Saunders.



Medical Supply Inc. - August 20, 2021 at 09:04 AM

JM

“ To The Saunders Family: My condolences for your lost. Don was an inspiration in my life. His demeanor was that of a man who truly care for others. I never heard him complain about anything. He appreciated life. Tina I will be with in spirit as you say so long for now to your beloved Donald. May God Bless and Keep you and your family

Jimmy Mainor - August 19, 2021 at 02:43 PM

NP

“ I lived Don. He was a fixture in our community always helping people. He helped me with his calm ways and humor. My heart goes out to Tina. Whi is dearly loved too. Love, Neva

Neva Pryor - August 19, 2021 at 02:34 PM

DC

“ Thank You Don for loving me when I was not so lovable, for giving me hope when I had very little, for the encouragement to stay the course when I drifted, and most of all for guiding me back to God..... as you always said.....
God is good all the time and all the time God is Good..... Amen!
You were a living example of the way we should live our lives.
Say Hi to Bob & Harry for me I'm sure they'll have a coffee and seat for you in heaven..... I am Truly Blessed That God has put you in my life in the beginning of my journey to show me the way.....Rest in peace my friend..... David Coe

David Coe - August 18, 2021 at 09:43 PM