



Donald Vanderwall

August 2, 1922 - February 11, 2014

Donald Vanderwall
Mercer Island, WA

Donald James Vanderwall, age 91, of Mercer Island and formerly of Muskegon, MI, died Tuesday, February 11, 2014 in Bellevue, WA. He was born August 2, 1922 in Muskegon, MI to the late Edward and Bertha (Hanekamp) Vanderwall and was also preceded in death by his wife Margaret (VanderWall) Vanderwall and his sister Stella Wagner. He graduated in 1940 from Muskegon High School and in 1950 from Michigan State University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Don served his country in the Army Air Corps during World War II in the European Theatre as a 1st Lieutenant and B24 bomber pilot. Don lived in King County, WA since 1950 with the past 46 years on Mercer Island. Don was an aeronautical engineer retiring in 1991 after working 43 years for the Boeing Company. Don enjoyed fishing, skiing, dancing, gardening, swimming and snorkeling and was a longtime member of the Mercer Island Covenant Church. He is survived by his two sons, Bruce (Ann) Vanderwall of Seattle, WA and Mark (Lynn) Vanderwall of Mercer Island, WA; two daughters, Barbara Brown of Lake Oswego, OR and M. Jane (Andy) Person-Nydam of Olympia, WA; three brothers, Elmer Vanderwall of Dayton, TN, Harold (Wilma) Vanderwall of Fullerton, CA and James (Donna) Vanderwall of La Quinta, CA and eight grandchildren.

A family graveside service for Don will be held Saturday, February 22, 2014 at Sunset Hills Memorial Park in Bellevue, WA where he will be laid to rest next to his wife Margaret.

Please share your memories of Don on his online guest register at www.vanderwallfh.com.

Memorial contributions may be made to Young Life.

The family is being served by the Vanderwall Funeral Home in Dayton, TN
(423) 775-2662

Tribute Wall



“ 31 files added to the album Don



Vanderwall Funeral Home, Inc. - February 22, 2014 at 02:48 PM

JD

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jill Duke - February 21, 2014 at 01:44 AM

JD

My Uncle Don was a very kind hearted man with the gift of hospitality. He always wanted to make sure everyone was comfortable and cared for. I will never forget our dance in Pentwater at the reunion, or his music outside on the deck. I found this picture of he and my dad and wanted to share it. Two good lookin cowboys together forever.

Jill Duke - February 21, 2014 at 02:06 AM

JU

“ *This message is for Bruce ... I assume it's the Bruce I used to work with at Bancshares Mortgage Company.*

Bruce, I read your dad's obituary and I just wanted to write to you and let you know your family is in my thoughts and prayers now and in the weeks ahead. I lost my father 8 years ago and I know how hard it is to lose a parent. I wish you peace and good memories.

Jody King Ulrich

Jody Ulrich - February 18, 2014 at 11:33 AM

 David
VanderWal

“ *Shortly after I began my own 37 year career at the Boeing Company in 1973, I got a telephone call from Don. It seems that payroll computers at Boeing simply could not handle two aeronautical engineers named D. J. Vanderwal, even though his last name had two final letters and mine has only one! I clearly recall his check being a good deal larger than mine! We discovered that we both came from the same area of Michigan (I was raised in Hudsonville), and speculated that we might be related, although we did not pursue it further. Seeing Don's picture and how much he resembled my own father, who died at age 92, made me want to share this with you.*

May he rest in Peace.

David VanderWal - February 16, 2014 at 02:31 PM

TV

“ 1 file added to the album some of the family and some oldies



tom vanderwall - February 16, 2014 at 11:30 AM

JD

I love this photo! I was looking for it at my parents home. Thanks for sharing Tom.

Jill Duke - February 21, 2014 at 01:46 AM

JV

“ *Don Vanderwall was a very decent man who had a gentle spirit about him. I always thought he reminded me of Grandpa Vanderwall. I too am thankful for the reunion in Pentwater and wish to thank Tom Vanderwall for making that happen. Rest in Peace Uncle Don....I'm know you're happy to be reunited with Aunt Margaret and God the Father...Amen*

Jim Vanderwall - February 16, 2014 at 09:10 AM

JV

I originally put "I'm sure" you're happy and wanted to change it to "I know" because I'm that confident in that statement of that reunion. However, I didn't change I'm to I.....well now my proof reading skills are known.

Jim Vanderwall - February 16, 2014 at 10:26 AM

BM

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Beth Marine - February 15, 2014 at 07:55 PM

BM

“ I am so glad that all the brothers were able to come to Michigan for the family reunion in Pentwater in 2012. I will always have this special memory. It was wonderful talking to Uncle Don since I had not seen him for many years. I will "Celebrate His Life"
Love and prayers to my family.
Love Beth & Bob Marine, and Family

Beth Marine - February 15, 2014 at 07:30 PM

TV

“ 10 files added to the album some of the family and some oldies



Tom Vanderwall - February 15, 2014 at 02:45 PM