



Coach Don Nelson

July 10, 1954 - June 4, 2009

Donald Edward Nelson, son of Leon Nelson and Faye (Henry) Nelson Howard, was born July 10, 1954 in Baumholder, Germany.

He departed this life June 4, 2009 as the result of a motorcycle/pick-up accident on Old Rt. 66 West, St. Robert, Missouri, having attained the age of 54 years, 10 months and 25 days.

When Don was an infant, his father got stationed at Ft. Leonard Wood and it was here that the family made their home. Don was a 1972 graduate of Waynesville High School, and later received his Bachelor's degree in Education from Central Missouri University in Warrensburg. In 1982, he completed his Master's degree with a secondary in guidance and counseling also from CMU.

Don went to work in the Waynesville School District in 1977. During his 22 year career, he taught at Waynesville Junior High, Partridge Elementary, Wood Middle School, Williams Elementary, Waynesville High School and was currently at Freedom Elementary school. In addition to teaching physical education, Don was a guidance counselor at both the middle and high schools. He served as WHS Head Baseball Coach and also coached volleyball, track and wrestling. In 2007, Don had the distinction of being invited to attend the State Championship Coaches Alumni Association where he was

presented with the Outstanding Coach Award.

Don was also one of the voices heard on KFBD/KJPW Radio. He and his friend, Marv Leuten covered both Waynesville High School baseball and football games.

Don loved everything about the outdoors. He was an avid sportsman; hunting, fishing, softball, golf, swimming, river events and motorcycle riding. He was a member of the Richland Masonic Lodge #385 AF & AM, Pulaski County/Ft. Wood Shrine Club, and the Shrine Club Motor Corps, Abou Ben Adhem, Springfield, Scottish Rite, Joplin, Freedom of the Road Riders, Local 28, and the Missouri State Teacher's Association.

Coach Nelson's family, friends, students and co-workers will miss him greatly. He is survived by his mother: Faye Howard and father: Leon Nelson both of Waynesville; two children: Kenneth Nelson of Waynesville and Stacey Cruz (SGT Amos) of San Clemente, California; four siblings: Gene Nelson (Mary) and Cheryl Nelson (Tom Brougham) all of Kansas City, Kansas and Jerry Nelson (Barbara) and Yvonna Bays (Dennis) all of Waynesville; grandson: Jaden Cruz and expecting baby Cruz; six nephews, four nieces, an uncle: John T. Henry (Virginia) of Dothan, Alabama, cousins, special friends: Marv and Terri Leuten of Laquey, other relatives and friends.

Don was preceded in death by a niece: Allise and his step-father: Joseph Howard.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 P.M. Wednesday, June 10, 2009 in the Parker Fine Arts Auditorium of Waynesville, Missouri with Doug Cage officiating. The songs "Everlasting God", "Shall We Gather at the River" and "Drift Away" were played. Serving as escorts were John Wosoba, Kenny Merrill, Terry Roberson, Charles Conley, Dave Preble, Wess Ellzey, Don

Vaughn, Brian Nelson, Jim Warren, SGT Amos Cruz, Chris Cross, Joe Nelson, Lynn Bays, Eric Bays, Marv Leuten and Richard Teague.

Burial followed in the Waynesville Memorial Park Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville/St. Robert.

Memorial contributions may be made in memory of Don Nelson to the Don Nelson Scholarship Fund and may be left at Memorial Chapels and Crematory or the Security Bank of Pulaski County.

Previous Events

Service

JUN **10**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Parker Fine Arts Building
on the Waynesville Middle School Campus, Historic 66 West
Waynesville, MO

Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Coach Don Nelson*



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - June 04, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Coach Don Nelson*

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss, Donnie was a great man!*

Your entire family is in our prayers...

Cheryl, Tom, Chris, Tara and kids....

We love you!##imported-begin##Mike and Linda Weber##imported-end##

July 20, 2009 at 04:28 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Nelson family. Coach was a good man and had a positive impact on many lives throughout his years of teaching and coaching. We were grieved to hear of his death.

May God bring you all comfort, strength and help as you deal with your loss.

The Groseclose family

Gordon, Debbie & Micah (Goose)##imported-begin##Debbie

Groseclose##imported-end##

June 15, 2009 at 05:38 PM



“ I have had so many thoughts since your passing and have tried to express them as best I could. We just can't believe it - the man who was such a good friend to all is gone. My friend, we will miss you and we will always love you. Keep your faith and stay true to your nature. The light of this world is a little dimmer without your smile.

Good-bye old friend.##imported-begin##Terry and Susie

Roberson##imported-end##

June 12, 2009 at 02:48 PM



“ Faye, The thoughts and prayers of my family are with you at this time. Let us know if there is anything we can do.

Louise Herron, Susan, Harry, David, Carol, and Luisa##imported-begin##Louise Herron##imported-end##

June 12, 2009 at 11:12 AM



“ I'll always remember that wonderful smile. It was just like a ray of sunshine.##imported-begin##Karol Bartlett Evans##imported-end##

June 11, 2009 at 07:28 PM



“ Dearest Faye & family. Our deepest sympathy for the loss of a wonderful, loving, caring, and gentle. son, father, uncle, and friend. our hearts go out to you. With much love to you all in your time of sorrow and loss. You have always been my aunt Faye and I love you dearly. ***** Corriveau- *****##imported-begin##**** & Barbara (corriveau) *****##imported-end##

June 11, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I will miss coach so much. I found out right after summer school and I was shocked. He was the best coach I ever had. I will never forget his sayings. The two I will remember the most are "I didnt mean to rhyme just slipped that time" and "Before I was sooo rudely interupted". Its really hard to believe that he is gone. That was the most absolutley best year of pe I ever had. He was my 6th grade coach at Freedom Elementary. We will all really miss him. And his family is in my prayers.

Love,

Shannon##imported-begin##Shannon Norris##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 08:37 PM



“ Our deepest sympathy to the family. Don was such a delight to work with when I worked at WHS. He was also an inspiration to my children, Monaca and Michael John was attended WMS at this time. We are all living in Richmond, Virginia at this time.

Sincerely,

The Radford Family##imported-begin##Judy, Mike, Michael John, and Monaca Radford##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 08:04 PM



“ Coach will be truly missed! He always had something funny to say, and he knew how to put a smile on your face. I'm so glad I was able to teach with him, if only for a short period of time. My students absolutely loved him and his class, and I think that says a lot about him. Thanks for all the great memories and all of the laughs coach! You will live on in our hearts and memories forever!##imported-begin##Kristin Williams##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 05:35 PM



“ To lose a teacher, is to have lost a part of your soul. He was a great man, coach, father, and teacher. He blessed many lives, and his memory will continue to bless our lives and many more lives to come. We all live on through stories, so let's tell his story.##imported-begin##Heidi (Weeks) Durant##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 02:45 PM



“ We have known the Nelson family our entire lives and the loss of Donnie, leaves a void in our hearts as it would if he was actual family. There are no words that I can say that has not been said that make the pain go away. The loss is tremendous to not only his family and friends but to the community. Like Jerry told me last night Donnie never wanted to grow up. This is the way to remember him as a kid at heart and we will again see him one day. Rest in peace my brother Mike##imported-begin##Mike, Paula, Mikey and Linda Weber##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 01:55 PM



“ coach nelson was a very good man. he would listen to peoples problems when he wasnt teaching. He was serious but stiiil very funny.I stiiil remember one of his sayings: "Before I was so rudely interupted.".. Coach nelson was awsome. When I first saw him I thought he was mean but after a while I found out he was very nice. Sometimes I wanted to grow up and be like him. You could say he was an insperation to me. I wish he was still heren he was very nice and never let anyone get hurt unless he was busy in another room and didnt see it. If I'm correct he actully saved one of my friends life. My friend couldnt breathe and he stopped every thing and ran through the schoool so fast he was a blur he didnt stop until he reached the nurse than brought her to my friend and saved him. Thats what made him an insperation to me because not only did he teach physical education he also saved a life. WE MISS YOU COACH NELSON!ride free rest in peace you deserve it.##imported-begin##Antonio De Vido##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 01:48 PM



“ I only knew coach for 2 years but in the 2 years we had a lot of fun. Coach would push us harder only to be better athletes.He loved to have fun in class.Those sayings that he says in class were pretty funny. R.I.P coach u will be in our hearts forever!!!!my prayers go to the family. God Bless!!!##imported-begin##Makayla Worth##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 01:13 PM



“ Dear Family,
I would like to express the warm feelings that I get when I think about the kind of co-worker and teacher that I will always remember. He was a great teacher for my daughter Emily in the eighth grade and he also taught her many different swimming techniques while she attended the high school. With great respect and many prayers.

Sincerely,

Tiriah B. Scott

Wood Elementary##imported-begin##Tiriah B. Scott and Emily Scott##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 12:10 PM



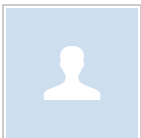
“ I'm so sorry to hear that Don has been taken from us. My prayers are with his family at this time.##imported-begin##Maureen (Stacey) Nelson##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 10:12 AM



“ RIDE FREE AROUND IN HEAVEN , RIDE FREE LOVE THE FETTERHOFF FAMILY.##imported-begin##Aaron fetterhoff##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 09:23 AM



“ We are thinking of you. Don was a wonderful man and will be greatly missed.##imported-begin##John, Debbie, Alexa Rosipal/Callie and Parker Firestone##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 08:56 AM



“ My son, Tony, was one of Coach Nelson's students-while at Freedom Elementary. When I told him of Coach's passing-of course, he had a lot of questions...But had nothing but kind words to say about Coach...Stated he was "awesome"...

Coach Nelson did a lot for our community. he did a lot for our children..And that will never be forgotten.. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers...R.I.P. Coach...And Ride Free.. God Bless You...##imported-begin##Margaret (and son, Antonio(Tony) De Vido)##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 03:50 AM



“ I found out this morning about your loss. Coach was a good man who loved his family and life itself. I consider myself fortunate to have wrestled and gotten to know him for the three years I did. I consider myself fortunate and a better person because of my short time spent with him. I am saddened and deeply sorry for your loss. God Bless.

Eddie Derendorf##imported-begin##Eddie Derendorf##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 01:37 AM



“ To the family of Coach Nelson:

May God grant comfort and healing during this very difficult time.

Jeanie Porter - teacher - Pick School##imported-begin##Jeanie Porter##imported-end##

June 10, 2009 at 12:53 AM



“ To all of the Nelson family, I am completely devastated by the news of Don. We were best buddies and had many many laughs together. We always celebrated our birthdays together and he never missed calling me after I moved to NC. He is a wonderful person and he will always be in my heart. I wish I could be there with you all in your time of need. Please know that I am thinking of all of you. Don will be greatly missed and I will always cherish the good times we had together.

My love to all of you..... Michele##imported-begin##Michele Cole##imported-end##

June 09, 2009 at 11:19 PM



“ Our Deepest and Sincere Condolences.

Your life skill lessons to our children are a direct reflection of you and still felt today.

Thank you Coach!

Our hearts are heavy with grief, and our thoughts are with your entire family.##imported-begin##Ed and Debbie Derendorf##imported-end##

June 09, 2009 at 10:13 PM



“ My heart goes out to you, Stacey and family, during this most difficult time. What a terrible loss. I taught with Don at Wood Middle School and he was always smiling and happy. Quite a jokester! Cherish the wonderful memories you have of your father. I'll be praying for you!##imported-begin##Connie Gilbert##imported-end##

June 09, 2009 at 10:12 PM



“ Coach Nelson will be greatly missed in our community. I always knew when I would see him he was going to tell some silly joke. Kenny and Stacey, our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time.##imported-begin##James and Kellie Scott##imported-end##

June 09, 2009 at 09:39 PM



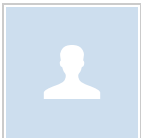
“ My heart goes out to your family for your loss. I will continue to keep you in my prayers as the days follow. It was truly an honor to teach with Don at Freedom.##imported-begin##Jonellie Chavis##imported-end##

June 09, 2009 at 08:34 PM



“ He was a great Coach! He will be missed! We will be praying for you all!! The Shaw Family##imported-begin##Pastor John,Carole,David, and Heather Shaw##imported-end##

June 09, 2009 at 05:41 PM



“ Coach Nelson was my sons PE teacher. My son had a very hard time this year, because we moved in the middle of the year, and Coach Nelson really helped him through this tough time, and made life so much easier on my son. We are deeply sadden by his sudden death and Our prayers and thoughts are with the family in their time of need.##imported-begin##Erika Manes##imported-end##

June 09, 2009 at 03:24 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss and hope the Lord will comfort you in this turbulent time.##imported-begin##Marge Scott##imported-end##

June 09, 2009 at 12:22 PM



“ My family and I will always remember you for what you have done for our county,schools,and sense of humor. "WE WILL MISS YOU COACH, KEEP ON RIDING IN HEAVEN." I guess heaven needed a Harley riding CHOACH. ride free.##imported-begin##Aaron fetterhoff##imported-end##

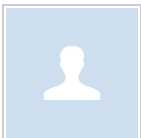
June 09, 2009 at 10:00 AM



“ Our Prayers and thoughts are with Kenny and Stacy through these trouble times. Rest in peace Don.

The Wright Family##imported-begin##John and Dawn Wright (Erica)##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 11:25 PM



“ Dear Family,
You are in our thoughts and prayers now and in the days ahead. Though we didn't know Coach well, we enjoyed listening to his broadcasts, and he always made it feel as if we were right there with him.

He will be deeply missed and truly remembered by so many people.##imported-begin##Martin and Georgia White##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 11:12 PM



“ Coach Don Nelson was my brother-in-law and a prankster. Don had a weird sense of humor.

Don was the life of every family get together. He would steal the biscuits and corn bread sticks at Thanksgiving, Christmas, or when ever they were made. We had to make sure and double the batch in order to have enough for the rest of the family. It was like he could smell them being baked, he would show up out of nowhere just to eat as of them as we would let him. Sometimes we bagged them up just so he could take them home.

He will be greatly missed from now on, not just at Family gatherings.##imported-begin##Mary Nelson##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 11:08 PM



“ I only knew coach nelson for a couple of years, but he touched my heart deeply.

He was a great coach to have at Freedom. He was always there to push me when i wanted to stop, and there to put a smile on my face! My thoughts go out to the Nelson family! R.I.P Coach Nelson!##imported-begin##Mariah Turner##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 11:05 PM



“ Faye, Yvonne, and family members; I am so sorry to hear of Donnie's untimely death. I have very fond memories of his helping Marv air the Waynesville games. I know he will be greatly missed, and the ballgames won't be the same without his voice! Millie Howlett Brotherton##imported-begin##Millie Howlett Brotherton##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 10:09 PM



“ Coach, Our memories of you start back to our middle school years. We will never forget your dedication to our success running many miles. That hard lesson of always giving what ever you do 100% will stick with us forever. Not only were you a great coach and teacher you were a great colleague and friend.
Kenny and Stacy- We give you our greatest condolences during this tough time. Our thoughts are with you and your family. Your dad is a very respected man. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless##imported-begin##Traci Simpson and Sybil Breland##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 06:24 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the Nelson family. I am so sorry for you loss. Coach Nelson was a wonderful teacher and coach. God Bless.##imported-begin##Holly (Ward) Pesce##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 06:04 PM



“ Oh Donnie, what great memories you leave us with. You will always be in our hearts! May you rest in peace brother! Our love and prayers go out to all the family and friends as we know you hurt as we do!##imported-begin##Coach and Toni Roth##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 04:49 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Nelson Family... Coach Nelson was a great teacher and Coach. He will always be remembered. He loved to joke with all of us growing up and no matter what he could always put a smile on our faces. He will be truly missed but thought of often and dearly.##imported-begin##Jeramie Woodall & Celia (Finn)Woodall##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 04:34 PM



“ Kenny and Stacey,
Your father was a wonderful man. As the pool manager, teacher, and coach, he was a major father figure to Waynesville youth for much of his life. When I was the pool manager, I honestly confided in him as he taught summer school swimming. He was a great mentor and friend instilling confidence in every person who looked up to him. I am so sorry you have lost your father, but I thank you deeply for sharing him with the rest of us.
Skylor Morgan##imported-begin##Skylor Morgan##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 04:33 PM



“ I was sadden when my parents told me of Donnie's passing. Although it has been many years since I've seen Donnie, he will always be a part of my life. I fondly remembe playing baseball and 500 in the church yard. I guess he was coaching me back then.##imported-begin##Clifton Dudley##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 03:31 PM



“ you will be missed and my prayers goes out to the family.##imported-begin##Juwan Williams##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 03:27 PM



“ Coach Nelson was a wonderful man with a ready smile. Thanks so much for making my daughter's years at Freedom pleasurable as her coach. You will be greatly missed by all. RIP###imported-begin###Mylisa & Toryana###imported-end###

June 08, 2009 at 03:25 PM



“ Coach Nelson was a huge part of my sports carrer. I also have memories of him being the Waynesville city pool manager. My father was good friends with his mother. I wrestled and played football with his nephew Brian for three years.

I now coach wrestling and can't help but think of how in some small way Coach Nelson will live on through me and the next generation of wrestlers that come around.

He did coach one state champion in wrestling Rueben Wait! We were also 3x district champs when I was in high school.

I had seen coach Nelson after high school and shared a beer with him at the elbow inn. He seemed to be the happiest I had ever seen him. He loved life and was quite a character. Heaven must have needed a coach!###imported-begin###Rueben and Maggie Wait###imported-end###

June 08, 2009 at 01:59 PM



“ We will miss you my friend. We will see each other again. You will be our hearts forever. You touched many people in your life. We love you. RIP Don.

To Don's Family, I'm so sorry for your loss.##imported-begin##Retha & Mike Bennett##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 12:08 PM



“ Stacey and Kenny, Our deepest sympathies go out to you and your families. Your dad was a wonderful man and did a great amount for this community. You and your families will be in our thoughts and prayers as you deal with all of this. God Bless.##imported-begin##Brian, Tammie, Brittney and Jon Black##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 11:30 AM



“ May you rest in eternal peace my friend and may the good Lord share with you the beautiful wonders of heaven. We will miss you here in body, but our spirit will remain in contact forever.##imported-begin##Pete Cruz##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 09:51 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##SUE CRAWFORD##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 09:17 AM



“ Yvonna and Family,

My thoughts are with you, and may you find peace knowing he is in a better place and his memory will live forever in your hearts.

Sending you lots of hugs and support.

Nancy Zoellner (former co-worker of Yvonna)##imported-begin##Nancy Zoellner##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 09:05 AM



“ You will sadly missed, though your memory will live on in the many children you touched with your genuine compassion and acceptance for them as an individual.

God Speed Coach

Respectfully,

Charles M. Kristek and Family##imported-begin##Charles Kristek & Family##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 09:02 AM



“ Stacy and Kenny,
Your Dad was a great guy and will be missed by all. We will have all of you in our prayers and ask God to somehow ease the pain of such a great loss. Games will never be the same without your Dad's voice either coming over the radio or over our shoulder on the sideline. You don't get much more "color" than from a color commentator like your Dad.##imported-begin##Mary and Adam Brill##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 08:43 AM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Leon, Kenny and the entire family. A wonderfull friend, brother, father and son, whom will be greatly missed by many. Ride safe my brother.
BJ##imported-begin##James (BJ) Benton##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 07:12 AM



“ i am so sorry about your loss i never had coach but i did however chat w him at school he was and always be in my heart my heart and prayers go out to you and your family and friends as well as the entire waynesville high school##imported-begin##cathy adkins keeling##imported-end##

June 08, 2009 at 03:10 AM



“ Stacy, Kenny, and family we are so sorry for your loss. He is a great man who taught many and will be remembered by all who crossed paths with him. I remember middle school PE and Volleyball with coach. He made everything we did fun, no matter how much we did not want to do it. :-) I remember going in his office and asking for an ace wrap but all I said was wrap and he busted some rhymes for me! :-) Those are the memories we all hold dear. We love you and pray for you. He will never be forgotten and his legacy lives in all the childrens lives he touched.##imported-begin##Denise Prewett & David Haberstock##imported-end##

June 07, 2009 at 09:45 PM



“ Coach you always had a smile and something friendly to say when we met. We will remember you that way. Stacy and family our prayers are with you. If there is anything we can do just let us know.##imported-begin##RAY, CAROL and DENISE PREWEET##imported-end##

June 07, 2009 at 09:36 PM



“ We love you and we will miss you very much. Your family is in our prayers.##imported-begin##Lindsay Wyss (Bartenber @ Shrine Club)##imported-end##

June 07, 2009 at 07:10 PM



“ Coach i am forever grateful that i had a chance to be your friend knowing you as my coach in high school and then as a friend when i grew up has had a deep impact in my life and given me such a respect for you! I send my condolences to all that love him and you are all in my prayers! RIP Coach Nelson you will be missed.##imported-begin##Megan Wendel##imported-end##

June 07, 2009 at 07:05 PM



“ I am very saddened by the loss of Mr. Nelson! The loss of him was a tremendous loss to the community! He was such a good teacher as I had him for 9th grade health! He left a positive impression on my Life! My thoughts and prayers are with his family!##imported-begin##Charlene Pendleton##imported-end##

June 07, 2009 at 06:45 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to Faye, Kenny, Stacy, and to all who loved Donnie. Rest In Peace Donnie.##imported-begin##Laura Huffman##imported-end##

June 07, 2009 at 04:54 PM



“ RIP brother.##imported-begin##Rick Lepard##imported-end##

June 07, 2009 at 04:21 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of you at this time of sorrow. Don and I shared the same birthday and somehow always ran into each other in the summer in time to say a Happy Birthday. . He will be missed by many.##imported-begin##Belinda and James Sands##imported-end##

June 07, 2009 at 03:11 PM



“ i love you coach you are my mentor you pushed me to the limits to achieve my goals i thank you coach i send my prayers out to the loved ones and friends i love you coach thanks for everythang!

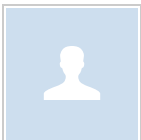
bless you love coach always in memories!##imported-begin##carl dale morris##imported-end##

June 07, 2009 at 02:30 PM



“ Coach was my coach in high school and then my daughters coach at Freedom. He was a awesome coach. He taught Breanna so much and participated with the children so much. He will be greatly missed. Our prayers are with you. We are thinking of you Faye, Jerry, and Barb, and Lynn.##imported-begin##Felton Barbara April and Breanna Shoemaker##imported-end##

June 07, 2009 at 01:23 PM



“ Grandma Faye, Don and the Nelson family you are in our thoughts, memories and prayers!##imported-begin##Sheila Acosta, Steve Wilkinson, & The boys Eddie Jr. and Emilio##imported-end##

June 07, 2009 at 01:03 PM



“ Grandma Faye, Don and family you are in our thoughts, memories and prayers!##imported-begin##Sheila Acosta, The boys Eddie Jr. and Emilio##imported-end##

June 07, 2009 at 12:59 PM



“ Don is going to be greatly missed. We always looked forward to a funny joke or numerous text messages throughout the day. We love Don and he will always be in our hearts. To Don's kids, take the gift of laughter and remember only the good. This is where your comfort will come.##imported-begin##Jeff and Carla Begins##imported-end##

June 06, 2009 at 10:39 PM



“ I had Coach Nelson for 3 years. He was an awesome coach, and I will miss him greatly. My heart goes out to his family##imported-begin##Shelby Dieterich##imported-end##

June 06, 2009 at 08:59 PM



“ your family will be in our prayers##imported-begin##Jr & Linda Levett##imported-end##

June 06, 2009 at 08:47 PM



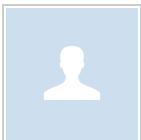
“ Stacey and Kenny,
I'm am so sorry for your loss. Your dad was my first real friend when I moved to Wentzville in 1986 and has remained one of my closest friends ever. He and I have always had a great time together coaching, hunting, fishing and going to the state wrestling tournament. You two have always been his pride and joy. He was very proud of you and loved you very much. Your dad has touch my heart as well as my families and everyone that he has come to know. Your dad is a very special person and I will miss him very much. God Bless you both.
Jake###imported-begin##Jake La Manna###imported-end##

June 06, 2009 at 03:57 PM



“ Thanks, Don, for the many memories. Especially the broadcast of the Baseball games that my son played in that I wasn't able to attend. Know you enjoyed the love of the game as much as I do. Rest in Peace. Ben Lord###imported-begin##Ben Lord###imported-end##

June 06, 2009 at 10:55 AM



“ WE love ya man. You made us laugh and now we have a place in our hearts where all of our other brothers are kept I know all ya'll are looking down at us from the ride in the sky!!! Love you ALWAYS RIDE FREE BABY!!!!
Hawg Trash###imported-begin##Dave and Mayra Preble###imported-end##

June 06, 2009 at 10:50 AM



“ we will hold you in our hearts and honor you with our laughter.##imported-begin##sandra Larrington##imported-end##

June 06, 2009 at 09:12 AM



“ My condolences for everyone who has known and loved Don - he will be missed but never forgotten.

May you shine in God's light.##imported-begin##Sheryl Folkert##imported-end##

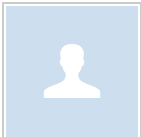
June 06, 2009 at 04:06 AM



“ OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU ALL

CHARLIE AND ANNETTE HANCE##imported-begin##ANNETTE HANCE##imported-end##

June 05, 2009 at 09:47 PM



“ There are no words that we can possibly say that will make things easier. May god bless your family and Don will be in our hearts forever. Prayers and thoughts will always be with you and your family.##imported-begin##Jay & Tammy Weber##imported-end##

June 05, 2009 at 09:46 PM



“ Condolences to the Nelson family. I have known Don for several years and he was always an excellent educator and gentleman. May you rest in peace.##imported-begin##Roger Layman##imported-end##

June 05, 2009 at 09:30 PM



“ Stacey and Kenny, we are so very sorry. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Remember all of the great times, because we all know that there is so many. We love you!##imported-begin##Jessica Grosvenor & Tj Woodruff##imported-end##

June 05, 2009 at 08:23 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the Nelson family. Don frequently stopped by RT's garage for a visit or just the other day to have RT work on his jeep. He was excited this summer to be teaching some older kids and telling them some "corny" jokes as he put it. Life makes no promises that we may see ourselves or a love one the next day. We will miss Don as well as everyone else that knew him. May God strenghten and give his family peace now and the days that follow.##imported-begin##Richard & Cheryl Teague##imported-end##

June 05, 2009 at 06:23 PM



“ I am really going to miss you my friend since forever! I have let the tears flow but I know that won't bring you back to us the ones that love you. May you rest in peace while we continue to cherish your memory.

Love you!!!!

Pam###imported-begin##Pam###imported-end##

June 05, 2009 at 05:56 PM



“ You will always be in our hearts.###imported-begin##Becky & Chuck Dunne###imported-end##

June 05, 2009 at 05:28 PM



“ What a tragedy! Our community has been struck with so many lately. I am so sad for Don's family and the great loss that they will be dealing with now. Don was such a unique character and I am lucky to have taught with him for several years at the high school. He was loved by his students. He loved life and we will remember him with many smiles. Paul and I send our thoughts to all of you during this difficult time.###imported-begin##Luge and Paul Hardman###imported-end##

June 05, 2009 at 05:27 PM