



Donald Richard Pettijohn

August 11, 1924 - November 1, 2016

Donald R. Pettijohn, 92 of Stoutland, MO. Army Veteran, passed away November 1, 2016 in Life Care of Waynesville, MO.

No services are scheduled at this time. Arrangements are under the direction of Memorial Chapel of Richland, MO.

Donald is survived by his wife, Bernice of Stoutland, MO; one daughter: Gayle Stenson of Richland, MO; one brother: Charles Pettijohn of the state of CA; three grandchildren: Amy Arnold and Elizabeth Wilson both of the state of CA and Leroy Stenson of Stoutland, MO; five great grandchildren: Ava Arnold and Connor Wilson both of the state of CA, Taren, Evan and Daniel Stenson all of the state of MO; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Memorial contributions may be made out to the Wounded Warriors Project in memory of Army Veteran, Donald Richard Pettijohn and may be left at the Memorial Chapel of Richland.

Online condolences may be sent to www.memorialchapelsandcrematory.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Happy birthday grandpa. I miss you so much. I hope you are with grandma and mommy. I love you.* ”

Amy Arnold - August 11, 2025 at 04:06 AM



“ *Donald Richard Pettijohn* ”

January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“  ”



amy arnold - April 29, 2020 at 05:39 AM

AJ

“ I, Allen E. Jansson married his only daughter, Gayle Pettijohn and we had a daughter of our own who now has a daughter of her own. In the 1970s, my own family, who were millionaires, rejected me, & refused to help me after I helped them become millionaires.. Donald stepped up to the plate and helped me and my wife, Gayle, build a cape cod house in Bolivar, Mo. He taught me the building business for which I am grateful. Recently, through the family, I thanked him as a poor man, himself, helped me get started in life in my 20s, before he died. 1/ I remember, he told me that he poured a concrete foundation and by law needed 3 core samples. He took 5 sample cores to make sure that the concrete would cure and hold weight of the commercial building properly. Usually, only 3 cores are taken. He took 5. The first 4 cores monthly failed the strength test. On the final 5th core, it passed and the commercial building could remain standing without tearing it back down because he took 5 cores. 2/ During construction of our Bolivar house, Don and myself, were on a ladder each end of a long 25 foot 2x12 board and preset the 16 penny nails on each end before we climbed up the ladder. He said "whatever you do Allen do not flip the board." So, As we climbed the ladder I flipped the board with his preset 16 penny nail dug into his ear and blood started dripping. He did not say anything and left the property to go home. I was wondering if he was going to return as I sat down on the concrete steps. He returned after about 20 minutes. He came back with a bandaged ear which covered his entire ear. As we started up again on the ladder he only said: "whatever you do, Allen, do not flip the board." 3rd, one more story he told me. He was building a commercial building and there was a long heavy overhand between supporting posts and in his opinion, it was not stable so he called the engineer, and the engineer came out and quickly did some calulations and stopped the project before it came down. The engineer came back in a while and modified the engineering of the structure. Don saved lives before the building came down. During WWII, he was captured by the Germans, rumor was the Russians were coming quickly and it was dangerous for him to stay in the prison camp. So, he and one other American prisoner escaped that night. The next day, The Russians overtook

the German prisoner of war camp. The remaining American prisoners never turned home. Allen E. Jansson

Allen Jansson - January 23, 2017 at 12:57 PM

CC

“ *I'm so sorry. I didn't know. I love you guys so much. Praying for peace & comfort.* ”

Cookie Cooper - December 18, 2016 at 08:57 PM

CB

“ *Catherine Baker lit a candle in memory of Donald Richard Pettijohn* ”



Catherine Baker - November 16, 2016 at 07:24 PM

CB

“ *Catherine Baker lit a candle in memory of Donald Richard Pettijohn* ”



Catherine Baker - November 16, 2016 at 07:00 PM

CB

“ *I remember Mr. Pettijohn as such a soft spoken man. He was a grand gentleman. He endured more in his life than most but he always had a smile. He is a true American hero. I'm honored to have known him.* ”



Catherine Baker - November 16, 2016 at 06:58 PM

GS

“ *Gayle Stenson lit a candle in memory of Donald Richard Pettijohn*



Gayle Stenson - November 08, 2016 at 05:07 PM

GS

I love you, Daddy. We'll meet you there later...

Gayle Stenson - November 08, 2016 at 05:08 PM

RH

“ *Russ & Della Hage lit a candle in memory of Donald Richard Pettijohn*



Russ & Della Hage - November 06, 2016 at 04:06 PM

MW

“ *We are so sorry to learn of the loss of Mr. Pettijohn. Gayle and the entire family, we are keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers in the difficult days ahead. May God grant you the peace and strength that you need to get through these times. Much love to you all*

Martin & Georgia White - November 06, 2016 at 03:26 PM

MW

“ *We are so sorry to learn of the loss of Mr. Pettijohn. Gayle and the entire family, we are keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers in the difficult days ahead. May God grant you the peace and strength that you need to get through these times. Much love to you all.*

Martin and Georgia White - November 06, 2016 at 03:24 PM



“ *Amy Arnold lit a candle in memory of Donald Richard Pettijohn*



Amy Arnold - November 04, 2016 at 03:40 PM



“ *I am so very sorry-I so much enjoyed visiting with Mr. Pettijohn at the Stoutland Senior Center and at the Stoutland Library-he checked out 10-15 books weekly-he was so knowledgeable and shared wonderful tidbits of his most fascinating life. My prayers are with the family.*

*Marie Brown
Stoutland MO*

Marie Brown - November 04, 2016 at 09:05 AM



Thank you Marie, he was a loving, kind, amazing man my grandpa and sure was an avid reader! I am so thankful for your memory and happy to hear he shared some memories of his amazing life with you!!

Amy Arnold - November 09, 2016 at 11:35 PM



“ *Rick And Robin Hobbs lit a candle in memory of Donald Richard Pettijohn*



Rick and Robin Hobbs - November 04, 2016 at 02:42 AM



“ *Your in Life care family prayers*
Lisa Jennings ”



Lisa Jennings - November 03, 2016 at 02:52 PM