



Donald E. Howell, Sr.

August 11, 1934 - October 5, 2017

Donald E. Howell, Sr. passed away Thursday, October 5, 2017. He was born in Louisville, Kentucky August 11, 1934 to Paul L. and Catherine L. Howell. He joined the Army in March 1954. After basic training in Fort Polk, LA, he was stationed in Fort Belvoir, VA at the Corps of Engineers. He became a combat engineer with tours of duty in Greenland, Italy, and Vietnam. He retired in August 1974.

He then joined the US Secret Service in January 1977 serving under several presidents. He retired in June 1997.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Barbara A. (Clift) Howell; two sons, Donald E. of Pelham, AL and Terry J. of Myrtle Beach, SC; 5 grandchildren, Michiko, Tanner, Travis, Jacob, and Jaxson; one brother, Stephen (Shirley) Howell of Mitchell, IN; and several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 AM Thursday, October 12, 2017 at Christ United Methodist Church with Pastor Jeff Dunn officiating. A visitation will be held immediately after the service.

Inurnment will be at a later date in Fairfax, VA.

Per the family's request, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Christ United Methodist Church Building Fund 2901 Fantasy Way, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579 or Embrace Hospice 1318 3rd Avenue, Conway, SC 29526.

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel is serving the family.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **12**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Christ United Methodist Church
2901 Fantasy Way
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579
(843) 236-6201

Tribute Wall

JK

“ I'm a collector of Zippo Lighters from Vietnam and I have one that says Don Howell. It also says 134th AVN CO Cantho Vietnam. If you think this could have been his zippo, let me know. jklempf@bamjax.com ”

Jacques Klempf - February 14, 2023 at 12:11 PM

FA

“ I have so many memories that I could/should write a book. One stands out above the rest and is interwoven tightly within my heart and soul. It is how they chose to live life.



Yes, their individual lives and their joint life. The choice was us, the souls that God sent their way to love, nurture, guide, and support in unique and varied ways.

Yes, they had two children and five grandchildren of their own. Yet, this number is deceiving because God has sent them so many other children and adults along the way. Children that are also family related by the blood of Jesus and blessed by the love of two selfless and tender hearted angels doing His work here on earth.

They open heartily chose to make a difference by guiding, loving, nurturing, physically caring for and teaching by example...and supporting in many, many more ways. They made people a priority.

Don has left this earthly partnership but the legacy of love continues on in Barbara (the woman behind the man :o) the right hand) and the memories of the many who were blessed by the gift of having two selfless individuals making a difference along the way by sharing fully of themselves, their wisdom and their resources....making a real difference in the lives of others time and time again.

These two unique individuals shared more than words in my life. They shared themselves completely, wholehearted. Their acceptance, understanding, and love for me and my family...(even when I made it hard they were steadfast). I thank God for the gift of them. Their love and acceptance has been a lifeline with a secure anchor.

Uncle Don came into my life when I was a young girl visiting Aunt Gin and Barbara on summer vacation in Alexandria (fifty long miles

from home :O)). He was a charming and handsome young soldier head over heels in love with my best friend and role model. The memories of those early days still fill us with laughter, love, hope and anticipation for what was to come. The a beginning of sixty plus years of memories. Their unique earthly journey got us here today but it is not over.

We are are the blessed ones, as we carry the memories in our hearts...and the lessons taught, their faithfulness, gratefulness, thankfulness, understanding, forgiveness and unconditional love for one another has spilled over into the lives of many....but it is not over for one day we will meet again for all eternity.

Life is unpredictable, as we all know, but for me, Uncle Don and Aunt Barbara were my anchors! They may not have agreed on everything but they were masters at knowing each other's strengths and weaknesses....and understood the gift of compromise. They taught me by their actions how important faith, trust and loving one another regardless of the situations sent our way. Life is like a stream with many ripples and every situation impacts not only our life but also the lives of the ones watching us.....it is not just about us. We need prayer and we need the support of willing vessels while looking at every situation including the many different ways we are provided insight for each and every decision. I am thankful for the gift of not one but two of the biggest blessings God has sent my way.....Angels Unaware.

Today, I realize even more that what we think is not always as obvious, as we think!

We need to say what is in and on our heart straight out and more often. We have a way of assuming (and we all know what assume means 😬 means) that others know how we feel and what a difference they have made day by day, year by year over a lifetime. A lesson learned....don't put off sharing your heart with the ones who have truly made a difference. Let them know now how important and loved they are right now and lovingly remind them

over and over.

Faye - October 12, 2017 at 12:25 PM

CW

“ *Cyndi Welch lit a candle in memory of Donald E. Howell, Sr.*



cyndi welch - October 12, 2017 at 07:07 AM

CW

RIP uncle Don💕

cyndi welch - October 12, 2017 at 07:08 AM

LY

“ *2 files added to the album LifeTributes*



Lynne - October 12, 2017 at 12:54 AM

Allison
Klock

“ *The only grandfather I ever knew. Loved me as if I was his own, when he didn't have too. You are forever a hero in my eyes and forever in my heart. I will never forget the sound of your voice, "Hey, Baby!" Love you always, till we meet again, Ally.*



Allison Klock - October 11, 2017 at 10:04 PM

Lynne Kovacic

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lynne Kovacic - October 11, 2017 at 09:18 PM

Lynne Kovacic

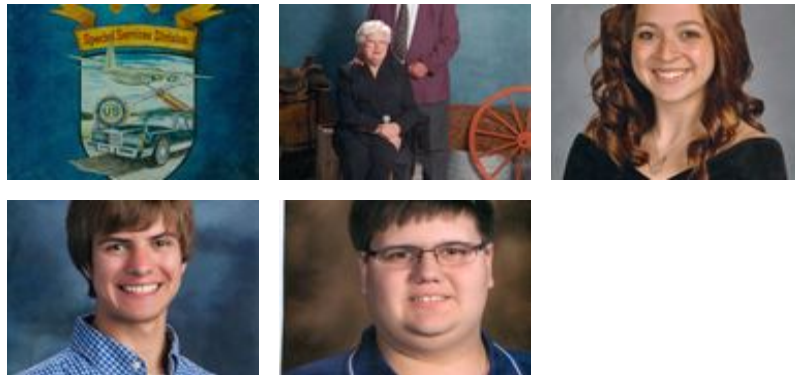
“ Lynne Kovacic lit a candle in memory of Donald E. Howell, Sr.



Lynne Kovacic - October 11, 2017 at 09:12 PM



“ 45 files added to the album LifeTributes



Goldfinch Funeral Home - October 11, 2017 at 10:39 AM

WU

“ Thanks for your service Soldier and Fellow Vietnam Vet !!!
Wayne Williams
United States Marine Corps



Wayne Williams - USMC - October 11, 2017 at 09:49 AM

CP

“ Charlotte and George Purpura purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Donald E. Howell, Sr..



Charlotte and George Purpura - October 10, 2017 at 05:28 PM

CP

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with your family!
Much love, Charlotte and George Purpura

Charlotte Purpura - October 10, 2017 at 05:13 PM