



Donald Gene Thrift

March 19, 1932 - September 6, 2019

Donald Gene Thrift, 87, of Lancaster, passed away at his home surrounded by his wife and children on September 6, 2019. He leaves behind a legacy of enduring faith and devotion to family.

Don was a lifelong resident of Huntington County, except his years of service in the Army during the Korean War. He was born in Jefferson Township to Roy F. and Belma E. (Payne) Thrift on March 19, 1932. He graduated from Lancaster High School in 1951. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Charles J. Thrift.

He met his sweetheart, Wanda L. (Stetzel) Thrift, at the 4-H Fair when they were in their early teens. They married on August 3, 1952 and were inseparable for the 67 years that followed. Together they raised 3 children: David (Pam) Thrift, Pam (Pat) Thompson, and Beth (Bob) Thompson. Don valued family and took great pride in his eight grandchildren, Nicolé (Darren) Johnson, Angie (Shane) Eltzroth, Tracy (Todd) Hillwig, Heather Thrift, Stephanie Thompson, Michael (Sandy) Thrift, Joel Thompson, and Christina (Steven) Yoder, and 15 great-grandchildren. He patiently taught them his own ethic of hard work, commitment, and the necessity of having fun when the work was done.

Don farmed, working alongside his father and his wife, son, and daughters to

raise livestock. He was an electrician for Corning Glass Co. in Bluffton and retired from General Motors in Marion in 1995. He attended Lancaster Wesleyan Church, where his grandfather had been a pastor and his family has worshipped the Lord for six generations.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, September 11, 2019 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, Indiana with the funeral service officiated by Pastor Kim Holloway following at 2 p.m. Burial will be at Lancaster Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be given to Lancaster Wesleyan Church or Visiting Nurse and Hospice, in care of Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Dr., Huntington, Indiana, 46750.

Cemetery Details

Lancaster Cemetery

5559 S. 300 W.
Huntington, IN 46750

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 11. 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary
35 West Park Drive
Huntington, IN 46750
(260) 356-1710
wecare@baileylove.com
<https://www.baileylove.com>

Service

SEP 11. 2:00 PM (ET)

Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary
35 West Park Drive
Huntington, IN 46750
(260) 356-1710
wecare@baileylove.com
<https://www.baileylove.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Donald Gene Thrift*



Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary - September 10, 2019 at 05:31 PM

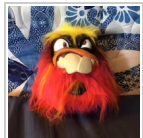


“ *Thinking of all the Thrift family. Prayers that you celebrate your loved one's life, share stories as well as some tears together. May you find comfort and peace.*

My mom and I just saw Beth recently in Warren.

Deb Sunderman Clark

Deb Clark - September 11, 2019 at 10:59 AM



“ *Bonnie Farmer lit a candle in memory of Donald Gene Thrift*



Bonnie Farmer - September 11, 2019 at 02:43 AM

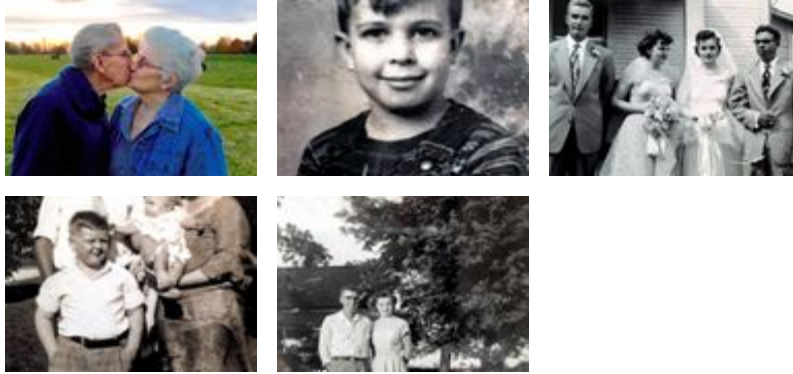


“ I am so sorry about Mr. thrift. my favorite memories were of coming to the store and be able to sit on the porch and talk to other kids from school. he was a great man and friends with everyone. I have loved your whole family since I have known you. May God bless you and your family at this time.

Bonnie Farmer - September 11, 2019 at 02:42 AM



“ 25 files added to the album LifeTributes



Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary - September 10, 2019 at 05:13 PM



“ Our deepest sympathy on your loss Don. Our thoughts and prayers are with each of you during this difficult time. We enjoyed our visits with Don when we lived in Lancaster. He was a very special person and will be greatly missed by everyone that knew him. RIP Don.



Terry & Rebecca Burriss - September 08, 2019 at 12:18 PM

GK

“ *Don always shook my hand when he saw me at church. He made me feel very welcome. He will be missed a lot.* ”

George Kegg - September 08, 2019 at 09:15 AM