



Donald Eugene Ainsworth

February 25, 1942 - July 24, 2019

Donald Eugene Ainsworth, 77, passed on Wednesday, July 24th at Lima Memorial Health System, from complications of a stroke.

He was born on February 25th, 1942 in Ohio City, Ohio to John ("Fred") & Phyllis (Prichard) Ainsworth, who preceded him in death.

Don married Nancy (Barber) Ainsworth on August 20th, 1966 and she survives in Wapakoneta. He is also survived by his daughter, Sara Jane Ainsworth, son Jason (Tonya) Ainsworth, and grandson Gavin Quin Ainsworth. Additional survivors include sisters Barbara Mager and Dora (John) Hoffman, a brother, Mike (Connie) Ainsworth, and sister-in-law Sally (Dave) Barber Wahlers, along with many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by father-in-law Ray Barber and mother-in-law Mary Shockey Barber and by a daughter, Tracy Lynn Gayan.

Don served in the U.S. Air Force from 1960 to 1968 where he was in the Air Police and honed his trade as an electrician. He then worked at Crown Control in New Bremen and Ford Engine Plant in Lima, from which he retired after 30 years.

Don was a tremendous cook and also enjoyed photography, building

computers, and spoiling pets. He belonged to First English Lutheran Church, was a lifetime VFW member, and past member of Shawnee Long Rifles.

Visitation will be at Eley Funeral Home & Crematory, 1102 Lincoln Ave., Wapakoneta on Sat. July 27, 2019, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., with a memorial service immediately following. Pastor Neil Brady will officiate. In lieu of flowers, please contribute to the American Stroke Association and/or your local pet shelter.

Cemetery Details

Greenlawn Cemetery

Presar Road
Wapakoneta, OH

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 27. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Eley Funeral Home & Crematory
1102 Lincoln Hwy
Wapakoneta, OH 45895
(419) 738-7676
eleyfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://www.eleyfuneralhomeandcrematory.com/>

Service

JUL 27. 3:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald Eugene Ainsworth.*



July 27, 2019 at 11:42 AM



“ *Best wishes to Nancy & all of Don's family.*

Don was always a great guy! He was one of my inspirations to join the USAF. While in the USAF Don was stationed in Alaska & went salmon fishing on his time off. I thought that would be the greatest duty assignment!

Steven Presar - July 27, 2019 at 08:38 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Donald Eugene Ainsworth.*



July 26, 2019 at 08:17 PM

GP

“ My condolences and prayers go out to Nancy and all of Don's family and friends at this difficult time. I met and was friends with "Smokin' Don" on an online bbq forum. Unfortunately I never got to meet Don, but I did know him enough to truly know he dearly loved his family. His family was his world! He had a passion for cooking, grilling, and smoking some wonderful meals, especially for his family, but he also went to great lengths to share his knowledge of food and how he prepared it. Don was a kind, thoughtful and giving man. He always had a gentle way about himself and how he connected with people. We lost a fine man, but we are all better for having known Don! He will be missed by all who knew him. Adios my friend! Godspeed.

Gene Pisaneschi (hikerman)

Gene Pisaneschi - July 26, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Donald Eugene Ainsworth.



July 26, 2019 at 09:34 AM