



Donald Ignatius Galvin

August 31, 1934 - October 30, 2020

Galvin, Donald I. "Don" passed away on Friday, October 30, 2020. He was 86. Don was born in Boston Massachusetts and was the son of the late Thomas and Madalyne (nee Russell) Galvin. Don married the love of his life and spent 65 years with his beloved wife, RoseMarie. Loving father of Donna Schulte (Bradley) and Madelyne Galvin-Colcernian (Patrick). Treasured and doting PopPop of his grandchildren Amanda (Brian), Amy, Christopher, and Laura and loving great-grandfather of Charlotte, Brooklyn, and Jackson. Wonderful uncle of many nieces and nephews. Dear brother of the late Gerard Galvin. Don was known for his great sense of humor, always sharing a great story or joke. Don retired from the United States Air Force after 21 years of service. He served in both Korea and Vietnam. He then went on to a second career with the United States Treasury Department – US Customs Service. Don retired as a Senior Inspector after 21 years. Additionally, Don was proud to be a founding member of the Detroit Motor City Lodge 188 of the Fraternal Order of Police. Don was a fixture of the State Lodge serving in many roles including nearly every role in both Lodge 144 and Lodge 188. Don was actively involved in LARBE (Local Association of Retired Customs Officers and Border Enforcement.) Don was also a member of the Vietnam Veterans of America and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

A Memorial Mass will be held on Saturday, June 19, 2021, at 10am at St. Mary, Our Lady Queen of Families, 25320 Van Dyke. Family and friends are welcome to gather at 9:30am. Memorial contributions can be made to the FOP Lodge 188 which Dad loved so much or to the Vietnam Veterans Post 154 or the Wounded Warrior Project. Please share memories with the family at their "On-Line Guestbook" at Wujek-Calcaterra.com

Tribute Wall

AP

“ Uncle Don exemplified trust, honesty, respect, and compassion, and taught me some of life’s most important and beautiful lessons. He has been a part of my life and family for more than 50 years. He will always be one of the people I respect and admire most. I Thank you Uncle Don for making me a better person. Godspeed.
Alex Panaia

Alex Panaia - November 10, 2020 at 09:48 PM

NW

“ Believe I first met Don in the 1980's inspecting shipping containers looking for stolen vehicles/equipment and performing border "sweeps." He was a fair and stern enforcement guy and always a pleasure to work with! I'll remember him forever.
BEST to family.

N Wisner - November 09, 2020 at 10:04 AM

KS

“ Best uncle a guy could ever have. Has always been there for me, when I needed him. I will miss his infectious laugh and witty personality. Rest In Peace, dear uncle, you will be missed.

Ken Steele - November 08, 2020 at 09:56 AM

KB

“ I have not seen My Uncle Don in years, but the spirit of who he was lives on within me. As a young person, I often would walk from my house to my grandmother’s house down the street and looked forward to spending some time with him. I think he may have been the only non-Polish person I ever met at the time:) He was great fun and also enormously kind, gentle, and wise. He taught me how to play chess, something I have not done since:) After my divorce and living in Wisconsin, he came to town on a business trip there and we went to dinner. His words to me were reassuring and comforting and I remember feeling blessed by his caring and wisdom. The world is a little kinder because he was in it. Peace and healing thoughts to everyone who was blessed to know him and be part of his family and his life. The world is a little kinder because of his presence here. Blessings, Kathleen (Skierski) Braza, Salem, OR

Kathleen (Skierski) Braza - November 06, 2020 at 03:14 PM

DC

“ We send our condolences to the family. Keeping you in our thoughts and prayers. With our deepest sympathy. Donna and Ed Church

Donna Church - November 05, 2020 at 09:14 PM

JS

“ Uncle Don was a loving and funny man..Always smiling and soft spoken..A good person to be around to listen to his stories about the military and U.S. customs..His laugh was so genuine and it just made you feel good to be around him..He loved his family and was completely devoted to them thruout his life..He will be missed, but never forgotten..God bless him and keep him.. With Love,Jim and Carol

james skierski - November 04, 2020 at 08:58 AM

KR

“ We first met Don and Rose when we lived in Michigan in 1994. My parents, Bill and Diane Russell, were visiting and we all went to dinner. When the bill arrived a fight ensued over who would pay. Don wouldn't let us contribute, said “ not in MY town” ❤️ My dad, Bill, loved his cousin Donny like a brother and all our hearts are broken for your loss. May his memories and stories and love be a blessing going forward. We will all miss him. Love, Kristen and Howie Rosen and the entire Russell family. ❤️

Kristen Rosen - November 02, 2020 at 04:10 PM



“ Healing & Hope Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Donald Ignatius Galvin.



November 02, 2020 at 03:22 PM

CP

“ Our dear Uncle Don what a great man!
 My Mom and Dad couldn't have picked a better Godfather for me! I remember going to Port Austin camping in the back of his Ford pick up with sleeping bags, we parked on a hill and when Uncle Don rolled over he woke me because he was snoring in my ear! Not sure if the fishing was good, but the laughter sure was! From dinners at the FOP to buffets at the casino there was never a time where laughter and love and great stories weren't involved. I was your go to guy when a computer problem popped up and you were mine when a friendly voice was needed. Love you Uncle Don...you will be missed. Love, Tony
 My favorite memories of Uncle Don were his hugs and his smiles! I loved when he would say you are my favorite (even though I knew he probably said that to all of us) you felt special because you knew he was special! I don't think I ever heard him say a bad thing about anyone, he was respected and loved and he will be missed. Love, Cindi
 The Pyszk's

Cindi Pyszk - November 02, 2020 at 03:17 PM

TU

“ Don was man who cared. His love for all was was incredible. But his love for Rose most of all. He loved her so. He knew where every bill-board in town was with her likeness and would point them out. Over and over and over.
 He cared for his follow employees too. So much that he would leave his family and strived by negotiating in their behalf from Detroit to New Orleans to San Diego. From one end of this country to the other. He loved by carrying. And letting all who who listened and those who tried not just how much. His quiet voice, thought and selfless reasoning was always with one intent. The betterment of all by making our lives safer and thus more fulfilling.
 His smile, hi jinx and laughter will live in our hearts for time on end.
 I was blest to know him, learn from him, work with him, laugh with him and call him friend.
 Live well my friend. And Yes, those wings fit you well.

Tim Underhill - November 02, 2020 at 08:43 AM



“ Brenda Landfried sent a virtual gift in memory of Donald Ignatius Galvin



Brenda Landfried - November 01, 2020 at 11:54 PM

RG

I knew don during my CBSA career and he recruited me to the FOP

Randal Glenn - November 08, 2020 at 06:18 PM

RG

My deepest condolences

Randal Glenn - November 08, 2020 at 06:19 PM

BF

“ *Don and I worked together for many years with at US Customs. We shared many good time as well as a few stressful ones as well.*

As others have noted, Don was alway quick with a quip or a joke, and generous with his laughter when you told one.

I appreciated his calm and even demeanor as well as his commitment to professionalism.

Not only was Don dedicated to the mission, he cared about people as well. A lot.

Don was a fine man. It was an honor to know him, & a privilege to work with him.

My deepest condolences to his family, & to his friends, who are many.

Bruce Farmer - November 01, 2020 at 08:32 PM

DA

“ *Uncle Don will surely be missed. His laughter and smile always lit up the room. How lucky I was to have such a wonderful guy as my godfather. I have a fun memory of fishing on Hummer Lake together and Uncle Don was trying out a new fishing rod. His first cast went straight up in the air and the lure landed in our boat. I said it might work better in the water and we laughed so hard we were in tears. Thanks for being such a great uncle and godfather and such a wonderful man. We love you. David and Ann Marie*



dave - November 01, 2020 at 06:45 PM

DA

My dearest Uncle who was there for me when I needed him the most. The only one who could use the Blarney Stone to the utmost; especially around his brother-in-law and my Dad, Cass. He will be dearly missed! Sleep in peace until the great resurrection when we will see each other again. My heart and prayers go out to my Aunt Rose and my 2 dear cousins, Donna and Madelyn and their families. With love, Debbie. (BibleToday.com)

Deborah Atkinson - November 01, 2020 at 08:38 PM

JB

Don and I worked on the Detroit Customs CET (Contraband Enforcement Team). We gave him the nick-name of the EWOK during the winter when he wore his Seasonal cap and looked just like the Star Wars character. Don was one of the most dedicated officers I ever worked with. In the heat of the summer, he would go out into the incoming traffic and roam until we had to "order" him into the office to cool off and hydrate. We've kept in touch with Christmas cards throughout the years. Don was always one to make us smile. Can a nicer thing be said about anyone? You're in my prayers. Jim Blaine

Jim Blaine - November 02, 2020 at 10:47 AM

MA

“ 70 files added to the tribute wall



Madelyne - November 01, 2020 at 05:47 PM



“ He was a second dad to me, and a wonderful guy. Heaven gained an amazing angel.

Jan Szur

Janice Szur - November 01, 2020 at 05:39 PM

SP

“ We will surely miss his laughter & hearing uncle Don's stories. a wonderful loving man to everyone he knew. God needed another Angel in Heaven. Love & miss you so much.

Steve & Donna

Steve & Donna Pyszk - November 01, 2020 at 05:20 PM