



Donald Ray Larson

AUG 10, 1938 - SEP 2, 2023



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Donald Ray Larson, a loving father, proud grandfather, and skilled bricklayer, passed away peacefully on September 2, 2023, at the age of 85 in Maui, Hawaii. Born on August 10, 1938, to John and Lucille Larson, Don lived a life filled with passion and dedication. He is preceded in death by his beloved wife, Mary Ann Larson. He is survived by his 3 daughters Laura Lynn, Debra Ann, and Cynthia Marie Larson, and his 3 grandchildren Crystal Bleu Larson, Nathaniel Lenard & Ray Everett Wafford, and son-in-law Brad Huck. He is preceded in death by his brother Merl Larson and is survived by his two sisters Gleola Harden, Twila Kuntz, sister in-law Pat Larson, brother in-law Cliff Jr. Nolan and several nieces and nephews.

Don's journey began in the small town of Haxtun, Colorado, where he excelled in football, basketball, and track during his high school years. He had a passion for hot rod cars and embraced thrilling experiences. Eager to explore the opportunities of the city, he fulfilled his promise to his mother by graduating high school before venturing to Denver. His early years there were marked by his love of motorcycles, shuffleboard, shooting pool, and rowdy adventure. Under the guidance of his friend Joe Kerchel's father, who recognized Don's hard work and potential, Don started his career as a mason. This was the beginning of a lifelong profession that brought him much fulfillment.

At the age of 20, Don met the love of his life, Mary Ann Taylor. Their contrasting personalities seemed to complement each other perfectly, with Mary's cautious and methodical nature balancing Don's adventurous spirit. They exchanged vows on December 3 1960, embarking on a marriage filled with deep love. Together, they created a nurturing and thriving home for their three daughters, Lynn, Deb, and Cindy. The whole family enjoyed tennis, ping pong, and bowling. An avid bowler, Don was part of a league, winning the Colorado state championship one year along with winning the singles division. He achieved a perfect 300 score game as well, striking in every frame! During this time he considered pursuing bowling as an occupation. While living in Northglenn, Colorado, Don's other activities included golfing, participating in 10k races



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and accomplishing running a full 26.2 mile marathon. With his daughters, Don engaged in activities such as motorcycle rides, shooting pool, and jogging. He was very encouraging, cheering on his daughters' pursuits in athletics and dance.

Don and Mary's harmonious partnership allowed their family to flourish, with Don's tireless work ethic creating financial stability while Mary ensured the smooth running of their home. In his career as a bricklayer, Don was often dedicating himself to long hours and even working seven days a week. His diligence and pride in his craft were evident to all who witnessed his skill and passion. Don's support and commitment to his work was a testament to his character and his desire to provide for his family.

In 1989, Don and Mary relocated to Northern California, where Don found opportunities for his expertise in San Francisco and the Bay Area. They left their Colorado home and embraced the challenges and opportunities that awaited them. Jogging, running 5k and 10k races, sometimes with his daughters, were ongoing activities for Don while living in Rohnert Park and Santa Rosa, California. Golf continued to be a passion, as well.

The arrival of their grandchildren, Crystal, Nate, and Ray, brought immense joy to Don and Mary's lives. They took great pride in their grandchildren's artistic, musical, creative, and craftsmanship skills.

After Mary enjoying family vacations in Hawaii and with her health in mind, they made the decision to settle on the island of Maui in 2004. Don and Mary were captivated by the tropical climate and the laid-back lifestyle the island offered. Don maintained his love for sports by playing golf, weight training, and even cycling when walking became challenging. When he faced physical limitations in his later years, Don chose to start his day by riding a stationary bike for 40 minutes; and he always found pleasure in hearing about the family's hiking, running, and outrigger canoe activities. Whether enjoying a day on the golf course or soaking up the Kihei sun, Don embraced life's simple pleasures wholeheartedly.

Don Larson lived a life filled with love, adventure, and dedication. From hot rod escapades in his youth to falling deeply in love with his soulmate, raising a beautiful family, and maintaining an active lifestyle throughout his retirement years on the island of Maui. Don will forever be remembered for his strong work ethic and his love of family. May his memory serve as a reminder to live life to the fullest and to cherish our loved ones.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Donald by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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