



Donald Lee Preisler

May 24, 1934 - February 24, 2025

Donald Lee Preisler

died February 24th, 2025, at Aspirus Wausau hospital. Cardiac arrest ended his lifetime adventures. He was born May 24, 1934, in Park Falls, WI. The second of three sons, to Marie Wilhelmina (Marten) of Omega, WI and Joseph A. Preisler of Nemsova, Slovakia, who made a homestead in Park Falls for their family. Don often thanked his father for making the trip to America which allowed him to have a fantastic life.

Don graduated from Park Falls High School in 1952, participating in varsity sports all four years; He was an Eagle Scout, one of the first five in Park Falls. He was the Mayor of the Badger Boys State. He attended the University of Wisconsin Superior. He accepted a job at the Flambeau Paper Company in Park Falls. Don was a lifetime resident of Park Falls, except for his military duty at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where he met and wed Wanda Marie Jones; they had two children together: Jane Antoinette and Jill Marie.

Don worked for the Park Falls paper mill for 43 years in sales as an Executive and National Sales Manager. This allowed him to travel and make lifelong friends across the USA and Canada. He was often requested to relocate to be closer to a major airport but refused due to his commitment to and love of Park Falls. He retired in 1996. Not for long, though, Don and Wanda started Eagle Pointe Lodging, which he was running until his death.

Don was actively involved with the community, notably the Park Falls Recreation Arena, Preisler Park, and donations to the Park Falls Blue Line Club Indoor Ice Rink. He always advocated for Park Falls, his hometown, and wanted the community to grow and prosper. He enjoyed conversations with the Mayor or City Administrator and discussing the possibilities for Park Falls. He always loved the Flambeau Rama Parades, having a convertible in the parade for a distinguished and honored guest to ride in. Don was an active member at Peace Lutheran Church. He was a member of the American Legion Post 182. He served as a charter member of the Zor Flambeau Clowns, Freemason Lodge #300, 32nd Degree Mason of the Scottish Rite, a Noble of the Zor Temple Headwaters Shrine Club, a Board of Director at the Fred Smith Wisconsin Concrete Park, a member of the Chamber of Commerce Park Falls and a Chamber Ambassador. A County Board Member of Price County and the County Forestry Committee member. One of his accomplishments was bringing the Tuscobia Trailhead Park and Smith Lake County Park to Northern Price County area. He was also a director of The Friends of the Tuscobia Trail Inc.

Don loved to travel worldwide, and his many pictures support this love of his many adventures; his favorite was Zihuatanejo, Mexico, where he spent the winters with his family and friends. Many of Don's adventures are in The Park Falls Herald and The Price County Review.

Don is survived by his two daughters Jane A. Novitzke of Park Falls, WI and Jill M. Preisler (Thomas) Hersperger of Schofield, WI, four grandchildren: Thomas Chase (Ashley) Sellers of Chanhassen, MN, Michael Tyrel Sellers of Houston, TX, Nicholas Edward Hersperger of Schofield, WI and Elle Maire Hersperger of La Crosse, WI, and great grandchildren. Devoted partner, Debra Garbis of Butternut, WI and Debra's loving children and grandchildren. The funeral will be held at Peace Lutheran Church in Park Falls on Saturday, May 24, 2025, which would have been Don's 91st birthday, at 11:00am. Rev.

Samuel Morsching will officiate.

A visitation will be held at the church on Saturday from 10:00am until the hour of the service.

Burial will follow at Nola Cemetery in Park Falls with military honors under the auspices of the Park Falls American Legion.

A celebration of life for the town he loved will follow the burial at his big white house. We will open the house up for all that are interested and have a picnic in the yard and gardens. All are welcome.

Birch Street Funeral Service is assisting the family.

www.birchstreetfuneralservice.com

Cemetery Details

Nola Cemetery

Park Falls, WI

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 24. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Peace Lutheran Church
600 Second Ave North
Park Falls, WI 54552
peace2you@pctcnet.net
<http://peace2you.pctcnet.net/resources.html>

Service

MAY 24. 11:00 AM (CT)

Peace Lutheran Church
600 Second Ave North
Park Falls, WI 54552
peace2you@pctcnet.net
<http://peace2you.pctcnet.net/resources.html>

Tribute Wall

SA

“ *Steve And Connie Aitken lit a candle in memory of Donald Lee Preisler*



Steve and Connie Aitken - May 24, 2025 at 11:31 AM

SA

We send you our deepest sympathy. Don was a very special man. God be with you all!

Steve and Connie Aitken - May 24, 2025 at 11:33 AM

LK

“ *Donnie you were a bonus Dad to Tony and I and also to our children and Tony's grandchildren. I have so many memories of dinners together at Christmas time and to celebrate birthdays. Going to Hawaii together, times where you would just come and sit and visit with us at home, and especially officiating our wedding. Donnie thank you for the wonderful memories, the laughter and the hugs. You lived a beautiful life thank you for allowing us to be a part of it. We haven't stopped missing you, I don't think we ever will. Beautiful*



Laura Kunding - May 20, 2025 at 03:02 PM

SL

“ My sincerest condolences to Don's family. I worked with Donnie at the mill and got to know him very well. It was always a pleasure to see him from time to time over the years. My husband also got to know Donnie as well. Donnie always was in a good mood with a big smile on his face. He will be missed. Again our sincerest condolences.

Susan (Hoefflerle) and Tom Lemke

Susan Lemke - March 17, 2025 at 06:39 PM

MO

“ I worked with Don for 35 of his years at F.lambeau Paper. He was one of the "good guys" to work with. Mary Oratch



Mary Oratch - March 07, 2025 at 09:14 PM

JK

“ Jim and I will also remember all the trips we went together with you. You were a very giving person to everyone. Condolences to your daughters, Jill and Jane, and your very special friend, Deb. You will be missed. Jim & Brenda.

Jim Kronberger - March 06, 2025 at 02:03 PM



“ Juli Dul lit a candle in memory of Donald Lee Preisler



Juli Dul - March 06, 2025 at 11:11 AM

NS

“ *Natalie Schoch lit a candle in memory of Donald Lee Preisler*



Natalie Schoch - March 05, 2025 at 11:23 PM

NS

“ *I will never forget this man as he was so good to the Kunding family. He hunted with them for years.. my father helped Donnie out and my brother Tony also helped Don at Eagle Point and his house. Donnie always had a smile and a hug for me when ever I saw him. You will be missed! Big hugs go to Debbie, his love, so sorry for your loss! Also Jill and Jane, condolences go to you and the family. RIP Don*

Ron and Natalie (Kunding) Schoch

Natalie Schoch - March 05, 2025 at 11:21 PM

TC

“ *To Jean and Jill and the rest of the family. I'm so sorry for your loss. I knew your father as a youth when tennis was in my world. This was in the late sixties when I started. I did not have a racket at the time and your father let me use his for the day. Thanks to his generosity I was hooked. Your mom comes to me and says, treat it well, he doesn't do that often. I've never forgotten that moment. Fond memories, He will be missed. Gods bless him on his final journey!!! Tim Christianson*

Tim Christianson - March 05, 2025 at 10:06 PM

TC

Sorry Jane!!!

Tim Christianson - March 05, 2025 at 10:25 PM

CG

To Jane & Jill, I first knew your parents when they newly moved to Park Falls and needed a babysitter for their firstborn daughter, Jane. I worked several years with both Jane and Jill. What I remember best is how both your parents were kind to me. Your Mom teaching me the game of tennis that I played throughout my schooling years in PF. Your Dad, every time he brought me home from the night of babysitting, he made sure I got my homework done, even going over some Algebra with me to make sure I understood it all. Both your Mom and Dad were hard working people, for the town and beyond. It's hard to imagine PF with Don and Wanda. I hope you are both doing well, Jane & Jill. I think of you often.

Carol Malach Gutt - Class '67

Carol Gutt - March 10, 2025 at 04:49 PM

BJ

I share a Birthday with your dad, May 24. He always made me feel special that we shared the same day. He will truly be missed. Bridget Jeske

Bridget Jeske - March 12, 2025 at 01:14 PM