



## Donald John Schroeder

February 12, 1936 - April 15, 2020

Donald John Schroeder, 84, of Grand Island passed away Wednesday, April 15, 2020. A private graveside service is to be held Friday, April 17th, with military honors provided by the United States Army. Daniel Naranjo will officiate. A celebration of Donald's life will be enjoyed at a future date when the Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted. All Faiths Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements.

Donald was born February 12, 1936 in Appleton, Wisconsin, the son of Harvey and Elsie (Scheffler) Schroeder. He grew up and received his education in Appleton, graduating from Appleton Senior High.

On November 19, 1960 Donald was united in marriage to Shirley Schroeder in Appleton. Following their marriage, the couple lived in Appleton and Greenbay WI, Omaha NE, Salina KS and Glenwood IA, before settling in Grand Island in 1978.

Donald entered the United States Army in 1956 at Fort Hamilton, NY, and was honorably discharged in 1959, serving in Germany as a tank mechanic.

In 1978, Donald accepted a job at Skagway, retiring in 2002. During his time at Skagway, he made lifelong friends and memories. Following his retirement, he got a job as "lunch lady" at West Lawn Elementary.

His joys were cheering on the Green Bay Packers, the Huskers and the Tri-City Storm. He especially loved spending time with his grandkids.

Those to mourn his death and cherish his memory include his son, Michael (Lisa) Schroeder and daughter, Rhonda (Roger) Decker; five grandchildren, Taylor, Chelsi, Jennifer, Jacob and Chad; great-grandchildren, Lily, Etta, Joshua, Olivia and Joni; and many grand-dogs.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Shirley; his parents; an infant son, Thomas; and a brother, Bob Schroeder.

# Tribute Wall

CH

“ I'll hold onto this memory for the rest of my life. Thanksgiving, the last photo of all of us together. We had the most perfect day with you. We played Uno, and you fooled Taylor and I into thinking you didn't know/ remember how to play. Then you went on to win almost every single game. We had you back that whole day, and I am forever grateful to have this picture with all of us so happy. Love you, Always.



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**Chelsi** - September 05, 2021 at 03:25 AM

JG

“ Don's smile added sunshine to the lives he touched. I had the honor of working with Don at West Lawn Elementary. He worked in the cafeteria. He greeted each child coming through the line with a smile or encouraging comment. Don and I would joke back and forth as I would make a stop in the kitchen to see how things were going for that team. One day Don was cutting apples and he got a bit close to his finger. He had to fill out some paper work and was done serving for the day! After this little incident, when I would walk in to the kitchen and if a knife was in his hand he would smile and say, "I am being REALLY careful." I am so glad I got to know Don and was able to work with him. I will ALWAYS remember that smile.

*Jane Gloor, Former West Lawn Elementary Principal*

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**Jane Gloor** - April 21, 2020 at 07:37 AM

VI

“ Very nice man. Sorry for your lose. We worked together with my dad "Marvin" at Skagway Department Store. Prayers to you and your family.

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**vince** - April 18, 2020 at 11:47 PM

JS

“ My Uncle Don was the happiest & friendliest guy that you could ever meet. He had a big smile, and a way to always make me feel like he was really glad to see me. As a kid, I have fond memories of skateboarding with my cousins from their driveway into the parking lot of Packer Stadium which was right down the block. We'd come home to Don and my Dad diving through doorway hoops into the garage and onto an old mattress, just to see who could do it the coolest. Naturally the rest of us had to join in, and boy, did we all take our lumps that day! Of course, our Moms weren't too happy with those shenanigans. Later in life, he always greeted us with a cold beer, a warm hug, and a thousand stories of a life well lived. In retirement, Uncle Don became the beloved "lunch lady" volunteer for many elementary children for a good number of years, I'm sure giving them a taste of his wacky humor and affection. Uncle Don, you were always loved, and you will be missed! --John Schaab, Denver



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**John Schaab** - April 18, 2020 at 07:53 PM

GH

“ I was blessed to be entrusted with medical care for Don and Shirley. Many fond memories of them both. My prayers are with you. Gordon Hrnicek

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**gordon hrnicek** - April 18, 2020 at 12:21 PM

DR

“ My condolences to all of Don's family. I worked with him at Skagway, and appreciated his business attitude and people skills. May God continue to look over his family.

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**Dee Rollins** - April 17, 2020 at 11:12 PM

MH

“ Always enjoyed seeing Don at the Cow Palace, was a wonderful person! Will definitely miss seeing him and serving him his breakfast! Deepest Sympathy and many Prayers to the family.

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**Mandy Henry** - April 17, 2020 at 08:12 PM

SR

“ I worked at Stolley Park Elementary when Don was a "lunch lady." I enjoyed getting to know him. He was a kind and caring guy and always talked about his grand kids. A few years later, his grand daughter, Taylor Decker, was on our 7th grade team at Walnut Middle School. What a great kid! She often spoke of her grand dad. Please accept my prayers for your entire family. I know Don will be greatly missed.

Shauna Rock

Shauna Rock - April 17, 2020 at 06:38 PM

BC

“ My prayers and sympathies. My mom lives at Heritage. I always enjoyed visiting with Don when I was there.

Brenda Christensen - April 17, 2020 at 05:17 PM

Michael Schroeder

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Michael Schroeder - April 17, 2020 at 05:13 PM

CT

“ Don was an amazing addition to West Lawn. He always making the students smile. He will be missed.



Christina E.-West Lawn teacher - April 17, 2020 at 04:30 PM

Michael Schroeder

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Michael Schroeder - April 17, 2020 at 03:48 PM

MS

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Mike Schroeder - April 17, 2020 at 01:47 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Donald John Schroeder.



April 17, 2020 at 12:55 PM

PY

“ Rhonda - My deepest condolences to you and your family. I remember your dad attending so many of the girls' activities at Walnut and GISH and helping out. if we needed him to. He touched a lot of people during his life and will be missed.  
I saw him a several months back, while I was out with some friends. I had a little chat with him. Even though he probably didn't remember me, he still took the time to talk. He was such a nice guy.



Peg Young

Peg Young - April 17, 2020 at 12:12 PM

RK

“ Please share our heartfelt sympathies to the Shroeder family. I have many fond memories of our many years of working together at Skagway with Don. Roger and Julie Killion.

Roger Killion - April 17, 2020 at 10:15 AM

JL

“ When i worked with Don at Skagway he had a great sense of humor and was so awesome to work with. I missed seeing that Green Bay Packers jacket.. Keeping the family in my thoughts. I am holding tight to the great Skagway memories with Don. You will be missed Sir...

Judy A LUXEM - April 17, 2020 at 07:22 AM

DH

“ I had a blast with him in Atlanta on a True Value show trip. He asked me if I minded if he spent some time with his daughter while we were there, of course I said "Have a great time" We did have a couple of dinners while we were there and he always talked about his Grandkids, he loved everyone on them. Will be greatly missed

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**Dusty Hast** - April 16, 2020 at 10:13 PM

GP

Don was a great friend, many wonderful hours we spent both at our place of employment, and time together at social hour. Rest in peace dear friend you will be greatly missed.

Gary Picthall

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**Gary Picthall** - April 17, 2020 at 08:03 AM

GS

Rest In Peace Don. Thanks for the Skagway memories.

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**Gayle Stuhr** - April 17, 2020 at 10:40 AM