



## Donald Ewoldt

June 26, 1924 - September 12, 2024

He lived a charmed life for 100 years. He knew it and was grateful for it. Until he fell at home two weeks ago, the centenarian lived in the same house since 1959. He drove his car daily and played sheephead and pitch card games at the American Legion and Platt Deutsche four days a week. He passed away Thursday, September 12, 2024 at Tiffany Square.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, 2024 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Grand Island followed by interment and lunch. Visitation will be 5-7 p.m. Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at All Faiths Funeral Home in Grand Island.

He served in the U. S. Navy as a submariner from 1943-1946 because "I didn't want to jump out of an airplane or sleep in a mud hole," he told his family. When the atomic bombs were dropped on Japan, he was in a sub off the coast of Kyushu.

He joined Kernan's Shoe Co. in downtown Grand Island after the Navy. Customers came to depend on him for memorizing their shoe size and pre-selecting styles they might like. In 1992 he told his longtime colleague Bob Dryer that he was retiring. Dryer decided to join him. When the owners heard, they decided to close the store rather than continue without their star salesmen.

As a young businessman, he participated in the Jaycees, Hall Country Red Cross, Community Chest United Way, the Downtown Retail Community Council and the Chamber of Commerce Presidents Club.

Gifted as a storyteller with razor-sharp wit, he told his family he would like to be remembered “as a guy who stayed out of jail.”

How lucky we were to know someone who makes goodbyes so hard, to paraphrase author A.A. Milne.

He is survived by his four children; Michael (Janet) and Thomas in Grand Island, Linda Stull of Lincoln and John in Minneapolis; six grandchildren; Bryan, Julie Heimes (Steve), Tanya, Stephanie Sand (Andy), Spencer Stull (Maddie), and John Stull; nine great-grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Hulda (Wrage), brothers Virgil and Gerald; and his loving wife of 58 years, Patricia (Engel).

Memorials may be sent to the Alzheimer’s Association or donor’s choice.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **18.** 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home  
2929 S Locust St  
Grand Island, NE 68801  
(308) 398-2929  
allfaiths@giallfaiths.com  
<https://www.giallfaiths.com/>

## Funeral Service

SEP **19.** 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Pauls Lutheran Church  
1515 South Harrison Street  
Grand Island, NE 68801

# Tribute Wall

FO

“ I only bought shoes from Kernans until they closed. Don and Bob and Fran, the very best. Legends all gone.

Francie Ostermeier - September 17, 2024 at 09:19 PM

JE

Legends indeed. Thanks for the memory.

John Ewoldt - September 28, 2024 at 08:09 AM

MF

“ Mike, Tom,Linda &John, we are so sorry for you & your families! Your dad was quite the man.I feel like we've known him forever- in reality over 50 years! You were lucky to have him for so long. May your memories bring smiles to your faces❤️

Mike & Marcia Ferguson - September 17, 2024 at 07:02 PM

JE

Thank you Mike & Marcia. He was iconic, wasn't he! I will never forget the story you told me about Mom & Dad. You probably know which one. John

John Ewoldt - September 28, 2024 at 08:08 AM