



Donald L. Umphress

October 24, 1915 - March 19, 2015

Don was a good man,
A kind man,
A man of integrity.
His deeds of charity
Were more than many.
Loyal to his church,
Gentle, Generous,
Loving
To his family.
There is no way to say
How greatly he'll be missed.

Lt. Col Donald L. Umphress died peacefully on March 19, 2015 St. Helena at the age of 99. He was born on October 24, 1915 at Stanford, Illinois of Wayne and Maude (Brown) Umphress. Living his early childhood in rural McLean County, Illinois, he graduated from Heyworth High School with Honors.

He was then enrolled at Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Illinois, from which he graduated in 1938 with a Pre-medical Bachelor of Science Degree.

He was then accepted at Washington medical School, St. Louis, Missouri but did not attend, as scheduled due to the threat of WWII that flared in September 1939. Instead, he enlisted in the US Army, attended Officer Candidate School at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in 1942.

As a US Army Captain, stationed at Fort Custer, Battle Creek, Michigan, Don met his wife-to-be, Alfreda Labadie, to whom he was married on May 5, 1945 in the Campanile Chapel of Holy Redeemer Catholic Church of Detroit, Michigan.

Col. Umphress retired from the US Air Force on July 31, 1965 after 26 years of military service. his assignments included medical administration at a Major Command Headquarters, The Pentagon as director of Administration at the USAF Medical Services Training School, as a member of the USAF Medical inspector General Tea, and as the Administrator of USAF Hospitals in the United States and the Philippines.

Following military retirement he and his family moved to Napa in 1966, and was employed by Napa County in Social Services and as the county's CETA Manager. He retired again in December 1979 after a total of 40 years of government service. This allowed him and his wife, Alfreda, to enjoy foreign and domestic travel, and to pursue his photographic hobby. He was a third and fourth degree member of the Knights of Columbus, and as active member of St. John's Catholic Church, serving as a Eucharistic Minister, on the Finance Council, on the Parish Council and on fund raising committees.

He was preceded in death by his wife Alfresa Umphress and daughter in law Mary Umphress. He is survived by his children Peter (Lori), Richard (Maryalice) and Mark Umphress, Gail (Frank) Twohy, and Lee (Mike) Torres; grandchildren Neal (Vicki), Kevin (Wendy), Steven (Melissa), Alysha and Roisin Umphress and Erin and Daniel (Meredith) Twohy; and great grandchildren Carter, Payton, Jacob, Mayia and Jameson Umphress.

A rosary will be held at Claffey and Rota Funeral Home on March 22, 2015 at 7pm. A funeral mass will be held at St. Helena Catholic Church on March 23, 2015 at 3 pm.

Donations can be made to St. John's School, or St. Helena Catholic Church or a charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Rosary

MAR **22**. 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

Claffey and Rota Funeral Home
1975 Main Street
Napa, CA 94559
(707) 224-5210
services@claffeyandrota.com
<http://www.claffeyandrota.com>

Mass

MAR **23**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (PT)

St. Helena Catholic Church
1340 Tainter St
St. Helena, CA

Tribute Wall



“ *Donald L. Umphress*

September 29, 2022 at 04:54 PM



“ *Donald L. Umphress*

September 29, 2022 at 02:55 PM



“ *Dear Umphress family,
I was so very sad to read the passing of your father. He was such a kind man..
My memory of times at your home he always had the biggest smile on his face..
Such kindness from both your parents they were such a loving couple. I send my
most sincere condolences to you all I know he's with his lord and savior. I'll be
keeping each of you in my prayers. Barbara Hamling Elder*

Barbara - April 05, 2015 at 04:09 PM



“ *Dear Lee and family,*

Our thoughts and prayers our with you all.

Terri & Bruce Kubler

Bruce Kubler - March 23, 2015 at 06:00 PM



“ *Dear Lee and Rest of Family.
We send our deepest sympathy to you all.
I met your father when we both served on the St. John's Parish Council
many years ago...And Bill knew him from working at Napa County.
It was a joy to work with him on the Parish Council.
Your father was always very interested in everything and willing to help out.
It was always a pleasure to run into him years later at mass at St. John's.
You are all in our prayers and thoughts.
Warmest Regards,
Bernice Sousa-Carden and Bill Carden*

Bernice Sousa-Carden - March 20, 2015 at 06:15 PM