



Don William Ott

June 17, 1936 - February 22, 2020

People person. Salesman. Entrepreneur. Mentor. Incomparable expert on poultry and livestock equipment.

Don William Ott was born in St. Lucas, Iowa, on June 17th, 1936. He was John and Margaret (Kuennen) Ott's oldest son of eight children. Don, 83, passed away peacefully on Saturday, February 22, 2020, surrounded by family. He was baptized and confirmed into the Catholic faith. He attended St. Luke Catholic High School and graduated in 1954.

On June 17th, 1958 (Don's 22nd birthday), he was united in marriage to the love of his life, Doris Boeding, at St. Luke Catholic Church in St. Lucas, Iowa. Together they were blessed with nine children: Denise, Dennis, David, Deanne, Donna, Diane, Debra, Danelle, and Danette; and 19 grandchildren.

Don began delivering chicks and feed for Heying Chick Company, which led to his flourishing career as a salesman for Big Dutchman Equipment Company. Toward the end of his tenure, he co-founded BCD, Inc., which sold poultry, hog and livestock equipment. In the early 1970's, Don founded Ott Equipment Company, in Ankeny, Iowa, a family-owned business that is still in operation today. Traveling for work was the norm for Don, who drove long hours, enjoyed the scenery and could still recite all his routes for years. His hard work ethic, quick wit, and powerful personality will be deeply missed by all

those who knew and loved him.

Don's passion for his business was surpassed only by that for the love of his family. Later in life, he enjoyed attending auctions with Doris, early-morning coffee with friends, working with metals and pulling the grader with his tractor at Ott Equipment. He often expressed his gratitude for Doris' hard work in caring for their children, home, and business throughout their 61 years of marriage. His children recall summer evenings picking mulberries, sailboat rides, trips in the camper, and so many other great memories. He found great pride and joy in seeing his family expand once the grandchildren started arriving in 1991.

Don was a member of Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Catholic Church, where he served as an usher. He became a third-degree member of the Knights of Columbus in 1958, became a fourth-degree member in 1968, and is an honorary life member.

Don is survived by his wife of 61 years, Doris Ott; his children, Denise (Tim) Simpkins of Ankeny, IA, Dennis (Sharon) Ott of Ankeny, IA, David (Diane) Ott of Ankeny, IA, Deanne Ryan of Bradenton, FL, Donna (Tim) Osman of Kenosha, WI, Diane (Steve) Hustedt of Ames, IA, Debra (Johnny) Moller of Des Moines, IA, Danelle (Bob) Rutledge of Longmont, CO, and Danette Ott (Jonathan Curtin) of Santa Barbara, CA; and his grandchildren, Shanna & Wil Simpkins, Dylan & Danielle Ott, Dallas Ott, Clayton & Sable Ryan, Daphne Osman, Halei, Sydney, Tate, Dane, Trent & Emmy Hustedt, Cameron & Kaleb Randel, and Drew & Eden Rutledge; and sisters, Shirley (Del) Schmidt and Mary (Greg) Whitmore; along with brothers, Floyd (Laurie) Ott, Jean (Mary Ann) Ott, Ken (Carol) Ott, and Jim Ott. He was preceded in death by parents, John and Margaret Ott; brother, Steve Ott; son-in-law, Cliff Ryan; and granddaughter, Dyamond Ott.

We will, most of all, remember Donald William Ott fondly as the loving husband of Doris, devoted father of 9 children and doting grandfather of nineteen grandchildren. Not to mention, a friend to countless others.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in Don's honor may be directed to Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Catholic Church Foundation, 510 E. First Street Ankeny, IA 50021

The Ott family would like to thank Don's many great friends and neighbors at Vintage Hills Cooperative at Prairie Trail, customers, and colleagues from over the years, as well as the wonderful caregivers at The Vintage Hills, in Ankeny, and Kindred Hospice. A special thanks to Debra Ott Moller and Johnny Moller at Dyamond Memorial for their love and services. We also express our gratitude to Father Phil Kruse, Father Steve Orr, and Father Michael Amadeo for many years of spiritual guidance and support.

The good Lord made us all out of iron.

Then he turns up the heat to forge some of us into steel.

-Unknown

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 27. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Catholic Church
510 East First Street
Ankeny, IA

Prayer Service

FEB 27. 7:00 PM (CT)

Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Catholic Church
510 East First Street
Ankeny, IA

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 28. 10:30 AM (CT)

Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Catholic Church
510 East First Street
Ankeny, IA

Tribute Wall

RT

“ *Doris and family.
Saddened to learn of Don's passing.I sincerely wanted to be at the service today but due to my health issues I can't. I have a bank full of memories that I will recall many times and a load of good laughs. I always appreciated Don's common sense and wisdom. We enjoyed the good times we had at various poultry shows. Take of your self Doris and may God bless the memory of Don.
Royce Tack*

Royce Tack - February 28, 2020 at 09:55 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Don William Ott .*



February 28, 2020 at 09:31 AM

JE

“ *I have known him all my life. Remembering when you had a place not far from us and we visited it, back in the day. I believe you could see our place from there, the Rausch family farm where I grew up. Sending my condolences to you and yours.
Joanne Rausch Enyart*

Joanne Enyart - February 28, 2020 at 05:33 AM

PD

“ Don was a one of a kind Man a pure people person who was passionate about everything in his life. I can't ever remember a time when I had a business dealing with him when I didn't feel good about the experience and say to myself I really enjoy and trust Don and that was a fun exchange and I was treated fairly. We had many laughs and dealings over the years and the banter back and forth was always lively and interesting and educational for me. My thoughts and prayers go out to Doris and his wonderful family. One thing for sure is that heaven is going to be a lot more interesting and better place with Don.

Paul Z Davis - February 27, 2020 at 09:00 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Don William Ott .



February 27, 2020 at 11:58 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Don William Ott .



February 27, 2020 at 11:13 AM

AK

“ Donald and I were godparents to our nephew Jeff on the Ott/Busta families. May he rest in peace. Prayers to the family.

Alice Kuennen - February 27, 2020 at 11:08 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Don William Ott .*



February 26, 2020 at 11:06 PM



“ *Kristin Varner-Maslar and family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Don William Ott .*



Kristin Varner-Maslar and family - February 26, 2020 at 04:27 PM

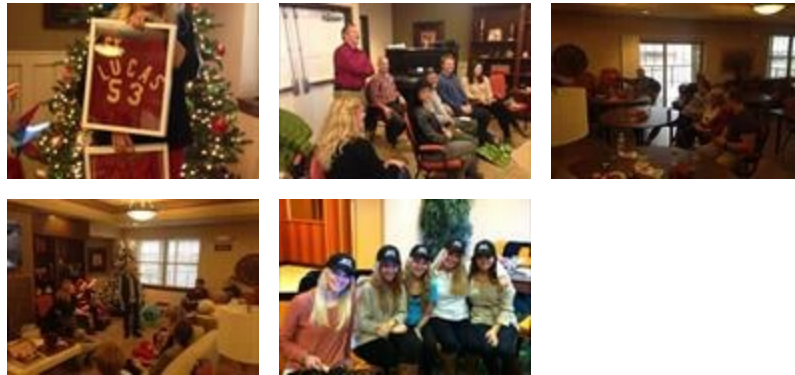


“ *Don was a friend and a leader in his industry for decades. i know he will be missed.*

HAROLD LEEDY - February 26, 2020 at 02:04 PM



“ *5 files added to the tribute wall*



Dyamond Memorial - February 26, 2020 at 01:06 PM

MD

“ I have known Don for over 40 years and have always regarded him as role model and mentor. The time I spent working for Don and Doris helped shape who I am today. You will be missed but never forgotten Sir.

Marty DeVoss - February 25, 2020 at 10:08 PM

MM

“ My earliest memory of Don was growing up with Dennis, David, Deanne, Denise and the rest of the Ott children. As a kid, getting into trouble with Dennis, Don always scared the crap out of me, he seemed so strong and powerful. He reminded me of Paul Bunyon ! But I always felt so comfortable in their home because you could feel the enormous amount of Love that Don had for Doris and both of them had for their children! When I hear the phrase “work ethic” , 2 people come to my mind, My Dad & Don Ott ! I am sorry that I cannot return for the services in person, but I will be in Virginia saying a prayer , making a toast and celebrating his life ! RIP Don

Mark McQueen - February 24, 2020 at 07:55 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Don William Ott .



February 24, 2020 at 07:17 PM

DC

“ My deepest sympathy to you Donna and the rest of your family. Sorrow encompasses all of you now but don't let it destroy any of the family. Let all the memories of your special father continue to live in each and every heart of this family. Peace, eventually but memories will always be there.

Diane M. Capanna

Diane M. Capanna - February 24, 2020 at 04:37 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Don William Ott .



February 24, 2020 at 02:57 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Don William Ott .



February 24, 2020 at 07:55 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Don William Ott .



February 23, 2020 at 05:47 PM

PL

“ *My sympathy to you all --and thanks for the friendship your family shared with my daughter, Kim Klonglan Wentland. May your memories comfort you and give you peace.*
Pat Van Lent

Pat Van Lent - February 23, 2020 at 05:15 PM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Don William Ott .*



February 23, 2020 at 02:28 PM