



Donald Ray Andrews

December 26, 1934 - September 1, 2020

Donald Ray Andrews, of Saint Albans, West Virginia, departed this life on September 1, 2020. He was preceded in death by his wife Ann, nee Crawford, also of Saint Albans. He is survived by daughter, Donna Jurgens, and her husband, Tony, of Walnut Creek, California, and daughter, Jenny Ellis, and her husband, Larry, also of Saint Albans, and by four grandchildren: Alexandra Jurgens, of Davis, California; Nicholas Jurgens, of Walnut Creek, California; Luke Ellis, of Cross Lanes, WV; and Caleb Ellis of Charleston, WV.

Mr. Andrews was born on December 26, 1934, in Whitesville, WV, to Evelyn and Homer Andrews. He received his undergraduate degree from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, in 1955. He was married to Ann Crawford on November 16, 1957, and thereafter began a tour of duty with the United States Army that led him to assignments in Fort Knox, KY, and Honolulu, Hawaii. He received an honorable discharge from the Army as a Specialist 5th class in June of 1963.

He returned to West Virginia and began a career at Union Carbide that included stints as a pipefitter, electrician and cost accountant. In 1967, he obtained a master's degree from Marshall University and thereafter began teaching at the University of Charleston and working as a research analyst in the Office of Legislative Services of the West Virginia Legislature.

In 1977, he was appointed Chief of the Division of Parks and Recreation of the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources and served in that capacity until 1985. He continued service to the Parks Division after it was transferred to the Department of Commerce, until 1993.

From 1993 until the end of his career, he served as Director of the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Government Studies at the University of Charleston.

After retirement he served on the board of the Saint Albans Housing Authority

Mr. Andrews was an active and devoted member of the First Baptist Church of Saint Albans where he served in many capacities over a period of more than 50 years. He taught Sunday School for decades and served at various times as a deacon and moderator and parliamentarian of the church. He was licensed to preach by the First Baptist Church of Saint Albans on December 30, 2001.

He enjoyed spending time with his family and travel, photography, painting and camping.

A memorial service will be held at First Baptist Church of Saint Albans, on September 4, at 1 PM. All COVID-19 guidelines will be observed. There will be no visitation. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to First Baptist Church Memorial Fund.

The family would like to thank the Hospice workers and the staff at Bellaire at Devonshire assisted living for their kind care of Mr. Andrews during his last days.

You may visit Don's tribute page at BartlettNicholsFuneralHome.com to share memories or condolences with the family.

Bartlett-Nichols Funeral Home, family owned and located at 409 Sixth Ave., St. Albans is honored to serve the Andrews family.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP 4. 1:00 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church of St. Albans
2nd St & 6th Avenue
St. Albans, WV 25177

Tribute Wall

JP

“ *Jennie & Larry, sorry we cannot attend Don's service. By being out of town our thoughts and prayers be with you all. We want to thank Don for his service in our military & hours he served at FBC. 🙏🙏🙏*

jim & Debbie Perry - September 05, 2020 at 07:16 AM

RG

“ *Don was a dedicated and talented human being. I worked in state parks and his guidance and leadership are still observed to this day in the condition of the parks and the quality of programs they offer. He was kind to me and my family. Our thoughts and sincere condolences to Don's family.*

Rob Gilligan

Rob Gilligan - September 03, 2020 at 06:22 PM

TA

Don was a wonderful Gentleman and he was devoted to the West West Virginia State park system. He will be terribly missed. He was an imposing and kind figure. May he Rest In Peace.

thomas d. ambrose - September 15, 2020 at 07:15 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Andrews.*



September 03, 2020 at 03:21 PM

SH

“ Don was my favorite person I ever encountered at Bellaire, and I was happy to call him a friend. Though I’m sad I won’t be able to see him anymore, I’m happy that he and Ann are reunited again.

Sarah Holland - September 03, 2020 at 02:18 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Andrews.



September 03, 2020 at 02:07 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Andrews.



September 03, 2020 at 02:06 PM

KC

“ Don gave me my first real job in state parks and was always kind, helpful, and patient with me as I learned the ropes. His wit, wisdom, and advice were appreciated by everyone in the park system who were fortunate enough to know him and work with him. He was truly a great mentor and his achievements will always be remembered. Rest well Don. You will always be in our minds and hearts.

Ken Caplinger - September 03, 2020 at 02:03 PM

BH

“ Don was my favorite resident at Bellaire. I took care of him for 2 years. He was my buddy. I will miss that rotten grin so much. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.



Brittani Hatfield - September 03, 2020 at 08:42 AM

DK

“ During my tenure with the WV DNR State Parks Don was a respected administrator to whom I always felt confident I could consult for advice and direction. After his retirement I would often run into him and Anne in St. Albans and we would share photography and hiking tips. He was kind and always had a "story" about something interesting or silly about his travels or the State Park staff. My sincere and heartfelt thoughts of peace and comfort to Don's family during this difficult time. Thanks for the memories Don.

Debbie Keener - September 02, 2020 at 12:54 PM