



Donald E. "Don" Waldrop

January 30, 1941 - September 10, 2019

Donald E. Waldrop, 78, of St Augustine, FL passed away Tuesday, September 10, 2019. He was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana on January 30, 1941 to the late Donald and Frances Waldrop where he lived until August 2015. He and his wife, Rosalie, relocated to St. Augustine in September 2015.

Don is survived by his wife, Rosalie Waldrop; children, Rod and Rhonda Waldrop; siblings, David Waldrop and Patricia Russell; sister-in-law, Margie Good.

During the early years of his career, Don was very involved in teaching and coaching basketball. During the summers, Don worked with the Wildcat Baseball League coaching young students of all levels. Don graduated from Ball State University with a Bachelor Degree and later earned his Master's Degree from the University of St. Frances while working in FWCS. Don was an avid golfer and enjoyed the competition and camaraderie especially within his golf group on Sunday mornings at Brookwood Golf Course. After moving to St Augustine, he was a generous tour guide for many of his family and friends who visited St. Augustine. He would drive them around in his beach mobile and tour the island and downtown areas. His favorite place he frequently visited was Crescent Beach. Don continued to give golf and basketball instruction to any eager athlete up to 2 weeks before his passing. In lieu of flowers, his family asks for you to "go out and have dinner with your family and friends and listen to live music" but if you wish to donate in his honor please donate to First Tee of North Florida, 475 W. Town Place Suite

115, St. Augustine, FL 32092.

Please visit St. Johns Family Funeral Home's website to leave condolences, words of encouragement and watch his video tribute, <https://www.stjohnsfamilyfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Donald-Waldrop-2/>.

At Don's request there will be no memorial or funeral service.

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Donald E. "Don" Waldrop*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - September 13, 2019 at 03:23 PM

BF

Loved it

Barbara Foley - September 13, 2019 at 08:08 PM

JM

Great video tribute!

Joan Morse - September 13, 2019 at 09:43 PM

PB

Wonderful tribute Pamela Bellamy

pamela bellamy - September 13, 2019 at 10:39 PM

NM

Great tribute for Don

Neal and Peggy McKeeman - September 15, 2019 at 10:48 AM

JS

Great video and tribute for Don. Looks like he and Rosile really took to the the Florida life with ease.

Jerry Springer - September 15, 2019 at 01:25 PM

JH

Fantastic video! Enjoyed seeing all the great photos of Don, Rosalie, Rhonda and Rod. May Don rest in peace.
Jeanne Hertig

Jeanne Hertig - September 15, 2019 at 08:26 PM

DD

Wonderful memories! I sure enjoyed seeing so many familiar scenes again. Although I've known Don all my life, my favorite moments with him were spent when the Waldrops shared their beautiful piece of "paradise" with me in St. Augustine in January of 2018. In his reliable Suburban, Don chauffeured us to many points of interest and great restaurants, adding to my enjoyment of the trip by sharing his knowledge of the region and drawing some helpful maps. A most gracious host, not only did he pick me up and return me to Daytona, when my flight home was unexpectedly cancelled he made the trip an extra time the following day. My deep condolences to Rosalie, Rod, Rhonda, and all the family.

Diann Deutsch

Diann Deutsch - September 18, 2019 at 06:29 AM

JS

A wonderful tribute to Don and to you also Rosalie. St. Augustine looks like the place to retire and enjoy friends and family. It is nice you were able to enjoy with each other. Lots of fond memories of Don at Elmhurst High School. Don was so handsome and just a great athlete. May he rest in peace. God Bless you and keep you during this difficult time. Lots of Love. June Griffith Weaver Shively

June K Shively - September 18, 2019 at 09:11 AM

MO

I had the honor of helping Don and Rosalie call St. Augustine home! What a great video tribute to their sun filled days and beach life . Thoughts and prayers to the family💙
Melissa Owen

Melissa Owen - September 18, 2019 at 10:45 AM

RW

Thank You Melissa for your caring words and your Prayerful Thoughts for our Family. We are very appreciative of all your assistance in our relocation to St Augustine in 2015. Your professionalism combined with your kindness provided us with a very warm welcome to St Augustine. Our whole family will always be grateful to you for all your assistance in our relocation. Warm Wishes for Good Health and Happiness for you and your family always.

Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - October 03, 2019 at 11:25 PM

DA

“ I had the honor to work with Don, Rosalie and all their employees via their Retirement plan. I always felt included as one of their trusted professionals. For many years I worked hard with Don and Rosalie providing retirement guidance and feeling a part of the company, for example twice I made investment/retirement presentations during the annual LSI Christmas party/company meeting being welcomed in the celebration. They included me as one of the "LSI family" and for this I will always be grateful. We will miss you Don, and God bless Rosalie!!

Dan Arnold

Dan Arnold - October 02, 2019 at 01:52 PM

RW

Thank You Dan for sharing your memories of our good times working together in providing opportunities for LSI employees in establishing retirement plans. We have always appreciated your professional expertise along with your personal touch as you presented retirement plan information. Currently, your kind words of "we will miss Don" are especially appreciated and reflected by so many people. Thank you Dan for expressing your special blessing for me. I send back to you blessings for you and Barb and your entire family. Condolences are also being sent your way in the recent passing of your Dad. The following words which have had special meaning for our family may have special meaning for you as well: "When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure." May the memory of your Dad become a Very Special Treasure in your heart Dan.

*Sincerely,
Rosalie Waldrop*

Rosalie Waldrop - October 16, 2019 at 08:25 AM

DW

“ To my big brother...

Even though you were three years older you were involved in my life, trying to better me. I couldn't have had a better big brother. You were my hero. I looked up to you, your exceptional athletic and coaching ability.

I tried to emulate your athletic accomplishments. You were the first to help me in that endeavor and you were always so proud of me when I succeeded. I so appreciate your belief in me, your encouragement and "no nonsense" approach, not only in sports, but in life. I love you bro and I will miss you.

Dave Waldrop - October 01, 2019 at 06:13 PM

RW

RW

Rosalie Waldrop

35 minutes ago

Dave: Your tribute for your big brother Don is a great one. He was always proud of you and all of your accomplishments too. Being introduced to your Waldrop family at a young age, I realized early on that Sports (especially basketball and baseball) were very important in your family. I remember the EHS basketball games in particular. All family affairs were planned around a sport schedule. Thank You Dave for All of Your Caring Concern for us over the years. May you and Chris enjoy Good Health and Happiness Always.

Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - October 01, 2019 at 07:00 PM

TC

“ *So sorry to learn about Don's passing. Although I haven't seen Don in many years, I remember the fun times we had wetting a worm and trying to catch a brook trout or two at our in-laws (Dick and Maxine Good) home on the Manistee River near Grayling, Michigan. I always looked forward to our summer visits along with tales of how his basketball team was doing. I may be wrong, but I think I remember that he coached a basketball camp for Bobby Knight - how about that! - Tom Crook*

Tom Crook - September 22, 2019 at 06:19 PM

DW

To my big brother...

Even though you were three years older you were involved in my life, trying to better me. I couldn't have had a better big brother. You were my hero. I looked up to you, your exceptional athletic and coaching ability.

I tried to emulate your athletic accomplishments. You were the first to help me in that endeavor and you were always so proud of me when I succeeded. I so appreciate your belief in me, your encouragement and "no nonsense" approach, not only in sports, but in life. I love you bro and I will miss you.

Dave Waldrop - September 28, 2019 at 08:57 AM

RW

Dave: Your tribute for your big brother Don is a great one. He was always proud of you and all of your accomplishments too. Being introduced to your Waldrop family at a young age, I realized early on that Sports (especially basketball and baseball) were very important in your family. I remember the EHS basketball games in particular. All family affairs were planned around a sport schedule. Thank You Dave for All of Your Caring Concern for us over the years. May you and Chris enjoy Good Health and Happiness Always.

Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - October 01, 2019 at 06:21 PM

RW

Dear Tom: Thank U so much for sharing your memories of Don and the Manistee River. Yes, we did have some good times. Yes, you remembered correctly that Don coached in Bobby Knights summer basketball camps. He had many stories to tell about those experiences. Remembering the canoe trips on the Manistee River are very special memories. Wishing you and your loved ones "Good Health and Happiness always". Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - October 08, 2019 at 08:58 PM

JD

*“ So sorry to learn of Don' s death. Prayers for you and your children.
Judy Diagostino*

Judy Diagostino - September 18, 2019 at 03:51 PM

RW

Thank You Judy for your expression of sympathy. I also appreciated your willingness to pass along information for our Abbett Retiree Friends. A special "Thank You" for your Prayerful Thoughts for our family. Best Wishes for you and Jack and your entire family too.

Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - October 01, 2019 at 06:00 PM

RG

“ My condolences to cousin Rosalie at the loss of her husband and to Rod & Rhonda-I'm sure you will miss your dad very much. I never knew Don very well, but I do remember being in their wedding as a flower girl when I was young.

Rebecca Good - September 18, 2019 at 03:10 PM

RW

Rebecca/Becky Jo:

Thank You so much for your condolences and your kind remarks. I also appreciate your recent phone call of warm wishes as well.

Yes, you were a flower girl on June 10, 1961. Everyone marveled at how sweet you were and how serious you accepted your role in participating in the wedding. Time flies by very quickly. I am sending my Best Wishes for you and Jack and your daughter and son as well. Again, our appreciation for your expression of sympathy. Rosalie & Family

Rosalie Waldrop - October 01, 2019 at 05:54 PM

RW

Grammar correction: "how seriously you accepted your role"

Rosalie Waldrop - October 01, 2019 at 05:56 PM

SB

“ Rosalie, Rhonda and Rod. Steve and I want to express our sympathy to all of you. Don was such a big part of our lives and we appreciate everything that he and you (Rosalie) done for us. The Tribute was very nice, it was good to see you two relaxing and enjoying your well deserved retirement. May he rest in peace and you have a good life Rosalie. Sue Boes. Steve Hertig

Sue Boes - September 18, 2019 at 02:31 PM

RW

Sue and Steve: Your Caring Concern is really appreciated. It is good to see your kind words. I also remember all the good memories of our shared experiences. Thank You for taking your time to show your support with your thoughts and words of encouragement. We are also happy you were able to enjoy seeing the online Video Tribute. Wishing you and your loved ones good health & happiness always. Rosalie and Family

Rosalie Waldrop - October 01, 2019 at 08:09 AM

JW

“*Rosalie, Rod, Rhonda, Dave and Pat, I have so many great memories of Cousin Don from childhood, teenage years and as adults. There were many family gatherings. Also, our fathers were roommates as boys in the family home that had to accommodate ten children and two adults. Consequently, our fathers were very close throughout their lives and this desire to spend time together frequently included us cousins. So many good times at all of those reunions. Sandy and I are so proud of Don as we read about the many people upon whose lives he had such a positive impact. What a wonderful person, teacher and coach! Hopefully, knowing how many friends and family are expressing their love and caring for you, will help comfort you at this time.*

John and Sandy Waldrop

John Waldrop - September 17, 2019 at 12:47 PM

RW

John and Sandy: Thank You for your kind and caring words of support. Your insight into the Waldrop family history explains the closeness of cousins from your families. I also remember the Waldrop reunions @ Sears Pavilion & Franke Park. It was a real pleasure recently speaking with both of you. I am sending warm wishes your way for your good health and happiness always. Enjoy yourselves as Life really is very short and time passes by so quickly. Again, thank you for your caring support. Rosalie and Family

Rosalie Waldrop - October 01, 2019 at 08:00 AM

JR

“ *Jan Whisenant RN lit a candle in memory of Donald E. "Don" Waldrop*



Jan Whisenant RN - September 17, 2019 at 01:14 AM

JR

So sorry to hear of his passing.

Jan Whisenant RN - September 17, 2019 at 01:14 AM

RW

Thank You Jan for sharing your Caring Support by lighting a candle in memory of Don. It truly is appreciated. Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - September 17, 2019 at 08:19 AM

RH

“ I’m so sorry to hear of Don’s passing. I had the privilege of playing basketball for Don my senior year at Heritage High School, and what a year it was! Don’s expert coaching turned around a struggling program and helped make my senior year special. I learned so much about basketball and coaching from Don, and in my own coaching career (forty years and counting!) I have tried to pass on what I learned from him. He was a coach’s coach, a real pro. Though I had been on many successful and winning cross country and baseball teams before meeting Don, I had never been on a winning basketball team. Don changed that with his heartfelt passion, tremendous knowledge, and insightful methods of motivation. One thing I will never forget was his name for what other coaches call “suicides” or “running lines.” Don called them “championship trips”! How corny is that? But as he explained, that conditioning drill was not punishment for poor play but rather a way to give us the conditioning to outrun our opponents and win games. We bought into his philosophy and ran harder than we had ever run before—willingly, enthusiastically, uncomplainingly. I have followed that philosophy my whole coaching career. Like Don, I never use conditioning for punishment, and it has worked out very well for me and my teams. I like that idea so well, in fact, that a few months ago I had an article published in Coach and Athletic Director Magazine, in which I related my experience under Don. I regret that I never took the time to look him up and tell him about it and thank him for the great experience I had while playing for him. My sympathy to his family and friends. Randy Hisner

Randy Hisner - September 16, 2019 at 10:19 PM

RW

Thank You Randy for your expression of Caring Concern. Thank You also for sharing your detailed description of the positive philosophy related to coaching. The Positive Philosophy expresses the approach used by Coach Don in all aspects of his work and his life. The Positive Philosophy has certainly has made an impression on your life. Thank You Randy for taking time to express your tribute to "Coach Don".
Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - September 17, 2019 at 08:34 AM

JG

“ *RIP Coach! Jeff Gerardot, Heritage Patriots, 1977*

Jeff Gerardot - September 16, 2019 at 03:44 PM

RW

Thank You Jeff for sharing your support.
Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - September 17, 2019 at 08:11 AM

BD

“ *We remember;*
** camping at Chain of Lakes way back when*
** the years Don and I coached together, especially South Side/Elmhurst baseball*
** OUR TRIPS TO ST. AUGUSTINE*
** the manatees*
** the meals together*
** Don's guided tours, although they were much more than guided tours, they were shared with patience and kindness*
** We will cherish our years of memories with both Don and Rosalie*

Bill and Martha Derbyshire

Bill Derbyshire - September 16, 2019 at 12:34 PM

RW

Thank You Bill and Martha for sharing your Caring Concern and expression of sympathy. During your recent visits, it has been so much fun reflecting upon memories of past teaching & coaching days in FWCS as well as Wildcat Baseball experiences. The support that you showed for our special Abbett School students will always be remembered. Your personal friendship stories have added even more smiles. One of the most memorable stories was the Chain Of Lakes Spring Break camping trip when your new tent blew away before getting it staked down. We had lots of laughs remembering about watching Bill running after your tent. Your friendship has been renewed recently with your Florida visits. Our shared experiences with you while observing the Manatee at Blue Springs as well as experiencing the beauty of Washington Oaks Park are some of the highlights. Thank You for bringing Joy to our lives in so many special ways. Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - September 17, 2019 at 08:10 AM

JH

“ Very sorry to hear of Don’s passing! I remember our cruise and stopping in St. Thomas and spending a few hours on Morningstar Beach. I have pictures Rosalie. Would love to share and give to you. If in Ft. Wayne call me! My thoughts are with you!

Jolene Holly - September 15, 2019 at 08:12 PM

RW

Thank You Jolene for your warm wishes. Remembering our shared time on Morningstar Beach is a Special Memory that has made me smile. (will contact you later about your pics as I remember you have an Awesome Scrapbook). Thank you for your caring concern. Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - September 16, 2019 at 09:23 AM



“ Garden Accent - "Someone you love..." was purchased for the family of Donald E. "Don" Waldrop.



September 15, 2019 at 08:11 PM

JK

“ Rod and Rhonda, I am sorry to hear of the death of your father. I offer my sincere condolences. Jan Pequignot Knueve (it was great seeing your faces again in the video.)

ja knueve - September 15, 2019 at 06:36 PM

CM

“ Rosalie,
I was so sorry to read of Don's passing this morning. May you find comfort in the good memories of a life shared. Wishing you peace and God's grace during this difficult time.
Connie Murphy

Connie Murphy - September 15, 2019 at 01:17 PM

RW

Thank You Connie for your caring comments and warm wishes.
Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - September 15, 2019 at 02:11 PM

BD

“ Though I never met Mr. Waldrop, I did attend Heritage High School with Rod and Rhonda. So I knew them a little bit. :-) As I recall, they lived on or near Wayne Trace, though I doubt I could which house any more.
My condolences; I wish you all Blessings and Peace through this difficult time.

Brian Davies - September 15, 2019 at 10:51 AM

RW

Thank You Brian for your expression of condolences and caring concern. Rosalie & family

Rosalie Waldrop - September 15, 2019 at 11:08 AM

DB

“ As kids growing up on the south side of Fort Wayne, we were so lucky to have Coach Don Waldrop come into our lives. At Irwin Elementary, Weisser Park Jr. High School, and finally South Side High School, Don set an expectation of success, teamwork and belief in ourselves. He believed in us when I am not sure we even believed.

Personally, I must say that THE turning point in my life was impacted by the thought of, "What would Coach Waldrop think?" I was able to share that experience with him years after it happened and today I am 25 years clean and sober. Today, my life's work is a direct result from the influence Coach Waldrop had on me.

Don Waldrop's belief in us and particularly in me will forever be fondly remembered. We were so lucky to have him as a teacher, coach, and mentor in our lives.

Thank You Rosalie, Rod, & Rhonda for sharing your husband and dad with all of us.

Rest in Peace Don

P.S. He would be so proud of my typing skills. lol

Dick Boggess - September 15, 2019 at 09:41 AM

RW

Dick: Thank You for expressing your memories and your tribute for "Coach" as you remember him from his earlier coaching days. Your expression of your personal thoughts on "what would Coach think?" are especially Heart-Warming". I know he would be smiling about your comment on your typing skills as well. Again, our thanks to you Dick.
Rosalie & Family

Rosalie Waldrop - September 15, 2019 at 10:37 AM

JS

Rosalie, please forgive my incorrect spelling of your name in my previous comment. I have many memories of Don while going to high school together. We lived in the same neighbor hood while growing up. Many memories of our great times together. we also spent one summer working construction together and that was a real interesting time for sure. Carol and I send our thoughts and prayers to you Rosalie, Rhonda & Rod. May you treasure his memory in your hearts forever. God's blessings to you all nd may Don rest in peace.

Jerry Springer - September 15, 2019 at 01:39 PM

MB

“ *Just remembering the joy of Don and Rosalie as they toured Crescent Beach in their beach mobile. Ronda and Rod came to know and love the area as well. Just enjoying the bounty and beauty of God's creation. May those wonderful memories be a comfort and peace during this time.*

Minerva Belote

Mbelote - September 14, 2019 at 03:58 PM

RW

Minerva: Thank You for your kind words and your reflections on the beauty of nature around Anastasia Island-especially our beloved Crescent Beach. It is all because of you.. and your time in introducing us to this area that we have been able to experience some of the most beautiful scenes of nature on water as well as observation of wildlife-especially the birds and turtles at the Nature Preserve near Summerhouse at Fort Mantanza-the southernmost point of Anastasia Island. Your knowledge of the history of this area has made our re-location here one of “On-Going Learning”. Visits with you to the St Augustine Lighthouse as well as our winter trips to Blue Springs for observation of the Manatee each winter are highlights that we have enjoyed with you over the years. Thank You for your friendship Minerva.Don always looked forward to your winter visits. I will be looking forward to continuing the enjoyment of your company as you visit Summerhouse this coming winter again.

Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - September 15, 2019 at 08:40 AM



“ 52 files added to the album Life Tributes



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - September 13, 2019 at 03:19 PM



“ Remember Coach while playing Wildcat baseball, because I wasn't good enough for little league and him coaching basketball. Rest in peace COACH!

glenn tate - September 13, 2019 at 11:51 AM



Thank You Glenn for your kind words and taking time to post your memories of Coach Don. Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - September 13, 2019 at 08:20 PM



“ I have years of good memories with Don as a mentor, friend, teaching me to play golf, and just a great person to be around. My prayers are with Rosalie and the Family.

Bill Skidmore - September 13, 2019 at 06:10 AM



Bill, Thank You So Very Much for your kind thoughts. We really remember some great times with you. Rosalie

Rosalie Waldrop - September 13, 2019 at 08:15 PM

RW

*Re-phrased for clarity by Rosalie
We remember some really great times with you Bill. Thank You again
for expressing your memories of Don.
Rosalie*

Rosalie Waldrop - September 15, 2019 at 08:01 AM

BF

“ *Barbara Foley lit a candle in memory of
Donald E. "Don" Waldrop*



Barbara Foley - September 12, 2019 at 04:04 PM

RW

*Barbara: Thank You for your Kindness in "Lighting a Candle" in
memory of Don. Rosalie*

Rosalie Waldrop - September 15, 2019 at 07:57 AM

LP

“ *Dear Rosalie & family, I'm so very sorry to hear about your husband
Don passing. I will be thinking and praying for your family. God
bless you all 🙏🦋*

lorraine peterson - September 12, 2019 at 12:53 PM

RW

*Thank You Lorraine. Your Words Of Caring Concern are appreciated.
Rosalie*

Rosalie Waldrop - September 15, 2019 at 07:54 AM

BC

My husband and I send are sincere sympathies for the loss of your beloved husband Don. We prayed daily for his recovery. Although we knew each other briefly, I felt a kindred spirit. I pray God's blessing be upon you and your family. May you find comfort in precious memories.and may God grant you strength to heal your soul and grant you peace.

Beth Coccoluto - September 15, 2019 at 05:00 PM