



Don Tracewell

April 14, 1946 - December 14, 2022

No obituary found for this tribute.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **21**. 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM (PT)

International Christain Center
3275 Williams Rd
San Jose, CA 95117

Graveside Service

DEC **21**. 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM (PT)

Los Gatos Memorial Park
2255 Los Gatos Almaden Rd
San Jose, CA 95124

Tribute Wall

DF

“Don was in my life as far back as I can remember. People who know me know that my memory serves me very well. Sometimes too well. However, I can't remember the first time I met Don but I know I was an infant. As I started growing out of my infancy and into more of my childhood..... and we're talking like 1972- 1975', is when I really start remembering Don and that's where it really all began for me. I tried to talk about some of these memories at the funeral but it was just too hard. Things weren't coming out right when I tried to talk about it. After I got home the day of the funeral I had wished I could e said things better and get people to see and hear and feel the things I experienced in my life with Don. Don was the neighborhood dad to all of us kids. As most people know, I never had the father and son type relationship I should've had with my real father, my biological father. In fact far from it. When things were hard for me at home I always looked forward to the times I would see Don. He understood what was going on. He could see it. That's why he always made so many things fun. As I got older and evolved and took on many interests, Don seemed to also take on the same interests as me. One thing we shared was a love for cartooning. I started my own cartoon strip for a little while back in 1991-95 and this was a fun time for Don and I. Don was always interested in my music and even liked the same bands I liked. His music genre taste was mostly more 80's pop and easy listening but his favorite was James Brown! He knew that my passion for building models and wanting to work for George Lucas and Spielberg doing special effects at Industrial Light And Magic was not only a dream of mine but something I wanted to make a reality and I nearly did 3 times. Don was interested in this as well and when I told him how models were made in movies he was fascinated by it. A process called kit bashing is how models were made in movies like Star Wars and any sci-fi movie or any movie for that matter that was made in the 70's up to the early 2000's. I remember telling Don how I would build these models from scratch and it would require using found objects and pieces of other models from other model kits such as tanks and race cars or trucks or whatever. Don was soon bringing me over bags of junk they he thought I could use for my models. Yea, it was

funny, but it sometimes got out of control lol!!!! He would bring me plastic bottles that resembled jet engines or small parts that would work on spaceships somehow. He somehow understood it like I did. Don somehow understood me! I think that Don was the only one who ever did understand me. He understood everything I've ever told him or shared with him. And now he's gone. The one person who never thought I was too much for this world. The one person who could see things the way I seen them. It didn't matter what it was. My music.... My passion for model building... creating... there was so many things. Don should've been here for so many more years to come. Why does life do this too us? Why is life so damn cruel and unfair? Why did this have to happen to my Mom? I guess now that a year has just about passed since Don went home to God and the dust has settled, it's still unclear to me as to why did this happen and how did it happen so fast? I'm grateful for the memories I have with Don and I'm grateful he was better then a father to me. I learned a lot of things from Don. I may not have paid too much attention to some of the things he taught me early on but I remember it like it was yesterday. Maybe I was paying attention. We go through life taking so many things for granted and we often fail to see what's really important. I was listening to you Don. It sometimes took me a little while to get it, but I eventually got it. Don always accepted me no matter what. When I had long hair and looked like a crazy rock n roll guy because that's what I was, Don didn't care. He never judged me. He never looked down on me. He wanted me to do good. He wanted me to succeed. I learned how to work hard from Don. I learned that things aren't going to be handed to you and you have to go get them. And when there were times I just couldn't get it then Don would somehow get it for me. I'm grateful Don gave my mom the life she so deserved. We are all so lucky to have had this guy in our lives because it's very rare. Don was a rare breed. I've never known anyone like Don and I know I'll never know anyone like him again. I'm glad that all my friends got to know the man I knew.

dave Friday - November 15, 2023 at 08:09 PM

TF

“ Don was a proud Vietnam Vet, a successful business owner, a cartoonist (who knew Charles Schulz and other famous cartoonists), a loving and doting husband (to his “Bon-Bon”), and a wonderful man, neighbor and friend. He had a whoopee-cushion type of humor that immediately made people connect with him and laugh. Loved his puns and pranks...the wine glass that would only fill up vertically to “half a glass”...OMG...how many times people fell for that! You never knew what he would do next...but most often you’d be smiling in his presence...He was so fun at our neighborhood gatherings and will always be remembered by the kids on our street for his bubble wrap and playful attitude! He was one of the kindest people I have ever met and my entire family was honored to have known him. Had he been able to live out his retirement differently I’m fairly certain he would have someday published a cartoon strip about his kangaroo character or one of the many others he had creatively created. He will be remembered and missed by so many. I can only hope that he is now in heaven romping around with his dear Putty Tat... and that he can once again remember all of the beauty and joy he created around him wherever he went...”

The Blum Family - December 21, 2022 at 01:31 PM

TF

The name was cut off, this is from the Blums

The Blum Family - December 21, 2022 at 01:34 PM

RW

“ Don’s passing leaves a big hole in our hearts. Over our 38+ years of friendship one thing we could always count on was Don’s infectious silly humor and kind thoughtful nature. He was always full of childlike joy and creative mischief ...definitely made all our get togethers so much more fun! He was a magnet to all the children and it was hard to tell who the adult was when Don got going. Both our girls have fond memories of Don growing up. We will always miss his happy contagious spirit but rest in knowing he is finally free and at peace. Hopefully he is playing with his beloved kitty Putty cat at this very moment! Our love and sincere condolences to his wonderful devoted wife Bonnie, son Davey and the whole family. Fly with the angels Don and thank you for your treasured friendship through the years. We love you!

Rosemary and Steve Whitecar - December 17, 2022 at 06:24 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Don Tracewell.



December 17, 2022 at 03:33 PM

TH

“ If you were around Don, guaranteed you were laughing and smiling the entire time. He had some of the best and silliest jokes ever, and was perpetually a positive light. One of my favorite things was watching and and Bonnie together, so clearly in love and enjoying each other every moment. Don, you will be missed and I hope you're up there right now with Sparky Schulz having a laugh :)



Terilynn Bench Harris - December 17, 2022 at 02:04 PM

SF

“ Steve & Rosemary Whitecar and Family.
purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the
family of Don Tracewell.



Steve & Rosemary Whitecar and Family. - December 16, 2022
at 10:20 PM