



## Donald "Don" Bruce Richards

November 9, 1944 - January 23, 2024

Donald Bruce Richards, age 79, of Fort Myers, Florida went to be with his Lord on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at Shepherd's Cove in Albertville, Alabama. Don was born November 9, 1944 in Oxford, Alabama. He was the son of Bruce and Emogene Richards. He was a lifelong educator and administrator. Political science and civic duty were lifelong passions.

Don is survived by a loving family which includes Carol Richards, daughters, Beth Leigeber (Danny) and Emily Miller (Blaine); grandchildren, Erin Phillips, Will Miller, Jacob Leigeber and Emma Miller.

No services are planned at this time.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to the staff at Sheperd's Cove for wonderful care, love and support. In memory of Don, any donations may be made to Shepherd's Cove, 408 Martling Road, Albertville, AL 35951 or [shepherds Cove.org](http://shepherds Cove.org).

Arrangements entrusted to Arab Heritage Memorial Chapel

# Tribute Wall

MS

“ Don is my Daughter in law"s Father, even though I only met him once or twice, he for years would be one of the first one to send me a Christmas card, such a kind and thoughtful person. Thank you God for such a person who touched many people's lives. My condolences to his loving family,

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**Marcy Simmons** - February 05, 2024 at 09:53 AM

PC

“ I am sorry for your loss, I have many great memories all because of Don.  
Very grateful to have had him in my life.

*Paul Crawford*

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**Paul Crawford** - January 27, 2024 at 10:27 PM

CD

“ Chastity Saint Dawson lit a candle in memory of Donald "Don" Bruce Richards



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**Chastity Saint Dawson** - January 26, 2024 at 02:28 PM

BB

“ Don was my best friend and we had been friends for 62 years first meeting when he sat behind me in freshman English (not either of our best subjects) at the U of AL. We shared some investments, good times and bad. He had a long difficult time with medical problems during the last years of his life, but kept a positive attitude. I am happy that I was able to care for him during some of his health problems and treatments when we both lived in Fort Myers. We were the brother to each other than both lacked. We had daily telephone contact which I will miss, but am glad that he suffers no more.

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**Bill Barber** - January 26, 2024 at 08:52 AM

SK

So glad to read this and that he had such a life long friend

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**Sharon Kite** - February 11, 2024 at 12:03 PM

SK

Mr. Richards (as he will always be know to me) was my high school principal in the early 70's. I worked in the office part time and he basically took me under his wing, encouraging me to go to college which no one in my family ever did. But through his support and guidance (and that of many other teachers) I got a scholarship to the University of Alabama and my life was changed forever. I even came back to work in the office for summer school. Babysat for the girls some. I shall always remember Mr. Richards as a dedicated educator but also, more so than anyone else, as the person whose intervention in the life of a poor kid, made all the difference. We wrote to each other often and then at least Christmastime, catching up on life. He was always so proud of me and I remain eternally thankful to him. I shall miss those Christmas letters.

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**Sharon Kite** - February 11, 2024 at 12:15 PM



“ Teresa Duke Miller lit a candle in memory of Donald "Don" Bruce Richards



Teresa Duke Miller - January 25, 2024 at 08:22 AM



“ Johnny Tidmore lit a candle in memory of Donald "Don" Bruce Richards



Johnny Tidmore - January 24, 2024 at 10:49 PM



rahtide

Johnny Tidmore - January 24, 2024 at 10:50 PM



He mentioned your name when he was talking to us that last night he was semi coherent. We couldn't understand anything but your name. Love you Beth

Beth Leigeber - January 25, 2024 at 03:06 PM



“ Sarah And Joe Bunch lit a candle in memory of Donald "Don" Bruce Richards



Sarah and Joe Bunch - January 24, 2024 at 10:15 PM



“ *Mr Richards was a great guy he was a school administrator when I was in school in the 90s and was always a nice man he along with the board paid for me and a few class mates to go to camp one year years ago never forget that I also went to church with this wonderful guy and he took me to lunch a few times even though it has been years since I had seen him he has always been a blessing to me and I will truly miss him*

Kj Kool - January 24, 2024 at 08:52 PM



“ *Don was a great neighbor prayers*



Leslie Huggins - January 24, 2024 at 07:33 PM



“ *Dianne Prestridge lit a candle in memory of Donald "Don" Bruce Richards*



Dianne Prestridge - January 24, 2024 at 07:24 PM



“ *James Newman planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald "Don" Bruce Richards.*

James Newman - January 24, 2024 at 02:09 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Donald "Don" Bruce Richards.*



January 24, 2024 at 02:09 PM



“ *Praying for peace and comfort especially to Carol & Beth. Coincidentally I was visiting Arab, AL today when I heard the news. 1973 Arab graduate-my mom sat with Beth. . Don and Carl Wisener were two important people in my educational experience. Their encouragement to endure life's hurdles led me to a successful career. Many times my heart as said "Thank you". Gloria Williamson Evans*

**Gloria** - January 24, 2024 at 01:55 AM



“ *Debora Lewis lit a candle in memory of Donald "Don" Bruce Richards*



**Debora Lewis** - January 23, 2024 at 10:52 PM



“ *Louise Harrison Cresse lit a candle in memory of Donald "Don" Bruce Richards*



**Louise Harrison Cresse** - January 23, 2024 at 09:27 PM

EP

“ *Estelle Phillips lit a candle in memory of  
Donald "Don" Bruce Richards*



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**Estelle Phillips** - January 23, 2024 at 08:55 PM