



# Donald Eugene Oden

DEC 14, 1936 - JUL 12, 2012



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## Donald Eugene Oden

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**D**onald Eugene Oden of Centerville died on July 12 at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa.

He was born the son of Thomas (Britt) and Cora (Johnson) Oden on December 14, 1936 in Centerville, Iowa. Donald resided all of his life in Appanoose County where he was known as a family man, horse trader and farmer. For years he shipped horses to the New Holland, Pennsylvania Sale Barn with his brother, Kendell Oden. Donald was known as someone who could buy and sell most anything, be it livestock or antiques.

Donald was an avid storyteller and jovial man who deeply loved his family. Some of his favorite outings were to watch the grandchildren play sports or travel with his wife.

Donald is survived by his wife, Vivian Sue Oden of Centerville and his children: Vanessa Oden and husband Steve Widmar of Exline, Vickie Tripp and husband Mike of Columbia, Missouri, Daniel Oden of Phoenix, Arizona, David Oden of Keosauqua, Iowa, Valerie Bishop and husband Ray of Leon, Iowa and Valinda Terrell and husband David of Kirksville, Missouri; two stepchildren, Diane (Ron) Robbins of Unionville, Missouri and Dan (Ginger) Weston of Unionville, Missouri; Grandchildren: Kate, Maggie and John Tripp; Noah, Nicholas, Nathaniel, Nash and Nyle Bishop; Colin and Domenic Terrell; five step-grandchildren, Lacey (Ian) Gilworth of Unionville, Missouri, Corey and Hilary Mason both of Unionville, Missouri, Tiffani (Tristen) Klinginsmith of Unionville, Missouri, and Torey Weston of Centerville, Iowa; three step-great grandchildren, Vivian Rory Gilworth, Thomas Rush Gilworth, and Jaxson Lee Klinginsmith all of Unionville, Missouri; Other survivors include his siblings: Dolores Foster of Centerville, Phyllis Mitchell of Brea, CA, Beverly Baldwin of Mystic, Kendell (Dorothy) Oden of Exline, Shirley McAnelly of Centerville and Kay Hanson (Don) of Centerville. Donald is also survived by



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numerous nieces and nephews.

Donald was preceded in death by his parents, Thomas (Britt) and Cora (Johnson) Oden; his wife Virginia (Sedgwick) Oden; brothers, Bob, Wendell, Jack, Britt and John Oden; a sister Dorisdell Germanio.

Funeral services will be held 10:30 AM, Monday, July 16, 2012 at Lange Funeral Home and Crematory in Centerville with Pastor Lloyd Johnston officiating. Burial will follow in the Exline Cemetery, Exline, Iowa. A visitation will be held Sunday at Lange Funeral Home and Crematory from 12-6 PM, with the family present from 4-6 PM. In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established to the Donald Oden Memorial Fund and may be given to Lange Funeral Home, 1900 S. 18th St., Centerville, Iowa, 52544. Condolences may be shared at [www.langefh.com](http://www.langefh.com).

### Visitation

July 15, 2012 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Lange Funeral Home 1900 S. 18th St. Centerville, IA (641) 856-2000

### Funeral Service

July 16, 2012 10:30 AM

Lange Funeral Home 1900 S. 18th St. Centerville, IA (641) 856-2000



## Tribute Wall

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**Thomas Funeral Home** posted:

October 21 at 11:37 AM



**Thomas Funeral Home** shared an album called **Obituary Wall**.



October 13 at 11:46 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Vannessa and Vicki You are in my thoughts and prayers. Your dad was always so friendly and treated all of us as family. I saw him a couple of summers ago at Double R and he knew me right away and we talked for quite a while. His big smile and kind ways will always be remembered. I lost my dad a number of years ago and know how hard this time is. I hope it helps to know that you are in the thoughts and prayers of many. Judy (Laux) Minard Posted by Judy (Laux) Minard - Holts Summit, MO - friend July 25, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



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**Anonymous** posted:

My Dad was the strongest person that I know. He was strong physically, mentally, and emotionally. I remember as a little girl how he could out lift my brothers and brother in laws and how he would pick up my Mom and throw her over his shoulder like a sack of potatoes. My little sister and I would laugh and cheer as my Mom would say Put me down Donald ! You will hurt your back! He was strong mentally as he could remember years worth of sale records and people's names and places they lived. He was very good with math. He never learned algebra during his school years but he could help me figure out math problems his own way and get the right answer. Once he helped my sister with a math problem and she was the only one in her class to come up with the right answer! Dad had to endure much sadness with the death of his parents, brothers a sister ,two wives and the also the loss of close friends. He believed in a heaven and always said he wanted to do what was right because he believed his mother was watching from above. He was a man of great emotion . I always felt great love from him all my life. I never went to bed while at home without hugging and kissing him goodnight. Once on my own he never left my home without a hug. He continued this with my own children as they entered our lives. I always felt he could fix anything. Once a doll of mine broke its leg and I began to cry. He told me he could make her as good as new maybe better. He bolted her leg back on good as new! I still have that doll today. Dad was protected by God so many times in his life. Many accidents on the farm could have been so much worse if not for divine intervention. My Dad was always my hero ,the one who would come at a moments notice the one with the best advice. I will miss him always and be forever grateful he was my Dad. I love you, Daddy. Your daughter, Valerie  
Posted by Valerie (oden) Bishop - Leon, IA - Daughter July 24, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Oden Family, I am thinking of you at this time and praying for your peace and comfort. In His love, Jean Beeler  
Posted by Jean Beeler July 17, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Vaness and family, So sorry to hear about your Dad. God bless you all, and i pray He wrap his loving arms around you at this time. Hugs, love ya  
Posted by Lana and Larry Zerby - Stockport, IA - friend July 16, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



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**Anonymous** posted:

Vaness, I'm so sorry to hear about your dad. God Bless. Posted by Barb Melvin - Centerville, IA - friend of the family July 16, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Vaness and family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this most difficult time. May God show comfort to you and your family. Posted by Larry and Kristine Cass - Stockport, IA - friends July 15, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

I am so sorry to hear about Don's passing. He was one of the good guys! He brought so much joy to our family. He loved talking about his children and grandchildren - my thoughts go out them. Posted by Marilyn Ross - Madison, WI - former sister-in-law July 15, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

I am so sorry for the loss of your father. Hillary Lyons Posted by Hillary Lyons July 14, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. May the gently hand of God touch your heart with peace. With Sympathy, Valarie & Dave John 14 2-3 Posted by Valarie Sample - Ottumwa, IA - Friend July 14, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



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**Anonymous** posted:

So sorry to hear of Don's passing. I went to church with Don at Drake Avenue Christian Church for many years. We always had a lot of good conversations over the years. He loved to talk about the grandkids and how much he enjoyed taking them horse back riding. He will be missed by many. I will be praying for all of your family. Posted by Elaine Logsdon - Cincinnati, IA - Friend July 14, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

I have so many great memories of Don. We had so much fun together through the years. One of my favorite memories involved attending farm auctions with him. My thoughts and prayers are with his family. Posted by June Wile - Springfield, IL - Former Sister In Law July 14, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

We are praying for the family God Bless You Posted by Mary Ann Hurley - Exline, IA - neighbor July 14, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Please know that your family is in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Posted by Cindy Donovan-Steahr - Centerville - friend July 13, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Please accept our sincere sympathy and prayers, and may your loving memories give you peace. Posted by Dennis & Bev Sisul Laurson July 13, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



## Media

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**Thomas Funeral Home** shared a photo to the **Obituary Wall** album.

October 13 at 11:46 AM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Donald by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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