



## Donald L Clayton

August 24, 1936 - November 29, 2018

Donald Lee Clayton, 82, passed away Thursday, November 29, 2018 in St Helens, Oregon.

He was born in Bozeman, Montana August 24, 1936, to PM and Mary Clayton. Don was the second oldest of eight children.

In 1951 he moved with his family to Ephrata, Washington where he graduated high school in 1954.

Upon graduation from high school he worked for Boeing until 1961 when he was called to the United States Army. Stationed in Germany, he managed to be in the service with two of his brothers, David and Chet, along with special friend, Jimmy McMillan. The Army was where he gained his lifelong love of military history.

Don then went to work for Seattle City Light in Metaline Falls, Wash. where in May of 1968 he met and married the love of his life, Yvonne Nadine Yarnell, gaining four children who he loved as his own.

He was hired as a civil engineer by Bechtel Corporation, where he was transferred to a number of cities in the U.S.

When Don retired he moved to Benton City, Wash. where their lives revolved around family and friends – their home a gathering place for all.

He was a member of the Masons and was a Shriner, having earned his 48th degree.

He now joins his beloved Yvonne, who he missed so dearly.

Don was also preceded in death by three brothers, Chet, David and Richard;

granddaughter Stephanie; and niece Laurie. A wonderful husband and greatly loved father he is survived by his four children, Toni Hanson of New York City, NY, Carolyn Connall, husband Ernie, of St. Helens, Ore., Douglas Hanson of Anchorage, Alaska, and Steven Hanson, wife Ellen, of Warren, Ore.; his three sisters Maryann Bolyard of Soap Lake, Wash., Adelle Rath, husband Russ, of Yuma, Ariz., Lora Fronsman, husband Larry, of Soap Lake, Wash., and Nola Williams of Pasadena, Calif.; in addition to four grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Don will be laid to rest with a full military ceremony on Saturday, Dec. 8, 2018 at 2 p.m. at Valley View Memorial Cemetery, Soap Lake, Washington.

Please express your thoughts and memories for the family at [www.nicolesfuneralhome.com](http://www.nicolesfuneralhome.com)

Arrangements are under the care of Nicoles Funeral Home of Ephrata, Wash.

# Previous Events

## Graveside

DEC 8. 2:00 PM (PT)

Valley View Memorial Park  
20174 Rd A N.E.  
Soap Lake, WA 98851  
(509) 754-4150  
[bea.white@nicolesfuneralhome.com](mailto:bea.white@nicolesfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall

SF

“ We have many memories of Don and Yvonne over the years we were all at Bechtel. Our families were together on 4 different projects over 13 years. As always the camping trips were some of the best memories. There were always a lot of good stories and laughs. Tim Minor always wanted to keep the stories accurate , Don's take on this was " never let facts interfere with a good story" . Don was a good man and a good friend. I miss him.

*Stewart Ferguson*

---

**Stewart Ferguson** - December 18, 2018 at 08:19 AM

GW

“ Remembering fondly our many camping trips with you and Yvonne...long discussions over a couple of beers and wine...and watching the hay fields turn into the Rolling Hills development. Rest in peace, Don.

*Benny and Glenda*

---

**Glenda Wyrick** - December 09, 2018 at 07:48 PM

LF

“ Memories of Don will always include a warm welcome in their home, lots of stories and laughter, camping trips and canoeing mishaps and long discussions - a good life, well-lived, a fine man now at peace.

---

**Linda Ferguson** - December 07, 2018 at 11:48 PM

TM

“ *Melinda and I have many fond memories of Don and Yvonne. We think of them often and the great fun we had with them over the years. We miss them both. We are sure they are in a better place together.*

*We first met them in the 1970s while Don and I were working at FFTF in the TriCities. Later we worked together in Midland Michigan. While over the years we were on different projects we were still able to get together on various occasions. As Don or I moved between projects we would visit and catch up on old times. Don and Yvonne loved to camp and we had the fun of camping with them. I remember one particular get together when the Claytons, Fergusons and us vacationed in New Orleans. It was truly a grand time. Tim and Melinda Minor*

---

**Tim Minor** - December 07, 2018 at 04:11 PM

CM

“ *I will miss our many world saving chats as we drank our morning coffee. I am sorry to see you leave, Donald. We had some good laughs didn't we...Miss you. Carol*

---

**Carol Mageehon** - December 05, 2018 at 08:22 PM