



Donald D. Miller

March 1, 1925 - November 26, 2021

NORFOLK -- Memorial service for Donald DuWayne Miller (Lt. Col United States Air Force, retired), 96, of Norfolk, formerly of Wisner, will be held at a later date in the Spring of 2022. Don passed away on Friday, November 26, 2021 at the Wisner Care Center. Stonacek Funeral Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

Donald was born to Loyd and Ruby (VanKirk) Miller in Brunswick, Nebraska on March 1, 1925. He graduated from Brunswick High School in 1942 and was employed at Miller Cereal Mills in Omaha for 1 year. In 1943 Don was drafted into the United States Air Corp. In 1945 he was commissioned a second lieutenant. He served 30 years and retired as a lieutenant Colonel in 1973.

Don married Bettie Jean Miller on August 10, 1946 at the Grand Island Air Force Base. Don and Bettie were blessed with 3 sons, David, Dennis, and Dale. Duty stations included Alaska; Spokane, Washington; Omaha, Nebraska; Puerto Rico; Riverside, California; and McLean, Virginia Where he was assigned to the Pentagon. Overseas stations included Japan, England, and two tours in Vietnam.

During his military career, Col. Miller received the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, two Bronze Stars, the Purple Heart, and several other service awards and decorations.

Early in his career, Col. Miller was trained as a bombardier/navigator on B-29's. During the Korean War, his B-29 was hit over the Sea of Japan. He was

injured as he bailed out of the plane. He suffered another injury after bailing out of his B-29 while flying from Topeka, Kansas to his home base in Spokane, Washington. Due to injuries that ended his flying career, he was assigned to the Defense Intelligence Agency.

After retirement from the U.S. Air Force, he and his wife Bettie moved from McLean, Virginia to a small acreage near Wisner, Nebraska. Don continued his education and graduated with a Bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Don and Bettie established a commercial apple orchard rural Wisner which thrived for 16 years. He also set up an income tax service. After both businesses were sold, Don and Bettie moved from the acreage to Wisner. They enjoyed traveling and maintained a second residence in Surprise, Arizona for many years. In 2002, they moved to Norfolk, Nebraska. The Miller's were members of St. John's Lutheran Church in Norfolk. Don was also a member of the Norfolk V.F.W. and the Wisner Lions Club. Don loved to watch and play golf.

Don is survived by his sons David (Judi) Miller of Lawrence, KS; Dennis (Cathie) Miller of Estes Park, CO; Dale Miller of Palmyra, NE; three grandchildren Gregg (Angi) Miller, Jennifer (Eric) Pensanelli, Erin Monroe, three great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife Bettie on January 24, 2019, daughter-in-law Ruth, granddaughter Jessica Marie Miller, parents Loyd and Ruby, three brothers Owen, Glenn, and Dean, and sister-in-law Elaine. In Lieu of flowers memorials can be sent to the Norfolk Rescue Mission, Wisner V.F.W., and Wisner Lions Club. Condolences may be expressed to the family on-line at www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Donald D. Miller*

October 05, 2023 at 03:46 AM



“ *Don & Bettie attended church with my family at St. John's and we were privileged to know them. Bettie adored Don and he was the perfect gentleman, always looking after her. What gracious people and so much fun to visit with them. They are together now, but will always be in our hearts. Our sympathies for your loss. Tom & Midge Hedrick*

Tom & Midge Hedrick - December 03, 2021 at 03:26 PM



“ *Uncle Don was a sweet man and Bill always enjoyed a game of golf with Don whenever they could get together. We will miss him!*

Sheila Miller - December 01, 2021 at 05:00 PM



“ *Don and Betty were quite the duo! We remember them especially as they operated the apple orchard. I was teaching 6-10 kids in the Country Road Preschool and would bring them out to tour the orchard. Then, a few years later, Larry and I operated the orchard for 13 years when the previous family left. Don and Betty were always available for advice. I have fond memories of Betty as a P.E.O. sister.*

Larry & Kerri Bockelman - November 30, 2021 at 04:34 PM

DD

“ We were sorry to read of Don's passing. We were neighbors and friends on Skyview Circle. We were both Don & Betty couples. We enjoyed our visits with both of them when we would walk by their place and they were outside or when Don would walk by our place and stop to visit when we were sitting in our driveway. He sometimes would drop off tomatoes from his plants. Both Bettys had July birthdays and sometimes went together to provide treats for the July monthly coffee of the Skyview ladies. All of you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Don & Betty Dammast - November 28, 2021 at 12:43 PM