



Donald E. Stemen

SEP 15, 1950 - AUG 29, 2014



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Donald E. Stemen, age 63, of Newark, formerly of Lithopolis, died Friday, August 29, 2014 at his residence. Born September 15, 1950 in Columbus to the late Harry & Anna (Woodruff) Stemen, Jr. He worked as Director of Bands at Roosevelt Middle School and Associate Director of Bands at Newark High School, beginning in 1989. He received his BME (Education) and MM (Performance) degrees from The Ohio State University.

He had served as a performing artist for the Yamaha Corporation, and performed with high school and community bands throughout the East and in Europe. Donald studied privately with noted teachers, Joe Allard, David Hite, James Pyne, Kathy Borst-Jones, Dr. Burdette Green, and Steve Genteline. He also served as an O.M.E.A. Marching Band and Solo and Ensemble adjudicator. He performed with the Ohio Saxophone Quartet, the Black Swap Saxophone Quartet, The Heisey Wind Ensemble, and the Worthington Civic Band. He was a member of Kappa Kappa Psi, and a former sergeant with the 392nd Army band, Fort Lee, VA.

He is survived by his sister, Sarah "Sally" (Tim) Acton, Lancaster; brother, Roger (Reggie) Stemen, Rosemont, CA; nieces, Danielle (Jay) Bartos, Candi Stemen (Mike) Baker, Stephanie (Jamaro) English; nephew, Christopher (fiancee, Taryn) Stemen; great nieces and nephews, Brent, Mila, Jayden, Brandon, Anna, & Evan.

Preceded in death by nephew, Matthew Acton; and great-nephew, Joel.

Friends may visit 5-8 pm Wednesday at the VENSIL & CHUTE FUNERAL HOME, 1850 W. Main St., Newark, and one hour prior to the service, which will be held 4 pm Thursday in the Lithopolis Cemetery Mausoleum in Lithopolis, with Pastor Joe Wolf officiating.

Friends who wish may contribute to the Matthew Acton Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o the Fairfield County Foundation, PO Box 159, Lancaster, OH 43130 in Don's memory.



Obituary

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Arrangements by DWAYNE R. SPENCE FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY, Pickerington.

Online condolences at spencefuneralhome.com



Tribute Wall

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PS

Patricia (Kidder) Schindler posted:

I am so sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

September 7 at 2:30 PM



Anonymous posted:

He was a wonderful person, as a band parent I had gotten to know him, he was loved by the kids and enjoyed his music... He will be missed Carol Hathaway-Yesenko

September 6 at 5:59 PM

CM

Chris And Melissa Morgan posted:

So sorry to hear of his passing. Mr. Stemen was a great educator and he helped create so many great memories for us during our years in high school band. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this time.

September 3 at 12:04 PM



Anonymous posted:

A great Teacher that will be missed by all

September 3 at 9:45 AM

JM

John Maier posted:

Don was a great guy and he will be missed. He was an excellent teacher and he was great to teach with.

September 3 at 4:04 AM

KM

Kathryn McGinnis posted:

I am really going to miss you Don. You were the best saxophone teacher that I have ever had and you really helped me to love jazz and the saxophone. Your corny jokes were always great and made me laugh during my lessons. You will be greatly missed.

September 2 at 4:11 PM



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LM

Lora Johnson Marcum posted:

Roger and Sally, my deepest sympathy for your family in the loss of Don. Even some of my Newark family had Don for an instructor and spoke highly of him. Will always remember the fun times in band events we all shared while at BCHS. Will keep you in my prayers during this difficult time.

September 2 at 2:25 PM



Anonymous posted:

I was devastated to hear of Don's passing. It is hard to imagine an individual that exhibited more life and a wonderful sense of humor. That is how I will remember him always. My sincerest condolences. Don will be missed. Jeff (Stemen)

September 2 at 9:11 AM

PM

Patti Mcgee posted:

Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts. Please accept my most heartfelt sympathies for the loss of your brother Don. My thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time.

September 2 at 8:44 AM

CP

Cathy Pierce posted:

Sally and Roger and your families - I was so sorry to hear of Don's passing. I have so many fond memories of all the fun times we spent together growing up with our families and all the celebrations we shared. Don will be truly missed and my thoughts will be with you during this difficult time. My deepest sympathy to all of you.

September 1 at 12:16 PM

SM

Sara Moore posted:

Going to miss you, Mr. Stemen. I remember sitting beside you during symphonic band class and you would always smile when I did the oboe solos. You were always willing to help us students get better, and always did what you could to make things great for us. For that I thank you. You will be sorely missed.

September 1 at 11:49 AM



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HS

Harold Short posted:

sally and roger sorry for your loss donald was a great guy,harold

September 1 at 9:54 AM

PW

Phil & Margaret Wright posted:

A wonderful, caring, giving man who will be missed by us and so many others. Rest in Peace Don.

September 1 at 5:48 AM

AP

A Friend From The Past posted:

So sorry to hear of Don leaving this earth. Remember him fondly. Sincere sympathy to you, Roger and Sally.

September 1 at 5:19 AM

MB

Mona Miller-Bussart posted:

Sally and Roger, sorry to hear of your lost know that God is watching over you and the family at this time.

September 1 at 2:30 AM

JL

Jon And Linda Leist posted:

We are so sorry for your loss, what a talent he was how we enjoyed him and his sax when he played at our church. The kids have to be asking so many questions it is hard for them to understand heck it is for us adults. Love you guys you are in our prayers.

September 1 at 1:47 AM

RM

Randall Mccollum posted:

RIP. Mr Stemen you were a wonderful friend and I am so happy to have had you as my assistant band director. You will be missed. Thank you so much for helping so many of us young musicians. God bless sir.

August 31 at 5:12 PM



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CM

Connie Manley posted:

I am sorry for your loss... He was an amazing man... RIP Don

August 31 at 2:20 PM

CP

Connie Rowley Parrish posted:

Remembering Don as a fellow classmate (BCHS class of '68), friend and musician. My thoughts and prayers are with the Stemen family.

August 31 at 2:01 PM

RR

Rob Romine posted:

So sorry of the passing of Don. He was a faithful customer at my barber shop for many years. Enjoyed our conversations of guns, music, Ohio State band and Buckeye football. I have many photos of the Ohio State v.s. That- team - up-north games that Don took and gave to me. I will always cherish those pictures. I will miss him. Don was a very kind man.

August 31 at 5:23 AM

DM

Dave Mcfarland posted:

His passing is a shock. I have known Don since my daughter was in The Band program way back in the early 80's, I talked with Don on numerous occasions and we shared his thoughts on many music and everyday subjects. It is very true that "The good do die young."

August 31 at 3:54 AM

DF

Denise Behrens Fink posted:

Remembering Don from way back in the '70's. So sorry for your loss. Thoughts & prayers are with the family.

August 31 at 3:01 AM



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Anonymous posted:

So very sorry to hear of Don's sudden death. May precious memories sustain you at this time. And may God's loving arms encircle you all. Don's beautiful sweet saxophone music may no longer be present here on earth but it will be remembered in our hearts. Our loving sympathy to you all. Fondly,
Tiz DeLooff and Carol Ackerman

August 31 at 2:49 AM



Kevin And Bonny Calderwood posted:

Sorry to hear about the passing of Don. Your family will be in our thoughts and prayers.

August 31 at 12:32 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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