



Donald Ray Parkhurst

August 27, 1945 - May 22, 2022

Donald Ray Parkhurst, 76, was born in Pasadena, Texas, to the proud parents of Edith M. (nee Delaney) and Edgar G. Parkhurst. Don's early/elementary school years were spent in Danciger/West Columbia, Texas, where he established himself as an excellent student with outstanding athletic skills. In 1958, Don's parents relocated to South Houston, where Don excelled at South Houston Jr. High School (grades 7 & 8). He consistently made the honor roll and set new records for points scored and yards gained as a running back in football. In addition, Don established himself in track as the fastest sprinter in the Greater Houston area in his age group.

In 1960, his family relocated to Baytown, Texas, where Don continued to excel as a student and track athlete. In his junior year at Robert E. Lee High School, Don set a new high school national/international record for the hundred-yard dash at the Texas State Meet at 9.4 seconds. In addition, his high school team won the State Meet, and Don received All American High School Honors.

A five-years Grant-Aid Scholarship was awarded to Don to attend the University of Texas in Austin. His four letters in track were succeeded by receiving his undergraduate degree in Radio, Television and Movies. To complete his Master's Degree in Mass Communications, his fifth year was spent as a Student Teacher and consulting with his Faculty Advisor, Rodney Whitaker. Rod wrote no less than five best-selling novels with at least one, "The Eiger Sanction," made into a movie with Clint Eastwood as the lead actor. Don spent an entire summer in the production of summer stock theater

with Rod and his team on the U.S. east coast. Several of the scenarios in the book/movie were provided to Rod by Don from his teaching/life experiences. In the summer of 1968, Don was recruited to join the newly formed U.S. Government Organization, The Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (BNDD), which later transitioned to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in 1973. Don's first assignment was as a Special Agent assigned to the Dallas office for the Southwestern U.S. region. As a new agent, Don was required to attend training at BNDD Headquarters in Washington, D.C., wherein he immediately challenged the new leadership that drug capsules came in colors and not just black and white. He positioned himself to return to headquarters to order the appropriate video equipment and to get reassigned to Washington, D.C. to operate that department.

During his eight years in Washington, D.C., he grounded himself in the various law enforcement skills required to provide leadership to successfully coach and mentor trainees and newly selected department directors. Concurrently, Don took a keen interest in Chevy Convertibles and boating, and he gradually transitioned to a 38-foot Cabin Cruiser called "The Midnight Cowboy". The "Midnight Cowboy" was docked alongside four fellow DEA Agents' cruisers in Virginia - Party Times! It was during this time that Don also became a member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Don met Deborah Strong in 1976, wherein they became engaged in 1977, and they got married and relocated to Brunswick, Georgia, in the summer of 1978. Don transferred to the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) as a Senior Instructor in the Criminal Investigation Training Division. Don's intellect and leadership were quickly recognized, and he was an immense contributor during the critical period of FLETC's growth from 1978 to 1997. Don was known as the "Go To Guy" on new initiatives because of his field experience and insightfulness as a respected leader. Don's ability to work vertically and horizontally within the organization helped assure that the students' critical training needs were identified, and the appropriate courses were implemented on a timely basis. As a result, the programs and training

divisions he helped to organize and lead continued to help thousands of students develop critical law enforcement skills in such areas as Counterterrorism, Financial Fraud, Security Specialties, Marine Law Enforcement, etc. Don served as Division Chief on several training divisions and eventually served as the de facto Deputy Assistant Director for the Office of Training for FLETC.

In addition to his busy daily work life teaching, mentoring, supervising and management activities, Don made time to engage in other FLETC related activities, virtually always in a leadership position. He served in various positions in the local American Federation of Government Employees 2002, including as president. He also was dedicated to the "non-training" side of FLETC life in the form of the FLETC Recreation Association for which he was president for many years, including the several years after his 1997 retirement.

After establishing residency in Brunswick, Deborah and Don had four daughters, Jody (deceased); Yvonne Steinberg; Natalie Parkhurst (deceased) and Michelle (Mia) Jeckel. After relocating to Brunswick, Don's avocation transitioned from a passion for boating to one for motorcycles and golf. It was in golf that he got the nickname "Dimey". One of Don's great joys in life came from traveling the country to support his daughters in their many athletic and academic quests.

Both prior to and after retirement from FLETC in 1997, Donald was very active in a number of altruistic, not-for-profit organizations to benefit the citizens of Southeast Georgia. He was currently serving as the Vice President of the Ed Dixon Memorial Glynn County Lodge 37 Fraternal Order of Police (FOP); friend and supporter of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2588; Member of the River Rats, a non-profit which holds fundraisers to sponsor scholarships for local students; and the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks Lodge 691. Don often served as the Road Captain for many of the FOP Motorcycle fundraisers for Cops and Kids; and he helped establish the Shamrocks, which

was a law enforcement organization of motorcyclists who established new chapters throughout the Southwest, Southeast and East Coast.

On May 3, 2022, Don was doing what he loved: riding his brand new motorcycle on a sunny afternoon when he was stuck by an SUV and thrown from his Harley. Quick action from medical professionals who were present at the time of the crash gave Don a fighting chance. He was subsequently airlifted to UF Health Shands where, on May 22, 2022, he ultimately succumbed to the injuries he sustained from the crash. The family would like to express their sincere gratitude to those who provided immediate medical attention to Don on May 3rd.

Donald leaves behind his two daughters, Yvonne (Peter) and Mia (Craig), two grandchildren, Penelope and Elliot, his Significant Other, Peggy Dixon, brother James (Phyllis), Natalie's significant other, Steven Roddenberry, and a number of first cousins who reside in the Orange, Texas, and Lake Charles, Louisiana areas, along with a number of nieces and nephews that cherished him. Don will be cherished forever and sorely missed by his many friends throughout the country and in the local area. If Don Parkhurst was your friend, you were very lucky indeed; he was most generous with his time and many talents. Don's energy and desire to be value added to his family, community and anyone in his sphere will be irreplaceable. Don life's was cut short, and he left a lot of unfinished business.

A memorial service will be held at Community Church on St. Simons Island (2700 Frederica Road, St. Simons Island, Georgia 31522) on Friday, June 10, 2022 at 11:00AM.

Those wishing to make donations in memory of Donald are encouraged to contribute to one of the charities that was close to his heart: Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 2588, 1034 Glynn Park Rd., Brunswick, GA 31525; Glynn County Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 37, PO Box 1117, Brunswick, GA 31521; and/or The Remedy Project, a non-profit, free, faith-based ministry for addicts and their families at: <http://theremedyproject.com/donate/> or PO Box 20341, St. Simons Is., GA 31522.

Previous Events

Memorial

JUN 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

Community Church
2700 Frederica Road
Saint Simons Island, GA 31522

Tribute Wall



“ *Donald Ray Parkhurst*

October 20, 2022 at 02:31 AM



“ *Just last Summer we had the privilege in Colorado with Donald. Always a pleasure and always fun memories. Interestingly...this picture was on our holiday Christmas card 2021. We miss you Donald!! Most sympathy to Donald's friends and family. Brent and Douglas*



brent longtin & douglas darsow - June 10, 2022 at 11:37 AM



“ *You were one of the finest gentlemen I have ever met! I will always remember our ride from FL to TX and back to GA. Hit Daytona Bike Week on the way and caught a DAC show at the Iron Horse. I will cherish those memories. You were a legend and great friend! Glad we got to reconnect just before this tragedy. Ride on, Dimey, ride on! 🍀🍀🍀*

John 'Black Jack' McGeary - June 10, 2022 at 11:28 AM

“ I first met Don "Dimey" Parkhurst in early 1989 when he introduced me to a couple of local establishment in downtown Brunswick. From that meeting until he retired, Don became a great friend, confidant and mentor. When he retired he carried the most historical knowledge existing of FLETC history with him. He was always. Willing to pas it on. I will always regret that more of us did not listen and document more.

I think that Derc D'Ercole best how I felt about Don. "He was the most positive person I have ever known. My last meeting with Don was a couple of months ago when my wife's handicap van broke down just inside th causeway. With Gretchen in the van I could not get it towed. First call to Don, his immediate response. "I'm at Peggy's, be there in five minutes." A few minutes later, Gretchen was transferred to his vehicle, transported home and secured safe and sound. Then a call to me making sure the tow truck arrived. That was the Don Parkhurst we all knew.

Over the years I rode several thousand miles with Don, but that was only a fraction of those he rode alone or with other friends. We rode on the annual Memorial Day ride to Maggie Valley, NC; rides to Shamrock events in Jackson, MS, Dallas. TX Panama City, FL, Miami, FL, Key West FL, and many trips to Bike Week in Daytona Beach, FL.

Don was instrumental in establishing local chapters of two law enforcement motorcycle clubs, the Blue Knights an Shamrocks. It was to Shamrock events that I followed Don thousands of miles making a hundred new friends and hundreds of memories. On one trip to Indiana for a charity ride, the last two miles was a loop around the , "Brickyard" racetrack. We rode to downtown Dallas to visit the site where President Kennedy was shot then on to a unique memorial to Dallas police officers killed in the line of duty.

During the trip for the Indiana charity ride we attended a small gathering were the host had a "monster motorcycle" 16" tall, 6"

wheels. And of course Don challenged me to ride. Before he could grab his camera I took off, caught my boot under the pegs and flipped over, landing on my left shoulder. After the ride from Northern Indiana to Indianapolis two days later, then to Lexington and home, a displaced collarbone.

After Don retired, he decided to participate in the LEOSA firearms qualification. So off to the local range for practice with his first semi automatic pistol. Since Don used a revolver during his field agent days, several trips for weapons familiarization. I was sure he had mastered a safe grip so off to qualification. He lined up for the first stage and as he fired the first shot, the slide made two small cuts in the end of his thumb that began oozing blood. Don finished the stage of fire and stuck his thumb in his mouth. He finished the course of fire and walked off the field with that same smile

Don was a faithful guide, a mentor, a friend and a brother- I will miss him a lot. I know he is riding a gold Harley in a better place waiting on me and his other friends to again be a guide and mentor. I pray that our Heavenly Father wraps His arms around Peggy, his brother and family and his girls he loved so much and their family.

Until I see you again, ride high and free.

Kyle

kyle evans - June 09, 2022 at 03:22 PM

TH

*I would like very much to know if this is the Don I knew in high school.in Robert E Lee.Baytown Texas? I can be reached on Facebook. Memphis, TN.
Dr. TOMMY HARRISON*

Tommy Harrison - September 17, 2024 at 01:48 PM

TH

Post

Tommy Harrison - September 17, 2024 at 01:51 PM

RR

“ *A professional law enforcement officer, scholar, outstanding athlete, teacher, supervisor, manager, executive, Don was a friend and leader to so many people, including me. Well done, Don, we'll done!*

Rich Rawlins - June 09, 2022 at 08:25 AM

NH

“ So many wonderful tributes to a man we all called our good friend! I do not recall exactly when I met Don either, but it was the mid eighties. In the mid nineties Bill Kelso and I were reassigned from Administration to OGT. Took me perhaps half a day to realize how blessed I was to be working not for just Bill, but Don, as well. Don, June Aubuchon, LuAnn Elbaum, many others went way beyond what was necessary to welcome us to Training. Many things come to mind about Don as Chief of PSD. He, with Mary Latham’s marvelous assistance, including cooking skills, held periodic lunches in our conference area. Folks thought we were just having a good time, definitely true, but I realized one of the main reasons Don held these lunches was it was a time of sharing information. Don, with his photographic mind, remembered everything that transpired. If he heard something and thought his intervention would make life better for an employee, he did not hesitate to act. Am thankful he and Peggy became a special couple so many years ago, twenty or more. Jim and I moved from the area in 2005. Almost annually, we visited Jekyll. A super fun time was having lunch with Peggy (who kept us organized), Don, Bill, Jim and me. We would stay so long at Sea Palms I thought we might receive a ticket for loitering!!!. Am very grateful, even though Bill had passed away, we had our lunch last October. Don. and I fought over the bill. I lost the battle. Was a delightful time, sharing memories, catching up. Don adored Peggy, his girls, and I remember him frequently talking about both his Mom and brother. Your lives, as well as Don’s, were enriched by the love you all shared. Nancy Hicks

Nancy Hicks - June 08, 2022 at 09:13 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Parkhurst.*



June 08, 2022 at 06:07 PM



“ *Not sure that we ever encountered Don when we weren't greeted with his signature smile and a twinkle in his eyes. He was a dear friend to our family. He was a man of many talents who was the epitome of service before self. It is a blessing to have known him for over 20 years. He will be dearly missed.*

*Eddy & Russell Sams
Parker & Bennett*

Eddy Sams - June 08, 2022 at 04:44 PM



“ *Don was a loyal friend to all he met and such a selfless, cheerful, and humble servant. He would truly give you the shirt off his back. He loved big and was always a joy to talk to. We will especially miss his interesting tales of his many adventures! We always learned something new about him every time we got together. He was our Uncle Don and he will missed greatly.*

Jessica & Travis Paulding - June 08, 2022 at 04:11 PM

BK

There are really no appropriate words to express the sorrow and sense of loss that we have over losing Don so suddenly.

Don was like a family member to us. We greatly admired him as a person of strong character. Don was always ready to serve, to come alongside others in any way he could. He was a man of courage, selflessness, and kindness. He had strength outwardly and inwardly and yet kept a wonderfully soft heart.

He has left a mark on our lives that we will never forget. We love you Don, and know that you are safe in the arms of our Lord.

Beth and Johnny Keen

Beth and Johnny Keen - June 08, 2022 at 07:59 PM

SM

“*Don and I clicked when we both realized that we had ties to Louisiana, especially those Louisiana dishes such as boudin, gumbo, jambalaya and many others. We also had jobs at FLETC where we met a lot of folks. Every time I met up with Don, he or I would say, “Do you remember such or such”. It was good to talk to someone who knew the same people. Although we talked about the ones we knew, Don never said anything critical about anyone. He was always upbeat. Another character I liked about Don was that no matter when I called him, which could be on his way to Colorado, he would never say “let me call you back”. He was always willing to talk no matter the circumstances. He was a very caring person. Don will be truly missed by me and Phyllis. We cannot say enough about how well we admired Don and the happiness that he bestowed on Peggy. I have never seen any two people who had different interests, but loved each other so much. I will miss Don at the cook-outs. They will never be the same. May you rest in peace my friend and hope to see you down the road.*

Steve and Phyllis McNicoll

Steve McNicoll - June 08, 2022 at 04:04 PM



“ *Don always made time for family and friends. No matter what it was, he was there. He will definitely be missed but never forgotten.*

Steven Roddenberry - June 08, 2022 at 03:57 PM

PC

“ *In the mid 1970's I met Donnie when We worked at the DEA National Academy in Washington, DC. Due both of our college athletic backgrounds Donnie as an South Western Conference Track Star and me as an Athletic Trainer at the college level became fast friends. Donnie was a raising star in the organization because of his stellar record as a Special Agent in the field. He became know as a "Problem Solver" to everyone whom knew him. In the late 1970's when we both transferred to the FLETC Donnie continued to be a "Go To" guy. As the years passed 1989 I was on the Artesia Site Start up Team We use Donnie's knowledge and skill to assist in this difficult opening. Later when I was selected Chief of Training I called upon Donnie for advice numerous times. On a personal note Donnie and I were super friends and I had a great relationship with he and his significant other Peggy Dixon. We had lunch many times at our favorite restaurant "The Marshes". At these fun lunches Donnie was always the "Lead" story teller. I have to say Donnie was an example of a true Southern Gentleman and a extremely kind human being. There will never be another Donnie Parkhurst. We can't be too sad because someday we will all be together again in HEAVEN. Sending Donnie now as our "Front Man" is a sad, but great choice. He will represent us well until we get there. May this fine man Rest In Peace and GOD bless his soul. He is quite deserving of these things.*

Phillip A. Callicutt - June 08, 2022 at 03:28 PM

MA

“ I send love and prayers to each of you. I met Don through my husband Bill. Bill only had very good things to say about Don. My personal experience was that he was always friendly, very kind and a gentle in all the best ways. When My Billy died Peggy and Don came to my house with a large assortment of paper products for our big family. While there Don helped me get on line and into OPM to make all the changes that needed to be made when someone passes. For him it was fast and easy. When he was done he told me twice that if I needed him for anything to call him. He was serious. He will be missed. Many many people loved and respected this man of many talents. Gods blessings to all of you. In Christian love, Mary Allen

Mary Allen - June 08, 2022 at 03:16 PM

BP

“ I cant recall the exact time or place meeting Don Parkhurst. I do know it was in 1978. I do know that from the first meeting that Don would be a lifelong friend. Don was a friend to everyone and did so many things for others. A true kind and generous man. After retirement I would occasionally run into Don and we would share a few minutes. But I was privileged to spend an hour or so talking with Don a few weeks prior to the accident at a friend's house. I will cherish that memory for the rest of my life. It was my privilege to call him my friend. Until we meet again ride high and free.

Brenda L Perkins - June 08, 2022 at 02:17 PM

MH

“ When Don Parkhurst first arrived at FLETC in 1978, I was serving there as the US Capitol Police agency representative, but I don’t recall our paths crossing then. Don was in Criminal Investigator training, and my contacts were mostly with the Police Training folks and the admin staff. Back then, the police trainers and the criminal investigator trainers seldom mixed.

My assignment at Glynco ended in 1981, and I returned to Washington. However, in 1988 I left the Capitol Police to become a permanent FLETC employee, and I soon came to know and respect Don. If you knew Don, you were more than merely his colleague – you were instantly his friend. Don’s easy-going manner, his sense of humor, and his warmth and openness immediately won you over.

One particular phrase in his obituary stood out to me: “Don was the ‘Go To Guy’” After becoming a member of the FLETC staff, I quickly learned that if I needed help in navigating the intricacies of the FLETC administrative maze, Don was, indeed, the go-to-guy. But aside from his intellect, which was very considerable, I think what I remember most fondly about Don is that he was always ready and willing to help anyone in need.

Don deserves what to me is the highest tribute I can offer: he was a kind and caring person. We are all diminished by his loss.

Michael Hannelld - June 08, 2022 at 01:10 PM

WC

My two closest friends and brothers are Rich Rawlings and Don Parkhurst. I called Don about once or twice a week to run something by him and he would always answer Yes Sir. Don was smart, very smart and possessed a keen ability to solve complex problems in simple terms and list options to do so. He had so much common sense and natural ability to think outside the box. I thought I was going to pass before Don and I told him how I wanted my celebration of life with a cookout, adult beverages and music. I also asked Don to file for my Federal Life insurance. This gave me peace of mind to know that I had someone I could Always count on. It's OK to tell another man you love him. When I ended a telephone conversation I would say I love you and he answered I love you too. I have caught myself numerous times in the last couple of weeks saying to myself I need to call Don. I'm hurting, missing him but, he's whole again, out of pain, no more suffering, at peace and he's in a better place. I've never seen another man who supported and loved his daughters more than Don Parkhurst. His spirit will stay with his love ones forever, I promise you. I miss him but, I'll see him on the other side and hug him like I always have. Rest in peace my brother and as I've told you thank you for being my friend. Love You ❤️

Walter Caldwell - June 08, 2022 at 04:24 PM

WC

I'm proud to have called you my friend

Walter Caldwell - June 08, 2022 at 04:27 PM

KM

“ Don was my first Boss at FLETC in the Enforcement Division. He was not only bright, but a great boss with a smile that made everyone around him smile. He also had a crazy and fun sense a humor. During my first week, and while I was still a bit nervous in my new environment, a phone call came in for him and since he was standing beside my desk I handed him the phone. He listened for a minute or so and commented to what I could only assume was a 'crazy' caller, then he handed me the phone and said: "...Here, this is for you," then turned and walked out of the room. He could make just about anything fun and he will be missed by everyone who knew him - a rarity in this world!

Karen Mahlke - June 08, 2022 at 12:56 PM

JK

“ Our fondest memories of Don include seeing him cruising up or down Hwy 17, or standing behind a grill at many of the celebrations at FLETC. If Don was doing the cooking, you knew the food would be delicious. He always had a smile on his face and a story to tell. We are grateful for the compassion, caring and kindness he shared with all, but most specifically with our dear friend Peggy. Our hearts go out to his family and to Peggy. He may be gone, but will never be forgotten to the many lives he touched.

“Those who are loved don't go away. They walk beside us every day, unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed and very dear.” (An old Irish toast.)

Joe and Barb Kochanski

Joe and Barb Kochanski - June 08, 2022 at 10:11 AM

CR

“ Don was one of the first persons I met after my appointment as Director of the FLETC. He was then the President of the employee union. The union had a difficult relationship with my predecessor but Don and I developed a very positive relationship and that continued for the duration of my tenure. Don was an excellent instructor and became a respected leader for both students and staff. He made significant contributions to the early development of the FLETC and one whose contributions made FLETC the great institution that it is today. In addition to his professionalism he was a true gentleman.

charles Rinkevich - June 08, 2022 at 07:18 AM

KB

“ After many years together at work(EOD), socially and riding motorcycles Don, Andy R. and I bought a Florida beach condo together. The names Parkhurst, Brogan and Rosenhamer soon became the PBR Club. Signs were purchased and displayed. Many good times filled with laughter and memories followed. Four years later I opted out and bought my own place. Not long after when visiting I noticed Don had put a black slash through the B on all the signs as I was banished and disgraced !
Don was a great friend to all. He is my motorcycle brother, business partner and friend who is greatly missed.

Kevin Brogan - June 07, 2022 at 08:54 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Parkhurst.



June 07, 2022 at 08:31 PM

"D

“ Don had such a positive influence on me, in my later years. Our friendship began in the early 2000’s when he invited me to Bike Week. He was instrumental in my wife, Sue and I purchasing property in Ormond by the Sea, and Don even volunteered to shuttle our earnest money down to the realtor for us.

He was a brother that I respected and trusted. Don was always there giving me words of advice and encouragement. I couldn’t help but smile when I saw him riding up in one of his new Harley’s because I knew my day was about to get better. I’ll always remember Don’s standard greeting when he turned off the bike. With his Texas twang he would declare, “What’s Going On?”

You meet allot of people as you navigate through life and I can honestly say that Don was the most positive friend I ever made. He refused to engage in negativity and criticism. That was just one of his rare and outstanding traits.

Together with other FOP volunteers Don and I partnered up to provide the annual firearm qualifications to retired law enforcement officers. Whenever the program encountered a few hurdles, Don’s positivity carried us through. He had a knack of suggesting ways of moving forward, as the program was too important to him.

I remember him telling me stories about his evening trips home on Rt. 17, after visits at Peggy’s. On a couple occasions he encountered police lights flashing at the local Stop and Rob, around midnight. Don told me how extremely careful he was to approach the police and identify himself as a retired cop. He would ask, if the scene was secure and if there was anything he could do to assist? On one occasion he was told to cover the back door while they made entry. That is a glimpse into the type of person Don was and why many of us were so lucky to call him our friend. Don was always at the ready, always willing to help.

I will always regret not telling him how fortunate I was to have had

him in my life, but somehow, I think he knows.

Our prayers will forever be with Don's family and we will cherish the memories forever.

D.F. "Derc" and Sue D'Ercole

"Derc" D'Ercole - June 07, 2022 at 08:10 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Parkhurst.*



June 07, 2022 at 07:47 PM



“ *Don's credibility and trustworthiness were always at the forefront, especially with his peers, and friends, but most importantly, the students who had the benefit of learning both curriculum and real life experiences from a true professional. During my time at the FLETC I had the opportunity to read student critiques from all training divisions. Never was there a negative comment, but rather, accolades about Don's expertise, delivery, and genuine caring for "his" students...he was always available for advice and counsel when they were sought by the students. Additionally, Don was instrumental in making the Rec Association a viable, inviting resource for cadre and students alike.*

My sincere condolences to Don's girls, family, and Peggy.

RIP, job superbly done !!! 🇺🇸

Bruce Bowen

Bruce Bowen - June 07, 2022 at 06:58 PM

FG

Pastor Franklin R Graves Sr.

I have spent many of my early years with Don at the FLETC. I thank him for the many influences that he brought to me and those in his path who later became good examples. So, what do we say this time? Well, we will miss his future. Yes we will, but we must let him go. When Don came to the end of the road and the sun has set for him, do not shed tears. Why cry for a soul set free? Miss him a little, but not to long, and not with your head bowed low. Remember the love he once shared. For this is a journey that we all must take, and each must go alone. It's all part of the Masters plan, a step on the road to home. When you are lonely and sick of heart, go to the friends you know that are good examples. Bury your sorrows in doing what you know is right. Miss him but let him go.

Peggy and the family of brother Don, you have our deepest sympathy.

Franklin R. Graves - June 07, 2022 at 08:35 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Parkhurst.*



June 07, 2022 at 12:20 PM

PA

“ *We had the honor to know "Dimey" through the Shamrocks and were so happy to have seen him and reconnect in Georgia just weeks before his accident. Often times along the years, seeing him from one of his long-haul travels way "up north" in locations he rode to in the northeast. What a life so very well lived, full of adventures and personal and professional accomplishments. He will be deeply missed, but will live on in great memories forever, and as a legend in our club. Our deepest condolences, Tim "Kahuna" and Patti Triggs, SRMC CT Chapter.*

patti - June 07, 2022 at 11:27 AM

KK

“ We meet many people in our journey through life, but there a very few that have the unique qualities of a natural leader as did Don. His humble ability to inspire people to want to engage in whatever he was involved with made his footprint large and effective. He was very proud of his girls and family, of FLETC’s staff and of the law enforcement officers who trained there. He spoke truth to power, gave sound advice, always had a smile on his face but did not suffer fools. It was my distinct pleasure to have called him my friend these past 23 years.

Ken Keene

ken keene - June 07, 2022 at 11:25 AM

MB

“ To Jim and Phyllis - my condolences to you and the Parkhurst Family at the passing of your brother, Donald. Cherish your fond memories of a life well lived. May eternal rest grant unto him Oh Lord.

With prayers - Monica and all The Texas Brophy's

Monica Brophy - June 07, 2022 at 10:19 AM

RH

“ Donald Ray, my best friend for 45 years and the Brother I never had. Take good care of our girls. See you soon Buddy.

Bob and Pam Hammer

Robert Hammer - June 07, 2022 at 09:36 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Parkhurst.*

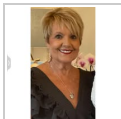


June 06, 2022 at 11:10 PM



“ *It is difficult to find the words that express what our dear friend meant to us. From the very moment we met Dimey-he felt like family. He was a friend like no other, kind ,supportive and nonjudgmental. He was full of joy and wisdom. He lived this life to the fullest. We spent many hours listening to stories about his life adventures and experiences. Dimey was our “hero”. He touched and affected so many lives. Over the past 15 years we enjoyed many road-trips and vacations together making wonderful memories that we will will forever cherish...until we meet him in glory. We pray that the Lord brings comfort and peace to all of the family and friends. Rest In Peace our dear friend! Tim and Tammy Sanford*

Tammy Sanford - June 06, 2022 at 06:12 PM



Don was one of the first people I met when I began my career at FLETC in 1985. I knew immediately that I had a friend that I could trust and that would always have a positive word. Praying for his family and all those close to him during the coming days. May God give you peace and comfort as you cherish the many memories that you have. Linda Fennell

Linda Fennell - June 07, 2022 at 04:07 PM

OJ

“ I remember the very first time I met Donald. Pitcher it, 1999 when Yvonne and I played softball at CGCC back when it was called that. He was all suited up in his motorcycle gear and he had such pride in being there for Yvonne. I just loved that he loved his kid enough to come watch her sit the bench. He was a joyful man and just a real cheerleader for Yvonne and me. As Yvonne and I continued our flow through life together as roommates at Georgia Southern, Donald would always show up in full support for Yvonne and her friends, He was a plum pleasure to be around and a pure joy of a person. Donald even helped me move to Asheville North Carolina after graduating college. He was heading that way to watch his daughter Mia play soccer, that was the kind of man he was in wanting to support his children. Even after moving to Colorado I got the pleasure of seeing Donald as he was passing though, he was for me a part of home. This is just a little story to share as there will be many because he was just that guy that everyone loved and he will be missed dearly. My heart goes out to his family and friends because they just don't make them like that anymore. Like Mia said, "he is one hell of a guy".

So much love and gratitude!!

Olivia Johnson

Olivia Johnson - June 06, 2022 at 04:32 PM

CB

“ Don was a true prince of a man, who was a beloved friend and the hands and feet of Christ to so many. His wit, wisdom, and generous spirit were a true inspiration to us all; much love and continued prayers for the entire Parkhurst family -
Christine B.

Christine Bruner - June 06, 2022 at 04:28 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Parkhurst.*



June 06, 2022 at 02:46 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Parkhurst.*



June 06, 2022 at 02:25 PM



“ *Beautiful Whisper was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Parkhurst.*



June 06, 2022 at 01:32 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Donald Ray Parkhurst.*



June 06, 2022 at 12:58 PM