



Leon Donald (Don) Gschwind

JUL 3, 1933 - OCT 21, 2022



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Leon Donald (Don) Gschwind

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Leon Donald (Don) Gschwind, age 89, of Harbor Springs, formerly of Bloomfield Hills, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on October 21, 2022. He was born in Youngstown, Ohio on July 3, 1933 to the late Mark Leon Gschwind and Esther Lillian Wauschek. Don was a graduate of Cuyahoga Falls High School. He went on to Case Western Reserve and received his degree in engineering, participating in ROTC. Following college, Don proudly served his country in the United States Air Force. After being honorably discharged, Don went on to begin his career at Chrysler Corporation. Don started at Chrysler as an engineer. While working, he received his MBA from Michigan State University. Through hard work and dedication, Don continued to move up the ranks, retiring as Executive Vice President of Product Planning after 33 years of service. During his employment at Chrysler, Don met and married the love of his life, Eleanor “Ellie” Tyken on May 27, 1961. The couple have been happily married for 61 years. When he wasn’t working, Don enjoyed airplanes, shooting sports, and automobiles. These started as hobbies that he learned at a young age, but they became his passion throughout his life. Don was an avid hunter and marksman, competing in NRA rifle matches across the country; obtaining numerous 1st place trophies. Later in life he picked up skeet shooting, proudly making a perfect 25 on several occasions. He also enjoyed playing tennis with Ellie. Above all, Don cherished the time he spent with family. He loved going on family camping trips and skiing vacations.

He is survived by his wife, Ellie Gschwind; children, Sandra (Chip) Gschwind- Gauss, Kurt (Sheila) Gschwind; Popop to, Chipper (fiancé Emma Kosko) Gauss, Mark Gschwind, Chris Gschwind, Chrissy Gauss, and Steven Gschwind.

A celebration of life will take place on Friday, December 23rd at Young Funeral Home from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. with a memorial service at 2:00 p.m. Military honors will also be conducted. In lieu of flowers memorials are suggested to Blue



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Water Hospice or the American Alzheimer's Association. To leave a message of comfort visit www.youngcolonial.com




Events

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Memorial Gathering

 **Friday**, December 23, 2022

 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM ET

 **Young Colonial Chapel Funeral Home**
4061 Saint Clair Hwy, East China MI



Memorial Service

 **Friday**, December 23, 2022

 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM ET

 **Young Colonial Chapel Funeral Home**
4061 Saint Clair Hwy, East China MI



Cemetery Details

 Cremation



Tribute Wall

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SS

Sandy & Chip, Kurt & Sheila sent an America the Beautiful to the Gschwind family.

December 20 at 6:24 PM



CS

Chipper, Chrissy, Mark, Chris And Steven sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Gschwind family.

December 20 at 5:28 PM



ME

Much Love, Ellie sent a Strength & Solace Spray to the Gschwind family.

December 20 at 5:15 PM



DB

David Buchesky posted:

I met Don when I was a young engineer at Chrysler. He was older than me and a little farther along in his career. We were both interested in the shooting sports and I had an Austin-Healey 100. He invited me to shooting events. With mutual friends from Chrysler, we went to many shooting events and hunting trips over the years. You really get to know someone when you have to live and get along with them on a weeklong trip. I loved and respected him. David Buchesky

December 19 at 11:41 AM

EB

Edward And Shige Baker posted:

Don Gschwind is one of the finest people we have ever known. We enjoyed our dinners together with Don and Ellie and sharing stories of our time in the automotive industry. We appreciated Don's varied sports interests and especially driving and maintaining his Healy. There were a few times we became concerned when we saw him fixing something under the car. Don helped me on a chapter of a book I was writing, using target shooting to make some points about management. Condolences to the family, and Ellie we are so sorry. Ed and Shige Baker

November 4 at 10:53 AM



Tribute Wall

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NS

Nancy L. Sarowski posted:

Don tried his best to get me into skeet shooting. However, when it was painfully obvious that I had no natural abilities, he continued to patiently encourage me. He was a true gentle man.

November 2 at 1:26 PM

DS

David Slis posted:

So many great memories of Don. He was always so gracious and kind when I would visit his home with Sandy and Chip. The conversations were always meaningful and had great purpose, and his great smile and laugh left a mark on everyone he met. You will be missed and remembered as such an influence on many. Your legacy goes on with your family. Rest in Peace Don

October 30 at 6:24 PM

CB

Carol Brown lit a candle in honor of Leon.



October 30 at 8:34 AM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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