



Donald J. Trhlin

June 17, 1934 - January 5, 2025

Donald J. Trhlin, 90, of Mentor, died January 5, 2025 at University Hospitals TriPoint Medical Center in Concord Twp. He was born June 17, 1934 in Cleveland.

A U.S. Army veteran who proudly served his country from 1957 to 1959. After his service completed in 1959 Donald started his career as a Draftsman for E.F Hauserman in Cleveland Ohio. In 1967 Donald and his wife of 65 years Frances, moved to Lake County Ohio when Donald accepted a position with the Lake County Engineer's Office. Donald held many positions with the Engineer's Office until his retirement in 1997. Donald loved photography so much that he got a part time job and his first purchase was a camera. He loved to make people laugh and smile and had a gift at capturing those moments in time.

Raising four children and being blessed with three grandchildren he often said he spent 40 years viewing life through a one inch screen and that he loved every minute of it. He had a fond affection for aviation and especially the WWII US B-17 Bomber which he had an opportunity to ride in and was a highlight in his life. Donald was also quite an athlete, excelling at both basketball and softball with the Holy Name Society. He later played softball for St. Gabriel Parish until his sons began their sports careers and he became their biggest fan.

Other than his wife Frances, his one true love was the Christmas Season. No one celebrated or loved Christmas as much as Donald. Driving only a white, red or silver car with his license plate "CRISMAS" he made every attempt to celebrate throughout the year, providing donuts to his coworkers on the 25th of each month, to his frequent visits to Bronners CHRISTmas Wonderland in Michigan to the simple Christmas cards he sent out early every year, he showed that Christmas is not just a season, Christmas is a way of life.

Donald celebrated everyday with kindness, compassion and laughter, his smiling face and beautiful blue eyes will be greatly missed, but never forgotten.

Survivors include his wife, Frances Trhlin; sons, Brian Trhlin and Robert Trhlin; and his grandchildren, Christina Trhlin, Nathan (Anna) Trhlin, and Robert (Hannah) Trhlin Jr.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Helen Trhlin; his sister Laverne Cash and his daughters, Donna and Marie Trhlin.

The family will receive friends from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, January 16, 2025 at the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060.

A funeral mass to honor Donald's life will be held 11 a.m. Friday, January 17, 2025 at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 7575 Bellflower Rd., Mentor, OH 44060. (Please meet at the church)

Interment will be in All Souls Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions be made to, Donna's

Christmas Trees, 1802 Spruce Lane, Painesville, Ohio 44077.

Please offer condolences at www.brunners.com.

Cemetery Details

All Souls Cemetery

10366 Chardon Rd.
Chardon, OH 44024
(800) 582-6850

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 16. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center
8466 Mentor Avenue
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-3401
ajs@brunners.com
<https://www.brunners.com/>

Funeral Mass

JAN 17. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John Vianney Catholic Church
7575 Bellflower Road
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 255-0600

Tribute Wall

ME

“ I worked with Don in the Lake County Engineers Office Tax Map Department. There wasn't a day I did not laugh with Don; we enjoyed Angela Pizza Tax Map Special Pizza for lunch often. Those were special days for me, I smile when I think of them. Don, you earned a special place in Heaven, God Bless. Your work buddy.
Mike Evangelista

Mike Joseph Evangelista - January 17, 2025 at 07:19 PM

SH

“ Structured Language at Orchard Hollow purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Donald J. Trhlin.



Structured Language at Orchard Hollow - January 15, 2025 at 03:00 PM

LF

“ Love "The Louis Mucci Family" planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald J. Trhlin.

Love "The Louis Mucci Family" - January 15, 2025 at 01:58 PM

LF

“ Love "The Louis Mucci Family" purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Donald J. Trhlin.



Love "The Louis Mucci Family" - January 15, 2025 at 01:58 PM

LC

“ Love, Mike & Debbie Cash purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Donald J. Trhlin.



Love, Mike & Debbie Cash - January 15, 2025 at 11:24 AM

AF

“ Amy and Philip Firrell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald J. Trhlin.

Amy and Philip Firrell - January 14, 2025 at 09:05 PM

AF

“ Amy and Philip Firrell purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Donald J. Trhlin.



Amy and Philip Firrell - January 14, 2025 at 09:05 PM

BT

“ For The hundreds trees that we planted Dad...

This one's for you

Brian Trhlin - January 14, 2025 at 04:45 PM

BT

“ Brian T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald J. Trhlin.

Brian T. - January 14, 2025 at 04:39 PM

YA

“ Your friends and colleagues at Arxada planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donald J. Trhlin.

Your friends and colleagues at Arxada - January 13, 2025 at 09:19 AM

YA

“ Your friends and colleagues at Arxada purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Donald J. Trhlin.



Your friends and colleagues at Arxada - January 13, 2025 at 09:19 AM

MR

“ Our deepest sympathy to Rob, Rob jr and the entire Trhlin family. Looks like Don lived an incredibly meaningful life, may he RIP.

Mike & Jeannie Rupp

Mike Rupp - January 11, 2025 at 02:47 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Donald J. Trhlin.

January 09, 2025 at 10:50 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Donald J. Trhlin.



January 09, 2025 at 10:50 AM



“ Mr. Trhlin was always good for a laugh and a smile and a story... he loved being around people and his Smile and SINGING showed his Love for Life ... The Lord ... 🙏 Mother Mary, and of course his Family ❤️ 🎄 🧑🏻‍🎄 !

God Bless you Mr. T... I know your dancing in Heaven 😊🕊️ right now with Donna, Marie, and your Parents. 😊🙏🙏

Sincerely, And with Love:

Dave Piazza 😊

Dave Piazza - January 08, 2025 at 02:09 PM