



Donna J. (Burkhardt) Horn Alucho

March 19, 1934 - October 3, 2017

Donna J. (Burkhardt) Horn Alucho, age 83, of Mentor, Ohio, died Tuesday October 3, 2017. She was born March 19, 1934 in Cleveland, Ohio to Carl and Elvira Burkhardt.

Donna graduated from Mentor High School in 1952, and in 1955 as a registered nurse from the New England Baptist Hospital School of Nursing in Boston.

Donna led a life of adventure and of service. In 1973, she and her first husband, William "Bill" Horn, and their children, Carl and Karen, moved to Alaska, where they became members of the Baha'i Faith. After Bill died, Donna moved to Liberia, West Africa, to assist the Baha'i community there. In Liberia, Donna married Samuel Alucho Sr., and together they raised Mary, Mercy, and Samuel Jr.

Donna, Sam and their children moved to Mentor, Ohio, in 1982, and became active members of the Mentor Baha'i community. Donna retired from Hillcrest Hospital in 2000.

A lover of nature, Donna enjoyed walks at Headlands Beach and the Holden Arboretum, and loved watching birds out her back door. She was an accomplished seamstress and creative problem-solver (she designed the

octagonal house her family built in Haines, Alaska). She embraced the Nigerian culture of her second husband, and loved music. As a Baha'i, she had a firm belief in the oneness of humanity and that "World peace is not only possible but inevitable."

Survivors include her dear sister, Alaine (Carl) White of Chardon, Ohio; her children: Carl (Tim) Horn of Nenana, Alaska, Karen Horn of Ketchikan, Alaska, Mary Alucho of Cleveland, Ohio, Mercy (Nevin) Jenkins of Shaker Heights, Ohio, and Samuel Alucho Jr. of Mentor, Ohio; grandchildren: Sanjeev (Kristin) Prasad, Rajeev Prasad, Todd Smith, Rayshawn Alucho, DeArah Alucho, William Horn, Aria Saylor, Bahji Jenkins, and Orion Jenkins; and great-grandchildren: Allison Prasad, Graeden Prasad, and Ariana Prasad.

Preceding her in death was her first husband, Bill Horn, who passed away in 1976, and her second husband, Samuel Alucho Sr., who passed away in 2010; and her parents: Carl and Elvira Burkhardt.

The family will receive friends from 12-1:15 p.m. on Monday, October 9, 2017 at the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave. Mentor, OH 44060.

A funeral service will be 1:15 pm Monday, October 9, 2017 at the funeral home, followed by interment at Mentor Cemetery, Mentor.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Audubon Society or to a favorite charity.

Send condolences at www.brunners.com.

Cemetery Details

Mentor Cemetery

6881 Hopkins Rd.
Mentor, OH 44060
(440) 974-5733

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 9. 12:00 PM - 1:15 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 Service

OCT 9. 1:15 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

MP

“ I knew her as Carl and Karen's Mom in the Octagon house on Small Tract Road, Haines Alaska. Her home was full of the warmth and love that she radiated. She was a treasure to all that were blessed to meet her. Melody Price.

Melody Price - October 06, 2017 at 06:39 AM

JK

“ My dear sweet Aunt Donna I will miss her terribly. I remember like yesterday being the Flower girl in her wedding to Uncle Bill!! I was so excited! Got a beautiful new dress that I believe my mom made. And then later babysat Carl and Karen. All the wonderful family time on the beach and BBQ's. So many wonderful memories!! I feel so lucky to have had her in my life!
Jane Hobson-Keller

Jane Keller - October 06, 2017 at 12:35 AM

Patty Papp

I will miss you sweet Donna. Always caring for Moms on the Euclid OB unit. Quick to smile. Quick to help & always washing down the counters with alcohol when I arrived to start 3rd shift. RIP❤️
Patty Strukel Papp

Patty Papp - October 06, 2017 at 05:36 AM

Anne Grove-Wilson

Donna, your quick wit took things to the core of reality, your loving kindness soothed the wounds, your wisdom captured the moment. Mother of Mercy and Samuel is how we knew you, until we met at Louhelen, and now there you are soaring in the realms of light!

Anne Grove-Wilson - October 06, 2017 at 07:31 AM

MM

I knew Donna in the octagon house in Haines, AK too! Went to school with Carl and Karen. Donna was a beacon of light to all who knew her. Many prayers for her soul as she continues her journey in all the world's of God.

Marylou Miller - October 06, 2017 at 08:06 AM

JT

I remember when these two Alaskan ladies, mother and daughter, Donna and Karen, came to Liberia back in the 1970's. For a visit. But Donna came back! And she married my best friend Sam! Oh what a joy it is to think back on those years and the loving home they made, full of laughter, hospitality, inspiring stories and endless service. And now over the years to see how great Mercy and little Sam (seems ironic to call him little Sam now!) turned out to be. Such a legacy. Looking forward to seeing Sam and Donna in those worlds beyond. There is laughter, light and joy, and music!

Jim Traub - October 06, 2017 at 10:52 AM

JM

I can tell endless stories of how Donna served humanity. She saved my life at least 3 times. When I got malaria in Liberia I would run to Donna and Sam's house to crash. We would sing Hank Willam's country music songs at night around a kerosine lamp with Sam wailing away on his guitar. He played in a native band. Two of the best servants of light. Public health had circumcized all the village boys and never came back to take out the stiches. So Donna cleaned them all up...Selfless to the end. At the Liberian Women's conference it was Donna who got the villages to let their women go because they trusted her and that was an almost impossible task. And then she also showed them the big city with a tour. Hard work and fun times. We called her Mama Liberia because we could not have survived without her.

John McGimsey - October 07, 2017 at 08:56 AM

JM

Sam bought her the only sit down porcelin toilet in N. Liberia. It wasn't connected to anything but made the job easier.

John McGimsey - October 07, 2017 at 09:02 AM



I really miss her. Big mum Donna that d way I call her wen she came visit to Nigeria with my uncle big Sam.her husband it was really fun to every members of d family.seen her d first time.her behaviour shows us DAT she was really d big mum in d entire house of alucho family Nigeria.we love her so much GOD love her more.may ur soul big mum rest in peace. Amen

Williams Edu - October 07, 2017 at 02:01 PM