



## Donald Braun

September 12, 1934 - November 8, 2010

Donald Braun, 76, died unexpectedly after a brief illness on Monday, November 8, 2010, surrounded by his loving family at Sanford Hospital. Donald Edward Braun was born in Saginaw, Michigan on September 12, 1934. He was the youngest of 11 children of the Otto and Mary (Gretzinger) Braun family, a strong German, Christian family. He grew up in Auburn, Michigan and graduated from Handy High School in 1953. He enlisted in the U.S. Army and served from 1954 to 1957 and was stationed in Germany and Ft. Carson, Colorado. He married Vera DeNeui on August 31, 1957 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. They moved back to Auburn, Michigan where they worked and lived for 36 years. They had four daughters: Dawn, Cheryl, Tamara and Susan. Don worked as a car salesman at Garber Buick in Bay City, MI. He retired and moved to Sioux Falls, SD in 1993. He continued to work part-time driving cars for Pontiac and Ford. Don was a member of the First Baptist Church in Auburn, MI for 59 years and currently was a member of the First Baptist Church in Sioux Falls. Don had a strong and quiet faith; his life exemplified his beliefs and values. He belonged to the Bertus-Jurgens American Legion, Chancellor, SD. Don loved many things. He loved baseball and visited just about every stadium in the U.S. on his many baseball tours. He was a big Detroit and University of Michigan fan! One of his greatest loves was music; his home was always filled with song. He was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Margaret; his brothers: Reinhold, Berthold, Gustave, Arthur, Adolph, two year old Arnhold and six month old Arnold. Grateful for

having shared his life are his wife, Vera; his four daughters and their families: Dawn and Ron Combs of Highlands Ranch, CO and their children: Bailey and Gage; Cheryl and Glenn Buse of Lennox, SD and their children: Rachel (Cory) Flaskey and sons: Allen and Chase, Ashley and Travis; Tamara and Brad Johnson of Edina, MN and their children: Abigail and Nickolas; Susan and Ned Blankenship of Edina, MN and their children, Macklan and Jacob; two sisters: Elsie Jezowski of Midland, MI and Elaine (Roland) Johansson of Houston, TX; two step-grandchildren: Allen and Chase Flasky and many nieces and nephews. Memorial services will begin at 1:00 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 11 at First Baptist Church, Sioux Falls. Visitation with the family present will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Heritage Funeral Home, Sioux Falls. Private family committal at Chancellor Baptist Cemetery will precede the memorial service.

# Tribute Wall

AK

“ Cheryl and family,

*My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time of loss. I pray that the memories you have created together can bring you comfort during this tough time.*

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**Andrea Knight** - November 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ Dear Braun Family,

*I work with Tammy at Medtronic and I am so sorry to hear of your loss. I don't know all of you personally, but from the stories Tammy has told I feel as though I do. I did have the privilege of meeting Don a couple of times. When he would make his trips transporting vehicles to the Minneapolis area he would call the office to meet Tammy for lunch. My first impression of Tammy's dad was exactly how I envisioned from her stories. He was a sweet, adorable and witty man; reminded me a lot of my Grandpa.*

*Vera, the story of how you and Don met is charming; true and everlasting love. And when Tammy asked me to assist in making the invitations for your 50th Wedding Anniversary I was honored.*

*My heart aches for all of you. Please know that ever since I heard of the sad news the Braun Family has been in my daily thoughts and prayers, and will continue to be.*

*God bless,  
Angie Hooper*

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**Angie Hooper** - November 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Dear Family of Donald Braun:  
I was so sorry to read of Donald's death. Although I did not know him, I did know Adolph and Muriel who were my pastor as a young person growing up in the Plum Creek Baptist church near Clayton SD. Knowing the Glenn Buse family also, I have had acquaintances over the years. You have my sincere sympathy in your loss of a special loved one.

Love and Prayers,  
Janell and Ron Beck

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**Dr Janell Beck** - November 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Dear Johnson and Blankenship families,

You are in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time. We love you,

The Moarn Family

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**Ann Moarn** - November 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Dear Johnsons and Blankenships,

Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time of loss. We love you,  
the Moarn's

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**Scott, Ann, Kelsey &Patrick Moarn** - November 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Dear Vera and girls,  
I was so shocked to receive the email from dad about Don/your dad.  
I am so sorry for your loss. So many memories have come flooding  
back of the good times we had in Auburn a life-time ago. Each time  
I go down Midland Rd and pass your street, I think of you all.

*My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May  
God bless you with His grace and comfort.*

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**Debbie (Goss) Benzenberg** - November 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ Dear Vera and Girls; So Sorry to hear of Don's passing. Many  
memories of Auburn and our families. If you come back to AZ this  
winter, give us a call. May God Bless You and your family.

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**Phil & Sally Wendell** - November 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Our deepest sympathy is with you at this time. Cory & Racheal you  
both mean the world to us. Our prayers will be with you during your  
sorrow. May God Bless you.

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**Mark, Carrie, Tyler & Tate Flaskey** - November 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AV

“ Vera--thoughts and prayers are with you.  
God will give you strength. Treasure the many wonderful memories.

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**Ardys Varns** - November 10, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ Our hearts are heavy here in Phoenix. We enjoyed Don as our next door neighbor for 12 years. We were talking about Don this a.m. on the way to school. Samuel, 15, recalled Don giving him pop and paying him to kill the gophers in his yard. Ethan remembers talking baseball with Don, and really wanted to come to the funeral. He still loves the baseball stuff Don gave him over the years. Vera and family, know that you are in our prayers and that we love you and miss you so much! We are so sorry.

Love and Prayers,  
Shannon Walker and Family

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**Shannon Walker** - November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Vera, your family and friends. Don was a friendly, helpful neighbor who will be missed.

Jim and Rhonda Hubers

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**Jim Hubers** - November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ Vera and family-  
You have our deepest Synphany.  
Over the years since Don started driving cars for Kindler Pontiac Cadillac and now Cadillac of Sioux Falls and Sioux Falls Ford we became very good friends. He will be Missed by all!

Mark and Lynette Skalland

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**Mark Skalland** - November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Vera, we are sorry for your loss and pray for God's arms to wrap around you and comfort you in this most difficult time.

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**Carolyn and Marvin Camp** - November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ Hi Vera, Dawn, Cheryl, Tammy & Susan,  
I can't begin to tell you how sorry I was to hear about Don. I have so many wonderful memories of your family growing up, and Don was always so friendly. Always had a smile on his face - just a great person. I am keeping you & your families in my prayers. I am so sorry.

Love, Lori Davis Wagner

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**Lori Wagner** - November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ I am so sorry to hear about your loss. We so enjoyed the brief times we got to visit with him. I pray that God will bless your family as you all come together and remember your time on earth with him.

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**Gloria St. Clair** - November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

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**Kayla St. Clair** - November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ Dear Rachel & Corey, Our deepest and sincere sympathy to you and the whole family on the sudden loss of your dear grandfather. God is with you during this difficult time and may His grace comfort you and give you peace. Our prayers go with you with love and friendship.

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**Rev Gary & Sharyn Klatt** - November 09, 2010 at 12:00 AM