



Donald Otten

January 27, 1957 - January 19, 2024

Donald Otten, 66, of Tea, SD, passed away January 19, 2024, at Avera McKennan Hospital, Sioux Falls, SD.

Donald Guy Otten was born on January 27, 1957, in Sioux Falls, the son of Ernest and Barbara Jean (Hodges) Otten. He grew up and attended school in Tea and then graduated from Lennox High School in 1976. He went on to earn a degree in hair styling from Nettleton College in Sioux Falls. Don owned and operated his own hair salon, first called Hair Design by Don and then Genesis, in Sioux Falls for over 42 years. He made his home in Sioux Falls for 20 years and then in Tea for the past 17 years.

Don was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Tea. His interests were work and travel. He belonged to the Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce. His travels took him all over the U.S. and to New York City many times where he had a tradition of viewing the lighting of the Christmas tree in Rockefeller Center over Thanksgiving. He once took a ship to England and then returned home on the historic Concord's last flight.

Grateful for having shared his life are his siblings: Ernie (Betty) Otten, Tea, David Otten, Tea and Penny (Gale) Dannen, Tea, and his nephews and cousins. Don was preceded in death by his parents.

Memorial services will begin at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, January 27, 2024, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Tea, SD, with family present visitation beginning one hour prior to the service at the church. In lieu of flowers the family requests

memorials to charity, specifically near to Don's heart was St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Tribute Wall

JT

“ *May GOD always bless you and keep
You safe!
See you again!! XOXO*

Jane thomas - February 10, 2024 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ *Don was a fabulous stylist and friend. My husband and I will miss
him dearly. He had such a great sense of humor and always was full
of good cheer & joy. We will treasure our memories of Don. Deepest
condolences to his family and friends.*

Sue Quanbeck Etten - February 10, 2024 at 12:00 AM

EO

“ *Don was my friend who took care of my hair
for 40 years. He was a bright spark of
sunlight. He drove 60 miles to do hair and
makeup for me and my bridesmaids for my
wedding. He will be truly missed.*



Elaine M Oolman - February 08, 2024 at 12:00 AM

TK

“ *We want to offer our sincere condolences to
the loss of Don.*



Tara and Rory Kelley - January 29, 2024 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ My sympathy to the family. I started using Don's services in late 90s until he became too ill to work. He gave me the best cuts and always got me in from up here in Pierre. We continued corresponding through Christmas cards, which my last one came this season. He was a wonderful, witty guy and I miss him. God bless the memories we have of Don.


Darlene Hallem - January 29, 2024 at 12:00 AM

KD

“ Don was so fabulous taking care of my hair for 30 years. The funny and daughty jokes /- he was 1 of a kind. Happy birthday sweetheart I will miss u foreverâ ¢¸_â ¢¸_â ¢¸_â ¢¸_

Karen Dvorak - January 26, 2024 at 12:00 AM

PZ

“ My sincere sympathies to Donâ€™s family and friends. Don was my hairdresser for almost 40 years. Our time together was full of shared stories, smiles, and laughter. I do and will remember him fondly for life. Rest in peace you kind, sweet gentleman 



Peggy Zimmer - January 24, 2024 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ My love, prayers, thoughts and cherished memories are held close and surrounded for all our family and Cousin Donny.



Julie Hodges - January 24, 2024 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ My deepest sympathies to Don's loved ones for their loss.

Sally Sundby - January 24, 2024 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ I light candle #3 for my dear cousin Donny as it reminds me of his sweet, soft, loving soul. Donny was a great person with a wonderful soul. I know he is with his mom and dad now and I'm sure they are all smiling. Rest in peace, big guy. Sending love, hugs and many prayers to my family and all of Donny's friends. God Bless.



Pam Hodges-Altenberg - January 24, 2024 at 12:00 AM

BZ

“ I'm so sorry for the lost of your brother. He'll be deeply missed. I meet Don through my mom(Peggy Zimmer). Don did my hair a few times. Again so sorry for the lost of your brother.
Becca Zimmer

Becca Zimmer - January 23, 2024 at 12:00 AM

JV

“ Don had such a good heart, I had gone to him as my hairdresser for years, he did my hair for my wedding & made me look better than ever in my life. But mostly, he was a friend. My kids would come with, granddaughter, & my elderly mom, all to see Don. When my best friend had cancer, he was there for her. When my daughter's friend needed her hair fixed for prom, he was there, on his birthday, & then wouldn't charge her, told her to pay it forward. I believe he will be that angel in heaven who will greet me when I go home with open arms. 🙏

Jayne Valnes - January 23, 2024 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ I am so sorry to hear of Don's passing; he was a lot of fun and did everything with grandeur; I loved to hear about his trips to NYC and Neiman Marcus and I'm sorry that I never experienced the lobster mac-n-cheese that he talked about making on New Year's Eve each year. His absence leaves a gaping hole in the hearts of many.

Lynn Wiebers - January 22, 2024 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ I am so deeply saddened to learn of my friend Dons passing. I will always remember the laughter we shared and his generous, caring spirit.

Mary Ann Arends

MaryAnn Arend - January 21, 2024 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Don was one in a million. Second to none, one in a million. I started using Don's services in the late '70s/early '80s and never looked back. I have so many heartwarming stories about him. I'll just say this, Don, greet my mom, Aunt Patty, Helen and Max for me. You be sure to be at peace. Love, Deb

Deb Beuckens Montoya - January 20, 2024 at 12:00 AM