



## Donald Riggs

January 29, 1930 - December 12, 2014

Donald "Don" R. Riggs, 84, of Manteno (formerly of Kankakee), passed away Friday (Dec. 12, 2014) at the VA Home in Manteno. He was born Jan 29, 1930, in Jacksonville, IL, a son to Ralph and Beatrice (Ebrey) Riggs. After graduating high school, he worked on the family farm for a few years before joining the U.S. Navy, where he served in the Korean War. After his honorable discharge in 1954, Don moved to Kankakee and began a 23-year career working for Sears Roebuck in Kankakee and Chicago. While at Sears, he met Bonita "Bonnie" Johnson. They were married on May 2, 1959 in Kankakee. Together, Don and Bonnie built and operated The Skating Place from 1978 until 2000. A truly fun and safe place to be with their friends, it became like a second home to a generation of Kankakee-area kids. Don and Bonnie touched many young people's lives and are still remembered today. Bonnie, his wife of nearly 48 years, preceded him in death in 2007. Surviving are a son, Todd Riggs of Bourbonnais; a daughter and son-in-law, Tari Riggs and Terry Owens of Bloomingdale, IL; a sister, Barbara Spencer of Kankakee, several nieces, nephews, and cousins. Visitation will be Friday starting at 4 p.m. until the Service at 8 p.m. Both will be held at the Bourbonnais Chapel of the Schreffler Funeral Homes. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Illinois Veterans Home Manteno. Please sign his online guestbook at [schrefflerfuneralhomes.com](http://schrefflerfuneralhomes.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Donald Riggs*

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February 03, 2023 at 04:30 AM



“ *I have fond memories of Don and Bonnie having worked with them when they started the roller rink. I also busted my butt several times when skating with my kids. One of the many things I remember is how he mastered the game machines by monitoring the usage and trading and swapping them in a secondard market. I was amased that such a market existed. He was a clever man and didn't miss a trick. I miss conversations with him. Rest in Peace Don.*

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**David A. Hansing** - December 22, 2014 at 06:18 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of Don's passing. Many memories in my childhood with him and all the Riggs/Ruby Family. I'm praying for comfort for all of you.*

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**Cindy Elliott Cordes** - December 20, 2014 at 11:21 PM



“ *Thank you Don for The Skating Place, you gave everyone who visited the rink a place to have a lot of fun. I appreciated how you ran your business and was a regular for many years. RIP*

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**Rodd Russow** - December 20, 2014 at 03:45 AM

JR

“ so sad to see my second father leave this Earth, Don was my dad when i was away from my dad, i will never forget the days at the Skating Place, they are not only a part of my teenage years but a place where friends met and it was a safe haven for everyone, no fights ever broke out, we will miss you Don.

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**Jesse Rodriguez** - December 19, 2014 at 11:00 PM

DS

“ We are so very sorry to hear of your loss. We did not know your father but as a Riggs (Albert & Levenia Still Riggs lineage) from the Murrayville, IL area, we want you to know that we are thinking of you at this time of grief. May God Bless.

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**Diana Stansfield Stephens** - December 18, 2014 at 07:17 PM

RB

“ My deepest condolences to the Riggs family. Don and Bonnie had such an impact on so many young people including myself. As kids we go through life meeting many adults. We honestly only remember a small handful, the ones that made an impact on us. Don gave us kids something to do and stay busy in a positive environment. His memory will not be forgotten for how he treated us kids and truly cared. RIP Don.

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**Ron Bourassa** - December 18, 2014 at 03:29 PM

SH

“ Thank you Mr Riggs for the years of memories with and for my family. The Skating Place was truly a blessing to this community. It started for me in 1982 with the special skate nights for ONU. Later on, I loved the opportunity to skate with my kids and celebrate birthdays there. My children learned to skate there, they developed friendships there, and have some of the best childhood memories there. Your smile and that unforgettable chuckle were always appreciated. Thank you for your commitment and the legacy you left. Rest in peace

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**Sheryl Hodge** - December 18, 2014 at 12:45 PM

BB

“ You will truly be missed by thousands Don. You provided us with a lifetime of memories and friends. My heartfelt condolences to Tari, Todd and family. Rest in Peace Don.

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**Beth Barnes** - December 18, 2014 at 04:32 AM

JB

“ Thanks for all the great memories!!!

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**Jolene Neveau Bufford** - December 18, 2014 at 04:05 AM

MD

“ Thanks for the memories Don!

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**Matthew Diefenbach** - December 18, 2014 at 02:52 AM

RM

“ So so many great memories at the skating place! I always remember you having a smile on your face as you would be renting out the skates, serving food at the snack bar, helping us kids get our prizes out of the stuck games, or even just walking around making sure all was well. Was, and is, truly one of my most favorite memories growing up! Thank you for so many great years of fun and laughs! You will forever be in my heart Mr. Riggs! Rest in peace.

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**Raquel Mikos** - December 18, 2014 at 02:13 AM

RP

“ Spent many a happy hour at The Skating Place even though the floor occasionally swung up and hit me. Real hard. Didn't know you Mr. & Mrs Riggs, but thanks for a good place to hang out.

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**Rex Piekarczyk** - December 18, 2014 at 12:13 AM

TT

“ You will be missed by many!! Had alot of great memory's there at the skating place think we were there every weekend. Rip

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**tracy truesdell** - December 17, 2014 at 11:54 PM

JE

“ Some of my most fond memories as a child involve the skating rink I remember the first time I went there and when I learned to skate it was were I spent my weekends as I grew up it was fun it was safe I loved it I loved the fact that even after the rink closed if you bumped into don he remember things about you what size skate you wore and what your favorite thing to eat was from the snack bar. You will be truly missed. My thoughts and prayers go to your family and friends . You have made a big impact on so many people

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**Jennifer** - December 17, 2014 at 10:49 PM

RM

“ I not only have fond memories of Don providing a safe environment for myself and friends during high school but also providing the same when it was time for birthday parties for my kids and their friends. Round and round we would all go for hours and it was such fun! He and his wife touched many lives during those years. Rest in peace Don. May your family know how important you were to so many of us.

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**Rose Mitchell** - December 17, 2014 at 09:27 PM

TE

“ Thank you for your service, sacrifices and memories.

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**Tezra** - December 17, 2014 at 06:16 PM

AG

“ Thanks to the Riggs Family for everything you have given to us. You all are in our hearts and will never be forgotten.

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**Anthony Green** - December 17, 2014 at 03:39 PM

AG

“ Thanks to the Riggs Family for what they gave us all. You will never be forgotten.

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**Anthony Green** - December 17, 2014 at 03:33 PM

HB

“ Tari, I would like to express my sincere condolences to you and your family. My heart goes out to you all during this difficult time.  
Sincerely, Holly Smith Brouwer

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**Holly Smith Brouwer** - December 17, 2014 at 02:33 PM

HJ

“*Tari, Todd and family, So sorry to hear about Don. We always enjoyed his visits to our home on Johnson Reunion Day. You have my deepest sympathy and May God comfort you in his Everlasting Arms.*

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**Hilda Johnson** - December 16, 2014 at 01:19 PM

DH

“*Don was many things to many people but I am very proud to say he was my friend. RIP Don. You are loved*

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**Donna Tetter Hess** - December 16, 2014 at 08:56 AM

DK

“*I want to express my sincere condolences. I have many memories of him that will last a life time.*

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**Dale Kyrrouac** - December 16, 2014 at 02:55 AM

VT

“*My sincere condolences to the family of Donald Riggs. May you find comfort in your loving memories, and in God's promise to soon "swallow up death forever" and "wipe away the tears from all faces." (Isaiah 25;8) While grief at the loss of Donald is great, joy at welcoming him back in the resurrection will be greater. (Mark 5;42) With deepest sympathy,*

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**v. thompson** - December 16, 2014 at 01:42 AM