



DONAVON OLSON

June 5, 1947 - March 28, 2021

DONAVON BERGER OLSON

Donavon Berger Olson, 73, of Eitzen, MN, passed away March 28, 2021. He was born June 5, 1947, in rural Ferryville, WI, to Berger and Delores (Reed) Olson. Donavon was confirmed at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in La Crosse, WI and graduated from Central High School in La Crosse. He proudly served in the Wisconsin National Guard.

In 1969, he was united in marriage to Karen Mauss and they were married 52 years. Together they had 4 children; 2 sons, Damon (Jennifer) of New Albin, IA, and Darrin (Michele Mann) of Newport Beach, CA; 2 daughters, Kelly (Todd Lemke) Gordon of Caledonia, MN, and Kimberly (David) Wilson of Richfield, MN.

Most of Donavon's work career was in auto parts sales, including being a regional rep in the Midwest and owner of an auto parts store. In the past he was active in the Jaycee's organization in Wisconsin.

After their children graduated high school, he and Karen moved from Onalaska, WI to Eitzen, MN, where they built a home in the country. There, they enjoyed peaceful country living surrounded by animals, birds, and beautiful sunsets.

He had a love for classic cars, especially his ruby red Corvette. In retirement he enjoyed golfing, especially with his grandsons and his brother, Rodger. "Pops" enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, discussing their interests, achievements, and activities. His grandchildren were truly his pride and joy.

Donavon was a Green Bay Packers fan and proudly wore green and gold. He was an avid shopper and had an outfit for every occasion. He could mix any drink and enjoyed many Sunday afternoons socializing during happy hour with friends and neighbors. He was a collector of tobacco pipes and enjoyed finding a rare one that was priced right. He also enjoyed traveling to Florida and to California to visit with family.

He will be remembered for his great sense of humor and how he loved telling a good joke. He will also be remembered for giving the biggest bear hugs and for always taking the time to watch as his children and grandchildren left after a visit, with a wave goodbye that didn't end until they were out of sight.

He is survived by his wife, Karen; children, Damon, Darrin, Kelly, and Kimberly; 9 grandchildren, Blake, Clay, and Cameron Olson; Nadia, Elise, Reed, and Tatum Gordon; and Piper and Levi Wilson; 2 brothers, Rodger (Clarice) and Rolland (Mary).

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Donavon was a loving and caring husband, father, grandfather, and friend. We were fortunate and blessed to have him in our lives. We will miss him greatly.

A private family service will be held on Monday, April 5th.

Tribute Wall

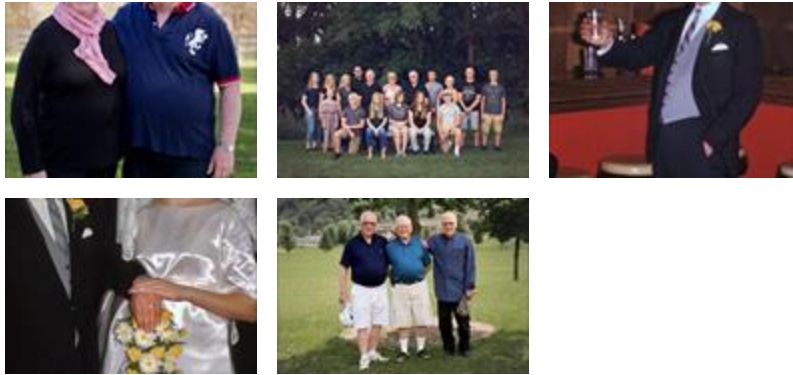
EL

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Elizabeth - September 17, 2025 at 11:46 AM

KE

“ 10 files added to the album Memories



Kelly - April 02, 2021 at 05:45 PM

BH

“ Hi, we are so sorry to of Donavon's passing, he was a great guy & whenever I would talk to him at NAPA & at various doings in town. He would always have something nice to say!! We will miss him very much!! Pas on our condolences to the whole families!!

Bill Hart - April 02, 2021 at 01:33 PM

DC

“ Dear Karen and Family,
I'm writing to you from Naples,Florida, to extend my condolences on Donovan's passing.
Donovan and I went to Central High School together and became school friends. He and I had a mutual love of cars, old and new!
You have my sincere sympathy.
Duncan J. Cameron

Duncan J Cameron - April 02, 2021 at 11:45 AM

KK

“ Our deepest sympathy to your family Karen. He will be deeply missed by you, children and grandchildren, so sad. Classmate
Kathy Bautch Kulig.

Kathy Kulig - April 01, 2021 at 08:48 PM

KA

“ Knowing you from our nursing school days as a kind and loving person who was so close to family, losing your Donnie has to be so very difficult. I am thinking of you Karen and your family and want to express my sympathy.
Kathy(Hurley) Danaher

Kathy(Hurley)Danaher - April 01, 2021 at 06:50 PM

IM

“ In loving memory. purchased the Fairest of All for the family of DONAVON OLSON.



In loving memory. - April 01, 2021 at 09:39 AM

LH

“ Karen and family, just letting you know that I was sorry to hear of the loss of your Don. Prayers of comfort for each of you. I am sure you each have fun loving memories of your time with him. Take time together and share those times with each other. With Sympathy
Linda Hilton

Linda Hilton - March 30, 2021 at 08:05 AM

MO

Karen and family, I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all
Mariyn Olson

Marilyn Olson - March 30, 2021 at 05:50 PM

MT

My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family, Karen. May your husband's spirit continue to shine on you all. 🙏❤️
Maureen Tekippe

Maureen Tekippe - April 01, 2021 at 06:42 PM

TC

I am so sorry to learn of Donovan's passing. I grew up at 811 Vine St and Donovan lived across the street above Shanley's Grocery Store. We both graduated from Central H.S. In 1965. Donovan was always the best guy. When we were kids we called each other by our names spelled backwards. He was always Navonod Noslo to me. My condolences to his family. Terry Collins

Terry Collins - April 03, 2021 at 08:13 PM

JB

So sorry to hear the loss of Donovan. He was a wonderful person and friend. Lots of memories in the pass50+ years. Our thoughts and prayers for you and the family.

Jim and Jayne Burchell

Jayne Burchell - April 06, 2021 at 12:35 PM